Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, February 24, 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, February 24, 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 January 27, 2026, 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 Executive Session Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the January 27, 2026, Executive Session 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.

Claims and Accounts Approval – Supt. Hienbuecher informed the board about the DTN service and that we will be holding their check until they cancel our service for 2026.

Motion

Commissioner Graves moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of $256,189.76. 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 –

Public Input –

- Director Bailey noted that we would like to cancel the April meeting if possible. Our March meeting is later in March on 3-31 due to elections and rentals. So there is not much time in between the meetings. There was a consensus to go ahead and cancel the April meeting. It will be on the March agenda to officially approve. The papers will be notified after the March meeting.

Positive Feedback:

- Supt. Metcalf noted the Sweetheart Dance went really well. There were 124 kids and 37 adults that attended. They received great feedback and this was one of the highest attendances in years.
- Commissioner Doty noted the Branches of Belonging presentation went very well. Director Bailey noted it did go well and the next one will be in April at the community center.

Plan Commission: Commissioner Graves noted:

1. OH is asking to use the ground to the south of them. They want to tear down the house and put a parking lot in. This was approved.
2. The dispensary was approved and will be starting approximately in November.

Old Business:

Construction Updates:

City Drainage Project: Supt. Donahoe noted nothing is happening at this time.

Clubhouse Bathroom Remodel: Director Bailey noted the floor will be redone – we are not happy with the job in the women's bathroom. The tile and fixtures will be done and then they will come back to redo the floor.

Community Pool: Director Bailey noted we are getting things finalized with the city so that demolition can be scheduled.

Construction Updates – cont'd:

GWT: Director Bailey noted we are just waiting on the weather. Supt. Donahoe noted they will do the trees next month.

Parkside Trail Connection: Director Bailey noted this will be in 2027. We are working with Upland and ERA for grant application design. We will be applying for the bike bath trail and trail expansion grants.

Playground Replacement: Director Bailey noted we are just waiting on the weather.

Reston Ponds Phase II: Director Bailey noted we did receive the grant. So now we are working with Upland on the next steps. Bidding it out in the summer and then will figure out construction time.

Shelter in Pool area: Director Bailey noted this is to be determined. They did see designs at conference for structures with bathrooms, which would be great. This shelter could be used for summer camp, bad weather days for the concerts, etc.

Community Center Expansion: Director Bailey noted that she and Supt. Metcalf met with Williams Architect. They are working on an overall design of what it would look like. They did tell Williams what space we actually need for office space, rooms, etc. President Kroeger noted we need to look at what do we really need in the future including if we need more gym space. Director Bailey noted that if we find we do need more gym space, it would be better to buy a separate piece of property and do a field house. We definitely need more rental space and office space. Once we get back the design, we can look at it and figure if we want to add on or go for another space.

New Business:

Budget & Appropriation Draft: Supt. Hienbuecher noted this is just a draft and the final will be at the March meeting to approve.

Reston Ponds Phase II Proposal Approval:

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the professional services for the design of $93,350 for the Phase II project. 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 March meeting date change:

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve moving the March meeting date to March 31st. 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.

Public Input – None

Special Announcements –

Study Session: March - 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 Jewett for the reasons listed below. 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.

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 6:40 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Jewett, and Kroeger present along with Director Jonelle Bailey, Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman, Supt. Hienbuecher, Supt. Donahoe, Supt. Metcalf, and Supt. Price.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Executive Session at 6:46 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Doty. 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.

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The Board reconvened to Regular Session at 6:46 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Jewett, and Kroeger present.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 6:46 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