



Kankakee Valley

PARK DISTRICT

Kankakee Valley Park District

Board Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2025

The Board Meeting was called to order at 5pm by Commissioner Skelly. Those present for roll call (in person or by electronic means) were Commissioner N. Eisengart, M. Matthews, A. Gear, D. Skelly. Others present (in person or via Zoom): Ross Bruni, Executive Director; Rick Collins, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds; Rachael Click, Superintendent of Recreation; Zach Mullady, Superintendent of Revenue Facilities; Attorney Patrick Miner, Ariana Padilla. Not present: Commissioner James Frey, Melissa Woodard, Superintendent of Business

Public Present: William Doran, Conner Stroud, Tanner Hurt, Ken Lewellen, Aaron Gold

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Norm Eisengart

Public Comment:

Ken Lewellen: Spoke about upcoming events with the museum:

Nov 1st: Artisan Fair 9am-4pm

Nov 11th: Veterans Day Event

Dec 4th: Start of Holiday Trees until Dec 28th

Come check out the Museum

COMMUNICATIONS

Received Tax Appeals

Nov 6th Legal Symposium will be held virtually so all staff and if any Board Members would like to attend.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Skelly requested to combine Public Hearing, Board Meeting, Executive Session:

Motion was made to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing and Board Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2025, and minutes of the Executive Meeting on September 22, 2025, by Commissioner Matthews and seconded by Commissioner Gear

No Discussion

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

Motion was made to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting Minutes of September 29, 2025 by Commissioner Skelly and seconded by Commissioner Matthews

No Discussion

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

Financials presented – Lauterbach & Amen – Evan Stahlman

Summary of quarterly financials 2026 – 3 months FY26 on budget

Evan communicated that for the first 3 months in fiscal year everything is tracking.

A motion to approve Financials 2025 Qtr. 1 June-August and August bills payable was made by Commissioner Matthews, seconded by Commissioner Eisengart.

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Bird Park Project

Working on punch list. Will get \$4500 credit for the missing dowels at Meditation Garden.

Update on Mayor R.J. Bailey Park Renovation Project

Removing trees, starting walkway update from Upland today. Waiting on engineering firm for mussels survey.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of Rollover Bond Bid Sale by Aaron Gold of Speer Financial

4 bids

Lowest 3.20% - Republic Bank of Chicago

General Obligations

Discussion - None

An Ordinance of Bond

A motion to approve ordinance issuing \$832,975 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bond, Series 2025 was made by Commissioner Gear, seconded by Commissioner Mathews.

No discussion:

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

An Ordinance of Bond

A motion to approve ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2025 to pay principal of and interest on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source), Series 2021A was made by Commissioner Gear, seconded by Commissioner Mathews.

No discussion

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

An Ordinance of Bond

A motion to approve ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2025 to pay principal of and interest on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source), Series 2018C was made by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Mathews.

No discussion

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

SKDO Audit Presentation by Conner Stroud

Stated that SKDO completed the Audit for fiscal year 2025. Highlighted going concerns Related to fund deficits in the Corporate and Recreation Fund. Stated they discussed with Executive Director Bruni and discussed increasing program and facility revenues and reducing expenses. SKDO will submit Annual Report to comptrollers.

Acceptance of FY 24-25 Financial Audit

A motion to approve the KVPD FY 24-25 Financial Audit was made by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Eisengart.

No discussion

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

Approve Tentative Tax Levy 2025

A motion to approve the tentative tax levy 2025 was made by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Gear.

No discussion

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

Approve 2026 Board Meeting Schedule

A motion to approve the 2026 KVPD Board Meeting schedule was made by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Mathews.

No discussion

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

Approve 2026 Legal Holidays

A motion to approve 2026 legal holidays was made by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Eisengart.

No discussion

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

IAPD Delegates 2026

A motion to select elect/appoint and approve delegates to IAPD was made by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Gear.

Discussion: Elected/Appointed: Ross Bruni, 1st Alternate: James Frey

Ayes: IIII

Nays: 0

STAFF REPORTS**Superintendent of Buildings/Grounds Rick Collins:**

- Painted Pavilions, continue mowing as weather permits. Getting equipment ready for winter and painted Civic.

Superintendent of Business Melissa Woodard:

- Report in the packet.

Superintendent of Recreation Rachael Click:

- Rachael commented on her first month at KVPD highlighting staff assistance and cooperation in making the transition
- Introduced Tanner Hurt as Community Outreach Coordinator and Youth Program Supervisor
- Commented that the goal will focus on Operations & Excellence. Excited for new programs and events

Superintendent of Revenue Facilities Zach Mullady:

- Showdown in woods disc golf, Finish softball, volleyball, pickleball, golf simulator.

Executive Director Ross Bruni:

- Stated that Regatta and 2025 Splash Valley reports will be presented at November meeting.
- Shared information related to the Regatta from both internal staff reviews and meeting with the city.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Historical Society Commissioner Frey:**

- Not present – no report

SRA Executive Director Bruni & Commissioner Matthews:

- New Branding
- Medical leave tabled
- Staff had a baby – maternity leave
- Mouse Race – November 1, 2025

KRS Commissioner Gear & Executive Director Bruni

- Fundraising is going well, raised \$7000
- Worth fundraiser party was great success
- City of Kankakee received grant for \$5 million for Riverfront project

Building Commission Report Commissioner Skelly:

- Next report.

COMMISSIONERS FORUM

Commissioner Skelly was approached by community on Frisbee Golf, enjoyed event, was asked if there was a possibility of permanent placement of baskets

Jeff Domagalski – ONU Athletics

Was asking about scheduling with ONU Hockey women's team in hockey

Executive Session

N/A

ADJOURN MEETING

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 5:45pm by Commissioner Gear, seconded by Commissioner Matthews. Upon voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

OFFICIAL REPORTS:

1. Public Hearing Minutes (September 22, 2025)
2. Board Meeting Minutes (September 22, 2025)
3. Executive Session Minutes (September 22, 2025)
4. Special Meeting Minutes (September 29, 2025)
5. FY 25 Qtr. Financials
6. August Bills Payable
7. Bird Park Project Update
8. Mayor Bailey Project Update
9. Presentation of Rollover Bond Bid
10. Bond Ordinance
11. Bond Ordinance
12. Tax Abatement Ordinance
13. Audit Presentation
14. 24-25 Financial Audit Acceptance
15. 2026 Board Meeting Schedule
16. 2026 Legal Holiday Observation
17. Selection of IAPD Delegated
18. Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds Report
19. Superintendent of Business Report
20. Superintendent of Recreation Report
21. Superintendent of Revenue Facilities Report
22. Executive Director Report

Respectfully submitted: Ariana Padilla