Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

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, January 27, 2026.

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, 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. **None**

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

Guests at the Board meeting were: None

Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –

Motion

Commissioner Graves moved to approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda. 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.

Approval of Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Jewett moved to approve the December 16, 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 5-0.

Approval of Executive Session Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the December 16, 2025, Executive Session 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.

Claims and Accounts Approval

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of $464,603.60. 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.

Correspondence –

- DeKalb County Foundation
- Shirley Schwarz – Auto Door
- OSLAD Grant

Public Input – Supt. Price introduced Clayton Riley as the new pro shop manager.

Positive Feedback:

- President Kroeger noted the OSLAD grant is awesome news.
- Commissioner Ackmann noted she looks forward to reading the numbers each month.

Plan Commission: Commissioner Graves noted there was no meeting. They will be meeting on February 9th.

Old Business:

Construction Updates:

Park/Construction Update: Supt. Donahoe noted the ground is frozen and waiting on the weather for the city drainage project.

Clubhouse Bathroom Remodel: Director Bailey noted the city said last week the electrician turned in what is needed. We are waiting on the city at this point. The city has a new process to submit things.

GWT: Supt. Donahoe noted they had their initial construction meeting. The tree work has to be done before April 1st so they will be starting this March 9th. Then there will be a little be of wait and will start around July to time everything up with the bridge arrival.

Parkside Trail Connection: Director Bailey noted that we are working with Upland and ERA for the grant application design.

Community Pool: Director Bailey noted we are waiting on timeline from Fowler.

Construction Updates-cont'd:

Playground Replacement: Supt. Donahoe noted the playground equipment for Kiddie Land has been delivered already to save money. It will be put in during the spring/summer.

Reston Ponds Phase II: Director Bailey noted we are waiting on the OSLAD Grant.

Shelter in Pool area: Director Bailey noted she has been working with Upland and FGA Architects on what it would look like. Upland is looking at what grants we can apply for.

New Business:

Course Improvement/Changes: Supt. Price noted he talked to Jeff and Steve to see what makes sense for this year. Supt Donahoe noted these are just ideas, but nothing has to be done. He noted that cart path extensions are a priority. This is just a basic list, and we can look at it each year.

Ordinance #01-2026: Annual Abatement Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2025 to pay the principal of and interest on General Obligation Park Bonds(Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2017A, of the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, IL:

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve Ordinance #01-2026 Annual Abatement Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2025 to pay the principal of and interest on General Obligation Park Bonds(Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2017A, of the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, IL. 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.

Ordinance #02-2026: Annual Abatement Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2025 to pay the principal of and interest on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019A, of the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, Illinois.

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve Ordinance #02-2026: Annual Abatement Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2025 to pay the principal of and interest on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019A, of the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, Illinois. 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.

Approval of annual budget:

Motion

Commissioner Jewett moved to approve the 2026 operating budget 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.

Bi-Annual review of Executive Session Minutes: Commissioner Doty noted the first one listed (10/8/2012) in the staff recommendation is missing.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve all of the recommended releases except 10-8-12 which will be under review. 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.

Annual Report first draft: Director Bailey noted this is just the first draft.

Public Input – None

Special Announcements –

Study Session: February - None was scheduled.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 6:40 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Ackmann for the reasons listed below. 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.

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 6:41 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Jewett, and Kroeger present along with Director Jonelle Bailey, Supt. Hienbuecher, Supt. Donahoe, Supt. Metcalf, and Supt. Price.

Motion

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

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 6:56 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Jewett, and Kroeger present.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 6:56 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Doty. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackmann.

Voice Vote

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

Jeanette Freeman

Recording Secretary
Sycamore Park District