

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 18, 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; Marco Salinas, Chief Financial Officer; 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.

Lynn Trombetta, a resident of Oak Brook, shared concerns about the low impact fitness classes, citing issues with the Monday Zoom format and Wednesday and Friday’s loud/mismatched music and difficulty hearing instructions.

Frank Trombetta, a previous commissioner and an Oak Brook resident, recommended working together to find the best aerobics instructor.

President Knitter thanked the speakers. President Knitter announced that Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley has an emergency and will leave the meeting early after the Unfinished Business which will move next on the agenda.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Asphalt Replacement Bid

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to accept the base bid from Chicagoland Paving Contractors Inc. and reject the alternate bid for the Asphalt Replacement Project, and to approve an agreement between the Oak Brook Park District and Chicagoland Paving Contractors Inc. for a total cost not-to-exceed \$85,000.00.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

b. Eclipse Select Soccer Club Agreement

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve the Eclipse Select Soccer Club’s Agreement.

Commissioner Chan reported on the abuse by Rory Dames which she stated is the owner of the Eclipse Select Soccer Club. Commissioner Chan added that Sarah Dames, Rory Dames’s wife, is currently on the Eclipse contract.

Dr. Kosey stated that Rory Dames is no longer the owner of Eclipse Select Soccer Club and is not allowed on Park District property.

President Knitter confirmed Rory Dames is no longer the owner. Attorney Freeman added that Commissioner Chan cannot impute Rory Dames's abuse on his wife and is irrelevant concerning her being in the contract.

Commissioner Chan questioned why Rory Dames's abuse was not shared with her and the Board.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated that Rory Dames's abuse is unrelated concerning the contract since he is no longer the owner.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

c. Tennis Center Membership Pricing

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi to approve the Tennis Center Membership Pricing as amended.

Commissioner Chan suggested further increasing the nonresident membership rate and keeping the resident rate as is.

Dr. Kosey had concerns about Commissioner Chan's rate adjustment since it had not been vetted.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Vescovi

Nays: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve the Tennis Center Membership Pricing in its original form.

Commissioner Chan asked Commissioner Gondek if he had any comments on the pricing.

Commissioner Gondek stated that he reviewed the new rates and did not see anything wrong with them compared to the nearby tennis centers.

Commissioner Chan continued to ask Commissioner Gondek questions. Commissioner Chan commented that the attorney injects himself into the commissioners' discussion.

Attorney Freeman stated that he is here to assist with Board procedures for comments and discussions.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

d. Central Park West Rental Rates

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve the Central Park West Rental Rate.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

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

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek to approve Section 6 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual, Part I.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 18, 2025 AGENDA

b. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

i. July 21, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as **AMENDED**.

c. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING July 31, 2025

i. Warrant 699

Motion: Commissioner Gondek made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chan, to approve the Consent Agenda with the amended July 21, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

President Knitter confirmed the minutes amended by Commissioner Chan have been distributed to the commissioners.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays:

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley departed the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

After the Presentations/Proclamations, Commissioner Chan requested to reconsider her vote for the Consent Agenda.

Attorney Freeman stated it is appropriate to reconsider. The Board would need a motion from someone in favor from the approved Consent Agenda and will need a second. Attorney Freeman noted that Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley who was on the vote for the original Consent Agenda is not here to vote now.

Commissioner Chan would like to reconsider her vote and remove the financial statement from the approved Consent Agenda.

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vescovi, to reconsider and remove the Financial Statement July 31, 2025 from the approved Consent Agenda with amended July 21, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Gondek, and Vescovi

Nays: President Knitter

Absent: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to approve the Financial Statement July 31, 2025 in its current form.

Commissioner Chan would like more details in the warrant.

Dr. Kosey stated the Park District will not be able to pay the bills, which concerns her if the Financial Statement is not approved.

Attorney Freeman suggested that the attorney invoices be pulled from the Financial Statement so the other payments can be made.

Commissioner Vescovi asked about a large payment listed on the warrant and would like more details on the credit card invoices.

Dr. Kosey stated that the payment was for the Tennis Center trip to Indianapolis. Detailed information of the items will be provided at the next meeting. Dr. Kosey stated that the legal invoices will be pulled but recommended other payments be made.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek and President Knitter

Nays: Commissioners Chan and Vescovi

Absent: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley

Motion: Commissioner Gondek made a motion, seconded by President Knitter, to approve the Financial Statement July 31, 2025 with the exception of paying the attorney invoices.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays:

Absent: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley

5. STAFF RECOGNITION

- a. None

6. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- a. Gold Medal Video

The Gold Medal video was presented and had been submitted. Notification will occur in September.

7. 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 more discussion is needed concerning the legal financial invoices.

- b. Finance and Human Resources Report

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

Commissioner Chan asked about the current credit card fees.

Salinas stated that most of the credit card fees come from ActiveNet, which is used for registration and membership.

Commissioner Chan asked if the Park District compares credit card processing providers.

