

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Sycamore Park District  
Tuesday, August 27, 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 6:02 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27, 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, and Paul Price.

**Guests at the Board meeting was:**

- Amy Schmidt

**Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –  
Motion**

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda.  
Commissioner Ackmann 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.

**Approval of Minutes –  
Motion**

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the July 23, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.  
Commissioner Graves 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.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the July 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 \$138,305.25.  
Commissioner Ackmann 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 – None**

### **Public Input – None**

### **Positive Feedback:**

- President Kroeger noted we just gone through the busy season with all areas and everyone is just knocking it out of the park. He thanked staff and asked that it be passed to the other staff.

**Plan Commission:** Commissioner Doty noted he attended the August 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. The sole topic was Brian Grainger request to modify the number of occupants per unit in each building. That measure passed 8-1.

Commissioner Graves met with Brian Grainger several times and went through the project. He noted the plan commission passed 8-1 so they were in favor of it but then the council voted it down. He is not sure why the council voted it down when the plan commission passed it. Commissioner Strack noted the density is not outside of the rules and is barely over the medium into the high density. There were previous developments the plan commission supported that were higher density. Commissioner Doty noted the meeting went into details with floor plans. There were residents of Old Mill that spoke against it and in favor of it.

### **Old Business:**

### **Construction Updates:**

- **GWT:** Director Bailey noted we received approval for the change, and it was approved in January. Jeff Keicher looked into and found it was never sent to us or ERA. John with ERA has a meeting set up to get appraisals set up to get those done. Then we can get the updated prices to the owners. We need to get this let out by November to meet our deadline date for the grant. Director Bailey noted the FS Grain property has been registered with the County.
- **Reston Ponds:** Director Bailey noted the pickleball screen was purchased. Supt. Donahoe noted they just received it yesterday, so should get up soon. He also noted the path is in from the pickleball court to the sidewalk.

**Construction Updates – cont’d**

- **Solar Panels:** Supt. Donahoe noted we had the planned power outage, and all went well. We are still a few steps away from the finish.
- **North Grove:** Director Bailey noted we received the construction schedule. They are meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup> to go over design. Looking to go to bid on December 2<sup>nd</sup> with the bid opening on December 20<sup>th</sup>. We would start construction in July of 2025.
- **Riverside Soccer Complex:** Director Bailey noted the drawing was sent to the city this week. They approved the design with only a few changes. We will go to bid in October with construction in June of 2025 for the parking lot.
- **Community Gardens:** Commissioner Strack noted there was nothing on this.
- **WPA Shelter:** Director Bailey noted we are in a holding pattern for now. Probably bid next year for 2026.

**Dog Park Policy/Guidelines:** Supt. Metcalf noted they brought the board last month the new dog park rules and policy and procedures. They listened to the great feedback and suggestions so made a few changes. This version is better than the original one. Director Bailey noted they created a “Are You Ready for the Dog Park” document that we borrowed from a veterinary that will be included. Sarah added hyperlinks to the document.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve 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.

**New Business:**

**Meeting Change:** It was decided to leave the September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting as is.

**Paving Contract:** Supt. Donahoe noted we were very happy with the bids. We had budgeted for \$130,000 and it came in at \$72,565.38. This company has done a lot of work for park districts.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the bid from AA Paving. 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.

**Sprayer Purchase:** Director Bailey noted this has been in the capital budget for 2 years. Supt. Donahoe noted he was told by his vendor, we couldn't get it until 2025 but then the company called him and they have one available. We are not adding to capital, but we are just moving where it is spent.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the purchase 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.

**Clubhouse Wood Deck:** President Kroeger noted the deck on the front side of the clubhouse has a higher step and people have tripped on it. Supt. Price noted it is a hazard there and he is not sure what the ADA report states about it yet. Director Bailey noted we will have the ADA report in September. Commissioner Strack asked if there is something structurally under the deck that requires the step to be that high. Supt. Donahoe noted it is at that height to meet the height of the doors. He also noted we put stripes on there before. President Kroeger asked for a safety stripe to be put there again temporarily. Director Bailey noted she is sure this area is in the ADA assessment for different spaces. Staff will look at the report and determine what needs to be done first.

**Special Announcements – None**

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

**Public Input – None**

**Motion**

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 6:32 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Strack for the reasons listed below. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackmann.

**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.

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The Board convened to Executive Session at 6:35 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackman, Doty, Gaves, 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 6:50 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Strack. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Graves.

**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 6:55 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Strack and Kroeger present.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack made a motion to deny a dog park members request for appeal of suspension. 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.

**Motion**

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 6:55 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Graves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

**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