



Kankakee Valley

PARK DISTRICT

Kankakee Valley Park District

Board Meeting Minutes

August 25, 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, J. Frey, D. Skelly. Others present (in person or via Zoom): Ross Bruni, Executive Director; Rick Collins, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds; Lisa Krenkel, Superintendent of Recreation; Zach Mullady, Superintendent of Revenue Facilities; Attorney David Freeman, Ariana Padilla. Not present: Melissa Woodard, Superintendent of Business

Public Present: William Doran, Ken Lewellen, Samantha Rocknowski, Evan Stahlman, Hannah Wick

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment:

Ken Lewellen: Spoke about upcoming events with the museum.

COMMUNICATIONS

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda for Monday, August 25, 2025 consists of board meeting minutes (July 28, 2025), July financials and bills payable.

A motion to approve board meeting minutes (July 28, 2025) was made by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Frey. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted aye: N. Eisengart, M. Matthews, A. Gear, J. Frey, D. Skelly.

Financials presented – Lauterbach & Amen – Evan Stahlman

Brief summary of financials and been working on the audit.

A motion to approve July Financials and bills payable was made by Commissioner Frey, seconded by Commissioner Matthews. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted aye: N. Eisengart, M. Matthews, A. Gear, J. Frey, D. Skelly.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Bird Park Project

Some small items to complete from the punch list.

Discussion and award of Mayor R.J. Bailey Park Renovation Project base bid to LZ Design Build Group in the amount not to exceed \$720,000 (ACTION)

Contracts have been sent out, once signed will schedule construction.

NEW BUSINESS

National Fitness Campaign Grant (DISCUSSION)

Wanted to get boards interest in this grant. Then can determine the best location. It's a matching grant so we would use capital for our portion.

STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent of Buildings/Grounds

Rick Collins:

- Splash is close for the season.
- Did concrete in front of Bird pavilion and for the benches.
- Sprayed walking paths for weeds.
- The Currents of Kankakee cleaned up Jeffers Park and will be cleaning Beckman in September.

Superintendent of Business

Melissa Woodard:

- Report in the packet.

Superintendent of Revenue Facilities

Zach Mullady:

- Report in the packet.

Executive Director

Ross Bruni:

- Regatta is coming up this weekend.
- Estival Festival is coming up.
- Hired a Superintendent of Recreation and she will start 9/22/25.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Historical Society

Commissioner Frey:

- Cruise night and wine event in August had a good turnout.
- No meeting in July.

SRA**Commissioner Frey & Matthews:**

- Kristen's review was finalized and will update her contract.
- Fall and winter programming.
- RVSRA looking for part time help.

KRS**Commissioner Gear**

- Fundraising going well.
- Bill Yohnka's contract renewal.
- Spoke on next fundraiser.

Building Commission Report**Commissioner Skelly:**

- Next Tuesday is meeting. Meet every 3 months.

COMMISSIONERS FORUM

Commissioner Matthews loves the compassion for people on the board. Would like to create a maintenance plan for list of importance. Discussed his concern for invasive species and educating.

Commissioner Gear talked about the clean up days and the park district participation was minimal. She discussed her concerns with the events.

Commissioner Eisengart discussed mulberry growing and what can be cut back and trimmed as well as weeds in the parks. Would also like to preserve the cemetery by Splash Valley.

Commissioner Matthews

Executive Session

NA

ADJOURN MEETING

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 6:12pm by Commissioner Matthews, seconded by Commissioner Gear. Upon voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

OFFICIAL REPORTS:

1. Board Meeting Minutes (July 28, 2025)
2. July Financials
3. July Bills Payable
4. Bird Park Project Update
5. Mayor Bailey Project Update
6. National Fitness Campaign Grant
7. Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds Report
8. Superintendent of Business Report
9. Superintendent of Recreation Report
10. Superintendent of Revenue Facilities Report
11. Executive Director Report

Respectfully submitted: Melissa Woodard