

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**July 21, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.**  
**Canterberry Room**

1. CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND CONDUCT THE ROLL CALL

President Knitter called to order the Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District at the hour of 6:30 p.m. Commissioners Chan, Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Vescovi, and President Knitter answered “present” from the Oak Brook Park District Family Recreation Center, Canterbury Conference Room. Also present in Canterbury Conference Room was Laure Kosey, Executive Director; Bob Johnson, Deputy Director; Robert Pechous, Director of Recreation and Communications; and David Freeman, District Attorney.

2. OPEN FORUM

President Knitter asked if there were any public comments. No one addressed the Board.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

a. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 21, 2025 AGENDA

b. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

i. June 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

c. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING JUNE 30, 2025

i. Warrant 698

Motion: Commissioner Gondek made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve the July 21, 2025 Agenda.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Vescovi, and President Knitter

Nays:

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the June 16, 2025 Minutes as amended.

Commissioner Chan read her amended statement to be added to the June 16, 2025 Minutes.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Gondek, and Vescovi

Nays: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley and President Knitter

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the Financial Statement in its current state.

Commissioner Chan reviewed her reason concerning attorney invoices for wanting to amend the Financial Statement.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated that Commissioner Chan will see on record of Commissioner Chan’s own FOIA requests included in the Attorney invoices.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

4. STAFF RECOGNITION

- a. Lily Liburdi, Facility Manager
- b. Chris Russell, Park Technician

President Knitter and the Board welcomed the new staff.

5. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- a. None

6. REPORTS

- a. Administration and Enterprise Operations Report

Dr. Laure Kosey presented her report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Dr. Kosey stated that the Fordon Barn update will occur in August. President Knitter added that Commissioner Chan will be the point person for the Fordon Barn.

Commissioner Chan appreciated the staff expense report for the Rockies and Italy trips but requested an explanation for the overhead expense.

Robert Pechous answered that the overhead expense is the overall marketing and finance of staff time. The overhead expense also includes updating the website and printing fliers from the travel company.

- b. Finance and Human Resources Report

Dr. Kosey presented the Finance and Human Resources Report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Dr. Kosey reported that the GFOA Award has been submitted.

- c. Recreation and Communications Report

Robert Pechous presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Pechous reported that the In-District Registration opened today. Apple or Google Pay for preschool registration is allowed for recurring online payments.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley asked why the June 2025 Youth Program has a negative amount.

Dr. Kosey answered that camps and Preschool make payments upfront, so if anyone requests a refund for camp a deficit will show.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley asked if a reason was provided for the refund.

Pechous explained when a refund is requested only a percentage is returned. Dr. Kosey added that a few refund requests occurred after the playground incident.

Commissioner Chan requested reviewing basketball court time and swimming lanes during peak hours for resident members. President Knitter agreed investigating court time and swim lanes would be helpful in comparison to private facilities where reservations are taken.

d. Parks and Facilities Report

Bob Johnson presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's record.

Johnson reported that four solar lights were upgraded at the Dean Nature Sanctuary parking lot.

Commissioner Gondek asked about the digging around the lights at the ballfield. Johnson explained IT and Parks are installing more security cameras at the ballfields.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Wizard Football Club Agreement

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve the Wizard Football Club Agreement.

Commissioner Chan found an error in the Wizard Football Club Agreement in the spelling of the amount of the Capital Contribution Fee. Dr. Kosey noted the correction.

Commissioner Chan asked Johnson about the mowing and maintenance cost of all the fields.

Johnson reported on a cost estimate for all turf and natural grass maintained, however, staff are still working on the estimated breakdown to determine the Wizard's maintenance cost which includes staff time, equipment maintenance, and fuel.

Commissioner Vescovi asked if this estimate includes synthetic fields. Johnson stated the maintenance estimate of the synthetic fields is included but it is an insignificant amount.

Commissioner Chan asked if signage is temporary. Dr. Kosey stated that they are temporary but will confirm that.

Commissioner Chan compared the Wizards and Eclipse contract and asked about the difference in the total payments. Dr. Kosey explained that the Wizard Club has more Oak Brook residents than the Eclipse Club.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Vescovi, and President Knitter

Nays: None

b. Ordinance 25-0721: An Ordinance Implementing the Provisions of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-1 Et Seq.)

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve Ordinance 25-0721: An Ordinance Implementing the Provisions of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.

Commissioner Chan asked when a commissioner is considered off-duty and permitted to engage in political activity.

Attorney David Freeman defined political activity and stated there is a list of prohibited activities. As an elected commissioner, official engagement occurs while conducting business on behalf of the Park District. During a Park District function, a commissioner would be prohibited from engaging in political activity. Attorney Freeman noted there will always be some gray area and discretion related to this.

Commissioner Chan questioned the need to update the 21-year-old ordinance after her election. Attorney Freeman stated it should have been revised earlier but noted the Executive Director is now addressing it.

Commissioner Chan also questioned the Executive Director being the Ethics Advisor, expressing concerns about potential bias or impartiality.

Commissioner Gondek stated that if the state legislature has adopted the updated policy, it's not the Park District Board's role to amend the ordinance and they should align with it.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley asked what most park districts do in appointing an Ethics Advisor.

