

**Minutes**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**May 19, 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 Board of Commissioners at the hour of 6:31 p.m. Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Vescovi, and President Knitter answered “present” from the Oak Brook Park District Family Recreation Center, Canterbury Conference Room. Also present in the Canterbury Conference Room were Laure Kosey, Executive Director; Marco Salinas, Chief Financial Officer; Bob Johnson, Deputy Director; Robert Pechous, Director of Recreation and Communications; and Steve Adams, District Attorney.

2. ANNUAL MEETING

- a. Administration of Oath of Office by Judge Michael Fleming
  - i. Tina Chan - Elected April 1, 2025

Judge Michael Fleming administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Commissioner Tina Chan.

- b. Election of Park Board President and Vice President
  - i. President Knitter asked for nominations for Board President.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley nominated Sharon Knitter as President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Chan nominated Ron Gondek as President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

No other nominations were made, and President Knitter closed nominations.

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to elect Sharon Knitter as President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners by roll call.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

The motion passed, and Sharon Knitter became President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

President Knitter asked for nominations for Board Vice President.

President Knitter nominated Ron Gondek Vice President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

Motion: President Knitter made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to elect Ron Gondek as Vice President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners by voice vote.

The motion passed by voice vote, and Ron Gondek became the Vice President of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

- c. Appointment of Board Secretary and Treasure
  - i. President Knitter stated that the current Board Secretary is the Executive Director, Laure Kosey.

President Knitter proposed that since the Board's Secretary has traditionally been the Executive Director, Laure Kosey, should be reappointed to serve as Secretary unless any Board member has an objection.

There was no discussion, and the Board moved to vote.

The motion passed by voice vote, and Executive Director, Laure Kosey, became Secretary of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners.

President Knitter asked for nominations for Board Treasurer.

President Knitter nominated Ivana Ivkovic Kelley for Board Treasurer.

Commissioner Vescovi nominated Tina Chan for Board Treasurer.

No other nominations were made, and President Knitter closed nominations.

Motion: President Knitter made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to elect Ivana Ivkovic Kelley as Treasurer by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioner Chan and Vescovi

The motion passed to elect Ivana Ivkovic Kelly as Treasurer of the Oak Brook Board of Commissioners.

### 3. OPEN FORUM

President Knitter asked if there were any public comments.

Perri Miologos-Otil, an Oak Brook resident, shared concerns regarding access and balanced approach to classes and programs. Miologos-Otil requested reminders for resident registration.

President Knitter stated that residents have two weeks advance registration before non-residents.

Commissioner Chan stated the Board can investigate resident vs. nonresident registration to ensure resident priority and recalibrate resident prices.

Dr. Kosey stated she will reach out to Miologos-Otil and provide specifics on registration.

Alan Koren, an Oak Brook resident and President of the Saddle Brook Homeowners Association, suggested relocating the horse barn near Graue Mill and consider staffing a docent for public tours at that location.

President Knitter noted that the Saddle Brook Barn would be discussed further, emphasizing that the primary challenge remains securing funding for any potential rehabilitation, relocation, or removal of the structure.

Don Adler, an Oak Brook resident, would like further information for financial analysis of the intergovernmental agreement the Park District has with School District 53.

### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 19, 2025, AGENDA

b. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING APRIL 30, 2025

i. Warrant

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve taking a single omnibus vote on the Consent Agenda as presented.

Chan requested additional discussion on the minutes from the Consent Agenda.

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve taking a single omnibus vote on the Agenda and Financial Statement ending April 30, 2025.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the Agenda and Financial Statements.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

c. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

i. April 21, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Tina Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to table April 21, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Chan requested verbatim minutes.

President Knitter and Attorney Steve Adams asked for a specific motion for modification of the minutes.

Commissioner Chan was unable to formulate a proper and specific motion for the minutes.

Attorney Adams stated he does not recommend verbatim minutes. Minutes are for the attendance, statement of issues discussed, and votes taken.

President Knitter recommended the April 21, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes to be tabled.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

4. STAFF RECOGNITION

a. None

5. COMMUNICATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

a. Board of Commissioners to Share Communication

Commissioner Gondek noted that the "goose police" initiative appears to be effective, with noticeable improvements in the park.

Commissioner Chan thanked attendees for their support and expressed her hope for continued transparency and efficiency.

President Knitter shared that the Pink 5K was one of the most successful to date, highlighting that 100% of the donations support women in need.

b. Gold Medal Finalist

Dr. Kosey announced that the Park District has been named a Gold Medal Finalist and will learn in mid-September whether it advances to Grand Plaque Finalist status.

c. Fordon Horse Barn Update

Dr. Kosey stated the staff is evaluating the options, including an archaeological review, relocation, removal, or repurposing.

