Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, October 28, 2025

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, October 28, 2025.

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, Jewett, 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. **Commissioner Graves**

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

Guests at the Board meeting were:
Keving Spartz, Addam Kohl and Chad Gautcher with the Men's 16" Softball League.

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 voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Approval of Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Jewett moved to approve the September 23, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes. 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 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Approval of Executive Session Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the September 23, 2025, Executive Session Regular Meeting Minutes. 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 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

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Claims and Accounts Approval

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of $192,272.71. Commissioner Jewett seconded the Motion**.**

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Correspondence – Marj Holliday – Riverview Room Rental

Public Input –

Sycamore Men's 16" Softball League: Director Bailey recognized them with the Illinois Association of Park Districts Community Service Award. She noted on June 2, 2025 this league was inducted into the Chicago 16" Softball Hall of Fame. From its beginnings in 1933 as the "Wilderness League" for Anaconda Wire & Cable employees to the thriving community tradition it is today, this league has united generations of players, families, and fans. President Kroeger presented the award to Kevin Spartz, Chad Gautcher and Addam Kohl.

Positive Feedback:

- President Kroeger noted the monthly users at the community center is awesome again.
- President Kroeger noted the golf numbers again another record year. The course is still pristine. He gave kudos to all the work the guys did before pumpkin fest weekend.

Plan Commission: Commissioner Graves was not at the Park Board meeting but he gave Director Bailey the information on the Plan Commission meeting. Director Bailey noted the new condo residential plan is going to the City for approval (off Plank Road, East of Caseys gas station. The Planning Commission did not make a recommendation on this plan, therefore it is on the City Council to approve. There was a lot of negative feedback from area residents. They will vote on it Nov. 3rd.

Old Business:

Construction Updates:

- Community Center:
  - Butterfly Garden: Director Bailey noted the work day for this is November 8th. The foundation will pay half at $2500 and Rotary will pay the other half. Supt. Donahoe noted they have a Julie call in already and the guys will be pulling all the old stuff out.
  - Shade Structure: Director Bailey noted the base is in. Supt. Donahoe noted for next season we have a 20 X 20 shade umbrella for the back patio.

- **GWT**: President Kroeger noted the bid opening is November 7th. Director Bailey noted people are already getting the plans for it.

Construction Updates- cont'd:

- **North Grove:** Supt. Donahoe noted it is done and was inspected. The city has given us a temporary occupancy permit until spring. Director Bailey noted that when the grass comes in during the spring the city will come back for a permanent occupancy permit.

- **Pool Building:** Director Bailey noted we are bidding it out on November 19th.

- **Skate Spot:** Director Bailey noted this will be done tomorrow. She and Jeff will do a walk through on Thursday. We will do a soft opening now with a grand opening in the spring.

- **Golf Course:**

    - **Drain by cart pen:** Supt. Donahoe noted Elliott & Wood put in a drain by the putting green. After this was finished on Friday on Saturday we had the heavy downpour, and it worked great.
    - **City drainage project:** Supt. Donahoe noted it is going well and they are well west of interfering with any of our stuff. The irrigation pipe move went better than I thought it would.

New Business:

2026 Insurance Benefits: Supt. Hienbuecher asked the board to consider her proposal on the plan. We are keeping everything almost the same. She is suggesting the board consider the district contributing something to dependent and family coverage. This is very key in our succession planning. Commissioner Doty noted this can be looked at each year.

Motion

Commissioner Jewett moved to approve the health package as outlined and adding the 20% coverage for family, spouse and dependent. 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 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

2026 Training Budget:

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the 2026 training budget. 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 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Branches of Belonging Community Initiative: Director Bailey noted this is a combination of things. It is a combo of the Arts in Action Desserts & Dialogue and Ted's request. It is a community wide campaign. She just needs the ok from the board to move forward with this.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the park moving forward with engaging in the Branches of Belonging Initiative. 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 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Community Center Membership Fees: Supt. Metcalf went over the changes proposed.

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the 2026 membership fees 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 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Community Center/Shelter Rental Fees:

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the 2026 fees as presented. Commissioner Jewett seconded the Motion**.**

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent

New Playground 2026 - Kiddieland: Supt. Donahoe noted this is the one by the Good Tymes. Everything except for the swing set is getting replaced.

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the purchase of the playground equipment 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 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent

IAPD Delegate: It was determined that Director Bailey is our delegate, with Commissioner Graves as our 1st alternate.

Public Input – None

Special Announcements –

Study Session: November - None was scheduled.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 6:59 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Jewett. 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 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Jeanette Freeman

Recording Secretary
Sycamore Park District