Attorney Freeman stated that most park districts appoint the Executive Director or Attorney as the Ethics Advisor.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

c. Section 1.1 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Revisions

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve Section 1.1 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual Revisions.

Commissioner Chan proposed amending the policy to prevent commissioners from serving as officers for consecutive terms.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley asked how the Board should proceed if a commissioner refuses a specific officer role and does not wish to rotate.

Commissioner Chan suggested wording for a policy to address that situation.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

d. RFP for Solar PPA Provider

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to accept the proposal from ForeFront Power subject to successful contract negotiations for a Power Purchase Agreement between the Oak Brook Park District and ForeFront Power.

Commissioner Chan stated commercial government solar incentives are getting sunset. Residential solar incentives have stopped due to the "Big Beautiful Bill." Commissioner Chan expressed her concerns in pursuing a solar provider.

Dr. Kosey clarified that the current vote is only to proceed with exploring the solar project and begin contract negotiations with ForeFront Power, emphasizing there are no costs involved at this stage.

Commissioner Chan urged the Board to consider that while electricity rates are currently high, she believes future advancements toward "full spectrum energy dominance" could lower rates, potentially leaving the Park District locked into a less favorable solar agreement. Dr. Kosey replied that the Park District can negotiate that in the contract.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Vescovi, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioner Chan

- e. Ordinance 25-0722: An Ordinance Providing for Declaration of Vacancy on the Board of Park Commissioners

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve Ordinance 25-0722: An Ordinance Providing for Declaration of Vacancy on the Board of Park Commissioners.

Commissioner Chan expressed concerns about the validity of the attendance ordinance, referencing Commissioner Vescovi's absences. Commissioner Chan questioned the attendance ordinance and the exceptions of attending remotely.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley asked if a commissioner be removed if he/she participates remotely.

President Knitter stated a commissioner will not be removed if attending remotely and provided an example for having an attendance ordinance.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

- f. Section 4 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual, Part I

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve Section 4 of the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual, Part I.

Commissioner Chan suggested her amendment to the section concerning signing contracts over \$30,000 to be signed by two Board Commissioners. Commissioner Chan would also like to amend that the Executive Director expenses be approved by the Board.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

- g. Section 4 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual, Part II

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi to approve Section 4 of the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual, Part II as amended.

Commissioner Chan communicated her amendments concerning the purchase card (p-card).

Dr. Kosey reported the employees' maximum p-card expenditure limits vary, but there is a Park District maximum limit to ensure they are used efficiently and according to policy.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

Nays: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve Section 4 of the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual, Part II in its current state.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

h. Section 5 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve Section 5 of the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual.

Commissioner Chan requested that “complimentary” be removed from Section 5.2 Group Fitness Schedule Policy. President Knitter suggested that “includes” replace “offers a complimentary” in Section 5.2 which Commissioner Chan accepted.

Commissioner Chan inquired about the percentage increase in nonresident pricing compared to the resident rate and requested an analysis explaining the rationale behind that specific increase.

President Knitter explained that the Park District has reviewed pricing from other park districts and private entities. From this review, a balance in pricing was established. President Knitter emphasized that nonresident fees should not be set so high that they discourage participation, especially since resident rates are lower and may not generate enough revenue to sustain the program on their own.

Commissioner Chan suggested an analysis of each program to determine the percentage increase. Utilization is high due to the significant number of nonresident participants.

Dr. Kosey reported benchmarking had occurred previously, but staff can revisit the pricing analysis. Dr. Kosey also noted that the overall market trends when setting fees were considered citing the swimming rates. Dr. Kosey emphasized that this review process will take time.

Commissioner Chan expressed a desire to postpone the vote until the review is completed.

President Knitter stated that pricing is always fluid, so the Board could vote on it now and then make changes.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Asphalt Replacement Bid

Johnson reported that there is a bid for asphalt paving for Park District deteriorated trails. Paving projects normally occur every year.

Commissioner Chan asked about the cost.

Johnson explained that there is a budget for paving projects but the anticipated amount is not included in the bid packet since the contractor can use that information in their bid.

b. Eclipse Select Soccer Club Agreement

Dr. Kosey reported that staff are still working on the agreement and will be ready by the next board meeting.

c. Tennis Center Membership Fees

Commissioner Chan asked for more specific information for the Tennis Center rates.

Alin Pop, Superintendent of Enterprise Operations, explained the rates are the membership rates. Hinsdale and Score may be the closest model to the Park District Tennis Center.

Commissioner Chan requested a chart with more specific information.

d. Central Park West Rental Rates

Dr. Kosey stated there will be an increase for Central Park West for Out-of-District rental rates.

e. Section 6 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual Part I

Dr. Kosey reported that there will be very little change for Section 6, Part I.

Commissioner Chan communicated that she prefers the terms Resident and Nonresident over In-District and Out-of-District.

President Knitter stated those terms are different because the District boundaries are broader than the Village boundaries.

Commissioner Chan requested information concerning sharing insurance with the Village.

9. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO SHARE COMMUNICATIONS

President Knitter asked if there were any communications. No communication was shared.

10. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 18, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

President Knitter announced the next Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Park Commissioners will be held on August 18, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Gondek made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kelley, to adjourn the July 21, 2025, regular meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners. The motion passed by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:50 p.m.



Laure L. Kosey, Executive Director