Commissioner Chan requested survey results to be shared.

Dr. Kosey stated that results will be shared and are waiting on the financial portion, as funding could propose challenges.

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 OKRs engage part-time staff resulting in increased revenue for the Park District. A successful OKRs provides a bonus to part-time staff and PTO at no additional cost to the Park District to full-time staff.

Commissioner Chan would like to see incentives tied to performance metrics.

Dr. Kosey explained merit increases are part of individual reviews.

b. Finance and Human Resources Report

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

c. Recreation and Communications Report

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

Pechous noted that a quarterly mailer was sent to residents.

Commissioner Chan questioned the cost and focus of the newsletter, suggesting funds be redirected toward Program Brochure as in the past.

Dr. Kosey explained that the newsletter is more cost-effective, and its role is to enhance community engagement. The Program Brochure was more expensive to produce.

d. Parks and Facilities Report

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

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Ordinance 25-0519: An Ordinance for Transferring Anticipated Unexpended Funds from Certain Appropriation Items to Other Items of Appropriation.

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve Ordinance 25-0519: An Ordinance for transferring anticipated unexpended funds from certain appropriation items to other items of appropriation.

Commissioner Chan questioned the use of contingency funds.

Mr. Salinas explained that the contingency funds are primarily used to enable efficient annual budget reallocations and, when necessary, to cover emergency expenses, such as elevator repairs.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

- b. Renewal of the Intergovernmental Agreement by and Between the Board of Education of Butler School District #53 and the Oak Brook Park District for a Cooperative Preschool Program at the Oak Brook Park District Recreation Center for School Years 2025-2026 through 2027-2028

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the renewal of the intergovernmental agreement by and between the Board of Education of Butler School District #53 and the Oak Brook Park District for a cooperative preschool program at the Oak Brook Park District Recreation Center for school years 2025-2026 through 2027-2028.

Commissioner Chan asked to see the cost of the teachers and the contract pertaining to this item.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

- c. 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 Gondek noted that he wanted to ensure Commissioner Chan as a new commissioner understood this policy.

Commissioner Chan stated she wanted additional discussion.

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

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

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

President Knitter recommended that Commissioner Chan submit questions to Dr. Kosey prior to Board meetings to respect the time of other Board members and staff. This will allow Dr. Kosey to direct inquiries

to the appropriate staff members, enabling more timely responses and supporting more informed decision-making.

b. Objectives and Key Results

Dr. Kosey stated the staff is working on formalizing the plans for promoting the Park District to the residents. Any questions or concerns from the Board should be directed to her.

c. Approval of a Travel Expense for Commissioner Attendance at the National Recreation and Park Association Conference held in Orlando, Florida - September 15-18, 2025

Dr. Kosey explained that ten staff members and Commissioners will attend the conference. Many staff are Certified Parks Executives and Professionals and need CEUs (Continuing Education Unit) to maintain accreditation.

Commissioner Chan expressed concern about the value of the conference and suggested sending only one staff member; Commissioner Chan referenced the State Conference session titles.

President Knitter shared that she attended a session referenced by Commissioner Chan. The content emphasized empowering young women and increasing female participation in sports.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley noted that Commissioner Chan may be selecting session titles without full context and emphasized the sessions are beneficial for both staff and commissioners. Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley encouraged Commissioner Chan to attend before forming any judgements.

Commissioner Gondek stated he attended the Chicago conference and found that attending the workshops and seeing new exhibits such as playgrounds were beneficial to see in person. Commissioner Gondek recommended that Commissioner Chan attend a conference.

d. Section 5 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual

Dr. Kosey stated that Commissioners can email questions to her.

e. Ordinance 25-0616: An Ordinance Declaring Surplus Personal Property and Authorizing Conveyance or Sale Thereof.

Dr. Kosey stated there is a surplus list created by staff.

9. ENTER CLOSED SESSION: For the purpose of the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in this Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3) of the Open Meetings Act

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to enter into closed session for the purpose of the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in this Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3) of the Open Meetings Act.

Closed Session began at 7:50 p.m.

10. ARISE FROM CLOSED SESSION

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to arise from closed session at 8:22 p.m. and resume the open session of the May 19, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. The motion passed by voice vote.

11. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 16, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

President Knitter announced that the next Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District of Park Commissioners would be held on June 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to adjourn the May 19, 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 8:22 p.m.



Laure L. Kosey, Executive Director