

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
September 4, 2025**

1) CALL TO ORDER THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND ROLL CALL

President Knitter called to order the Special Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District at the hour of 10:02 a.m. Commissioners Chan, Gondek, 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.

2) APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2025, AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL MEETING

Motion: Commissioner Gondek made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chan, to approve the September 4, 2025, Agenda of the Special Meeting.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley

3) OPEN FORUM

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

4) SPECIAL MEETING BUSINESS

- a) Release of the approved minutes and audio recording of the May 19, 2025, Closed Session of the Regular Meeting

Motion: Commissioner Gondek made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chan, to approve the release of the approved minutes and audio recording of the May 19, 2025, Closed Session of the Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Chan expressed support for releasing the minutes and audio recording from the closed session, as well as for the potential release of all closed sessions from the past 18 months. However, Commissioner Chan recommended redacting specific information in the May 19, 2025 Closed Session Minutes and audio recording.

Dr. Kosey noted that amendments cannot be made unless formally requested and indicated that the dates of all closed session meetings would be needed to proceed.

Commissioner Gondek stated that the closed session discussions likely included personal information and added that this would need to be part of a broader discussion; however, today’s agenda item specifically pertains to the May 19, 2025, meeting.

President Knitter explained the reason for releasing only these specific closed minutes to save the Oak Brook Residents taxpayers the legal expenses.

Commissioner Vescovi stated that he was not comfortable with releasing the minutes and audio recordings due to the sensitive information he shared regarding his health, family, and personal abilities.

President Knitter reminded Commissioner Vescovi that he shared his sensitive information at an open meeting.

Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley entered the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Motion: Commissioner Chan made a motion seconded by Commissioner Vescovi to release the Closed Session Minutes and audio recordings: December 18, 2023 through May 19, 2025.

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 the release of the approved minutes and audio recording of the May 19, 2025 Closed Session of the Regular Meeting.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

President Knitter read aloud the Parks District's official statement: The Park District's Board of Commissioners held a closed session on May 19, 2025 pursuant to Section 2(c)(3) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the performance of one of the Board's commissioners.

Section 2(c)(3) of the Open Meetings Act permits a public body to enter closed session to discuss the discipline, performance or removal of an occupant of public office when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. Illinois Park Districts are authorized to remove Park District Commissioners under Section 2-25 of the Illinois Park District Code.

The Board entered the closed meeting after a proper motion, second and roll call vote. The discussion held in closed session was within the scope of the Open Meetings Act exception 2(c)(3).

Nevertheless, opponents of the Park District have falsely claimed that the closed meeting was illegal. These opponents have now filed two Requests for Review with the Illinois Public Access Counselor (also known as the PAC).

One of those Requests for Review was filed by Commissioner Tina Chan. Since taking her seat on the Park District's Board, Commissioner Chan has engaged in continuous groundless and destructive attacks against the Park District and its staff.

To properly respond to a Request for Review, the District's legal counsel must be engaged to evaluate the facts, review the law, and prepare and file written responses to the allegations with the PAC. The

Park District's legal team has responded in full to the first Request for Review. The due date for the second Request for Review is forthcoming.

Rather than continue to devote additional Park District resources to these false and spurious attacks on the Park District, the majority of the Board has decided to release the minutes and the verbatim recording of the May 19, 2025 closed meeting.

With the release of the May 19 closed minutes and verbatim recording, the majority of the Board demonstrates its commitment to transparency and economy.

The Park District remains committed to its mission: to provide the very best in parks, facilities, programs, and open space in the most cost-effective manner for the residents of Oak Brook.

5) THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

President Knitter announced that the next Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners will be held on September 22, 2025, 6:30 p.m., at the Family Recreation Center, Canterbury Room, 1450 Forest Gate Road, Oak Brook, IL 60523.

6) ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gondek, to adjourn the September 4, 2025 Special Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners. The motion passed by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at the hour of 10:20 am.



Laure L. Kosey, Executive Director

