

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Sycamore Park District  
Tuesday, May 28, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Sycamore Park District Board of Commissioners, DeKalb County, Illinois, being held at the Sycamore Golf Club, A Facility of the Sycamore Park District in the Riverview Room located at 940 E. State St, Sycamore, Illinois is called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

Will the recording secretary please call the roll.

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are physically present and will be participating in the meeting in person: **Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Strack and Kroeger.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present but will be participating in the meeting via video and/or audio conferencing: **None.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present and will not be participating in the meeting: **None.**

Staff members present were Director Bailey, Jeff Donahoe, Jeanette Freeman, Jackie Hienbuecher, Lisa Metcalf, Paul Price, and Sarah Rex.

**Guests at the Board meeting were:**

- Michelle, Keith, and Callie Patellaro
- Ariel Rus
- Erin Vobornik
- Emily Pollacle
- M. Schneidoman
- Matt Mruk
- Jonathan Buettner
- Don Shaw – Auditor

**Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –  
Motion**

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda.  
Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Annual Meeting:**

**Sycamore Park District Annual Board Meeting and Election of Officers for 2024 -** President Kroeger called the Annual meeting to order. He then turned the meeting over to Director Bailey.

**Voice Vote**

Director Bailey called for a voice vote for the authorization for her to act as Chair for the purpose of the election of the President. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

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**Annual Board Meeting and Election of Officers for 2024 – cont'd:**

Director Bailey noted it is now her duty for the election of the President to open the floor for nominations for the election of the President of the Board of Commissioners, so the floor is now open for nominations.

Director Bailey opened the floor for nominations for President.

<b><u>Office:</u></b>	<b><u>Nominee:</u></b>	<b><u>Nominated by:</u></b>	<b><u>Seconded by:</u></b>	<b><u>Vote:</u></b>
President	Bill Kroeger	Ted Strack	Daryl Graves	(5) Ayes (0) Nays

Director Bailey asked if there were any other nominations for President and hearing none, she then closed the nominations for President of the Sycamore Park District and asked for a motion.

**Motion**

Commissioner Doty moved to close the nominations for President. Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

Director Bailey called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Roll Call**

Director Bailey called for a roll call to vote on the nomination of Bill Kroeger for President. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Director Bailey then turned the balance of the nomination process over to President Bill Kroeger.

President Kroeger opened the floor for nominations for Vice President.

<b><u>Office:</u></b>	<b><u>Nominee:</u></b>	<b><u>Nominated by:</u></b>	<b><u>Seconded by:</u></b>	<b><u>Vote:</u></b>
Vice President	Ben Doty	Bill Kroeger	Ted Strack	(5) Ayes (0) Nays

President Kroeger closed the floor for nominations for Vice President for the coming year.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to close the nominations for Vice President. Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to vote on the nomination of Ben Doty for Vice President. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Annual Board Meeting and Election of Officers for 2024 – cont'd:**

President Kroeger asked for appointments for the following:

**Treasurer:** Jackie Hienbuecher was nominated.

**Secretary:** Jonelle Bailey was nominated.

**Recording Secretary:** Jeanette Freeman was nominated.

President Kroeger closed the floor for nominations for the coming year 2024.

**Motion**

Commissioner Graves moved to close the nominations for Treasurer, Secretary, and Recording Secretary. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to vote on the nominations of Jackie Hienbuecher for Treasurer, Jonelle Bailey for Secretary and Jeanette Freeman for Recording Secretary. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

President Kroeger asked for appointments for the following:

**Legal Services:** Ancel Glink was nominated.

**Audit Services:** There was no nomination at this time.

**IAPD Legislative Contact:** Commissioner Ackmann was nominated.

**FOIA Officers:** Jonelle Bailey and Jackie Hienbuecher were nominated.

**Open Meetings Act Official:** Board President and Vice President were nominated.

**ADA Coordinators:** Jonelle Bailey and Lisa Metcalf were nominated.

**Plan Commission Representative:** Daryl Graves was nominated.

**Motion**

Commissioner Doty moved to close the nominations for all the above. Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to vote on the nomination of all stated. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

President Kroeger asked for a motion to close the Annual Meeting for 2024.