Pechous reported that credit card processing fees were compared in the past; however, ActiveNet requires the Park District to go through them due to the encryption process for credit card security. There is a transaction fee for using the software and a separate credit card fee. Pechous will get the fees for Commissioner Chan. Pechous noted that the Park District, in collaboration with other districts, had previously negotiated more favorable rates.

Salinas stated that as revenue increases more transactions are processed so the amount of the processing fee will be higher but will get Commissioner Chan the credit card processing percentage fee.

c. Recreation and Communications Report

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

Dr. Kosey stated that Commissioner Chan had a question concerning gym rental fees.

Pechous reported the gym rental fees include all the external rental groups and Breakaway Basketball but do not include the Park District programs such as Get Better League. The numbers do fluctuate.

Dr. Kosey added that open pickleball is a Park District program, so it is not included in the gym rental fees; however, when a pickleball court is externally rented then that is included in the gym rental fees.

d. Parks and Facilities Report

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

Commissioner Gondek asked about the Forest Gate roadwork that may be occurring.

Johnson replied that the Park District spoke to the Village and learned the roadwork is not beginning yet, so the signs have been brought down; however, one of the signs went back up again so the Park District will contact the Village. The Village informed the Park District that there will be a meeting prior to the road work project.

President Knitter asked about the geese patrol.

Johnson stated that Geese Chasers are doing a great job and there is a noticeable reduction in geese.

Commissioner Gondek agreed that there was a great improvement.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Section 6 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual Part II

Dr. Kosey reported that Section 6 Part II is being updated and made more current since 2021. This is the last section in the manual.

Commissioner Chan questioned the necessity of making wording changes to this section considering the legal fees associated with those changes. Commissioner Chan expressed concern that considerable time is being spent on revisions that may have minimal impact.

Dr. Kosey replied that staff, not an attorney, are updating the wording in Section 6. The attorney will be involved only in matters related to policy or significant changes.

b. Solar Power Purchase Agreement

Johnson provided an update on the progress of the Solar Power Purchase Agreement. The Herscher School District has already negotiated a contract with Forefront Power, with Robbins Schwartz serving as the district's legal counsel. As Robbins Schwartz is the Park District's attorney, a working draft of the contract is currently being developed which the commissioners have seen. Forefront requested a meeting between the legal counsels and representatives from Forefront and the Park District.

c. Section 1 – Administrative Policies and Procedures Revision: Inclusion of the Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Chan provided her reason for including the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners Gondek and President Knitter agreed the pledge of allegiance is a great idea.

d. Legal Invoices in Warrant

President Knitter reported that Commissioner Chan and Dr. Kosey agreed to terms of legal invoices described in the warrant.

Commissioner Chan stated that commissioners should see original invoices and receive a separate memo on expenses with description of the work.

Dr. Kosey asked if Commissioner Chan would be fine with coming into the office to see the original invoices, which will then remain in the office.

Commissioner Chan stated that commissioners should have invoices in their possession, and she understands confidential and sensitive information should never be shared. Commissioner Chan communicated that the Board could discuss printing out the invoices.

President Knitter stated that the commissioners should agree not to share the invoices.

Commissioner Chan communicated that the confidentiality "contract" does not need to be signed since the policy already covers commissioner confidentiality and there are expenses listed in the invoices that are already shared with the public. Commissioner Chan will not sign the confidentiality acknowledgement.

President Knitter stated she does not have any issues in signing the confidentiality acknowledgement and compromises will need to be made on both sides.

9. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO SHARE COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Chan shared her concerns that the Eclipse Soccer history was not shared with the Board and would have liked to have had more discussion on their contract. Commissioner Chan wondered if other information had been withheld.

Dr. Kosey stated that she can meet with her to further discuss the Eclipse agreement.

Commissioner Chan regrets approving the Wizard's contract since items such as maintaining the field are not included in the contract. Commissioner Chan would like information on the maintenance of the field.

Dr. Kosey stated that she can meet with Commissioner Chan to further discuss the Wizard agreement.

President Knitter reported on the conduct of an elected Park Commissioner Tina Chan. President Knitter communicated the Request for Review from the PAC (Public Access Counselor) by Anthony Scarpiniti. President Knitter stated that Commissioner Chan emailed the PAC her opinion and urged them to consider her comments in the review. Commissioner Chan did not advise or notify the Board, Executive Director, District Attorney, or any of the employees of her email to the PAC. Commissioner Chan undermined the Park District's response to the Review and violated the Administrative Policies and Procedures Policy 1.1. Commissioner Chan disrespected the Park District and continued her pattern of attacks without regard to what is best for the Park District. President Knitter asked that Commissioner Chan acts with civility and respect, gathers information from all sides before displaying an opinion, and remembers that she is one member of a Board of five.

Commissioner Chan stated that she did not speak on behalf of the Park District when contacting the PAC and believed the Board violated the Open Meetings Act when going into Closed Session. Commissioner Chan did not believe the attorney was representing her so she wanted to share her opinion with the PAC.

10. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 22, 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 September 22, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Vescovi made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to adjourn the August 18, 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 7:40 p.m.



Laure L. Kosey, Executive Director