**Motion**

Commissioner Doty moved to close the Annual Meeting. Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

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**Approval of Minutes –  
Motion**

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the April 23, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.  
Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Approval of Minutes –  
Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the April 23, 2024, Executive Session Meeting Minutes to remain confidential. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Claims and Accounts Approval**

**Motion**

Commissioner Doty moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of \$470,119.72.  
Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Correspondence –**

- Baseball Concessions Staff
- Volunteer
- Life School Thank You

**Public Input –**

Ariel introduced herself, along with Keith and his mom, Michelle. Ariel noted she owns an indoor skate park in DeKalb. There are Sycamore kids that come to her skate park, including Keith. She noted that Keith would love to have an outdoor skate park in Sycamore. They started making an online petition and collected 232 signatures. They understand building a skate park would be a longtime goal. They are wondering if the Park could put this in their budget in the next year or so. They are here to ask if they could help start fundraising and see what they can do to help make space for people in Sycamore to legally skateboard at. At this time, Keith read his letter asking for an outdoor skateboard park.

President Kroeger noted Keith did a good job and thanked all for coming and bringing to our attention. He noted that next week, the park is having a planning meeting for the next 5-10 years. Director Bailey asked Ariel if they would be opposed to having BMXR's be partners on a location. Ariel noted it could be for all action sports. Ariel said they wanted to come to the meeting to see how this could be started. Director Bailey told them to let her know if they have more information or find a possible location.

**Positive Feedback:**

- President Kroeger noted to Paul, the course has great numbers. He also noted he had a comment from his neighbor that plays here but also at other courses. He said the park district course is way ahead of the Kishwaukee course.

**Plan Commission:** Commissioner Strack noted they had a workshop on Brian Grainger Development at Old Mill Park. He could not participate in this workshop because he is an employee of Brian Grainger. He wants to convert 4-unit buildings to 6-unit buildings in sixteen of the twenty-one buildings. The building would be slightly larger, but the units would be smaller to appeal to a wider array of people. The reaction was negative due to the density going from 5.8 on the south side of Mt. Hunger to 6.2 on the north side, which is considered high density. No decision was made, and it will be at the next plan commission meeting.

**Presentation of Audit:** Don Shaw with Lauterbach and Amen went over the audit.

**Motion**

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the audit as presented. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Old Business:**

**Community Survey Presentation:**

Director Bailey introduced Mindy with the NIU Center for Governmental Studies. Mindy went over the community survey and the results.

**Construction Updates:**

- **GWT:** Director Bailey noted we are still waiting for a response from IDOT for the adjustment so we can get the new assessments. FS Grain paperwork has been received and has been sent to Ancel Glink and Derke is working on this to get the title.
- **Reston Ponds:** Director Bailey noted construction is done and the playground is in with the mulch down. The pickleball court is surfaced but has no nets yet. The shelter is up, and the parking lot is in.
- **Solar Panels:** The panels are on all the buildings. The electrical piping is being installed and hooked up. We do not have a date yet to turn off the service to hook everything up.
- **Ball Field Lights:** Supt. Donahoe noted they are supposed to start the lights this Thursday.

**Construction Updates-cont'd:**

- **Pool Building:** Director Bailey noted they met with a construction company to get an idea on the demo of the facility. According to IDNR and our engineers, we cannot put anything else in this area. We cannot put anything there with a structure or fencing, etc. The cost to tear down, move the electrical and water line, and hauling out the old cement would be approximately \$390,000 to \$450,000. The electrical and water lines are tied in with the maintenance building.
- **North Grove:** Director Bailey noted they are preparing the plans to go to bid this fall.
- **Community Garden:** Director Bailey noted a letter has been written for the property owners to consider an easement and Ancel has sent over a draft agreement.
- **ADA Audit Status:** Director Bailey noted all the parks have been assessed. They are in the process of typing the reports. We will then be doing some community focus groups. We should have the reports by the beginning of September.

**North Grove Park Proposal:** Director Bailey noted that because we submitted an OSLAD Grant we must do this document saying that we are going to move forward with Upland Design in facilitating this grant and construction.

**Motion**

Commissioner Graves moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Staff Survey:** Director Bailey noted this is the second year doing this and there were less responses this year. We are still getting great responses though. We will do this again probably next summer.

**Strategic Planning Date: June 4th**

**New Business**

**PDRMA Annual Report –** Director Bailey noted this is a snapshot of how we use PDRMA and how this is beneficial to staff wellbeing.

**Special Announcements** – None

**June Study Session:** None was scheduled.

**Public Input** – None

**Motion**

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 7:35 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Ackmann for the reasons listed below. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

The Board convened to Executive Session at 7:37 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Strack and Kroeger present along with Director Jonelle Bailey, Supt. Hienbuecher, Supt. Donahoe, Supt. Metcalf, Supt Price, and Recording Secretary Freeman.

**Motion**

The Board adjourned the Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Doty. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Strack.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board reconvened to Regular Session at 8:11 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Strack and Kroeger present.

**Motion**

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 8:11 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Graves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Strack.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette Freeman  
Recording Secretary  
Sycamore Park District