Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, March 31, 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, March 31, 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 (via Zoom), Jeff Donahoe, Jackie Hienbuecher, Lisa Metcalf, and Paul Price.

Guests at the Board meeting were: None

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 5-0.

Approval of Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Jewett moved to approve the February 24, 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 Graves moved to approve the February 24, 2026, Executive Session Regular Meeting Minutes to remain confidential. 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 –

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of $199,208.07. 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 5-0.

Correspondence –

- Kat Willrett-Birthday Party at CC
- Shannon Vanatta – Special Olympics
- Turner Family Thank You
- Grand Victorian Thank You

Public Input – None

Positive Feedback:

- Commissioner Graves noted the letter regarding Reanna and the birthday party is great.
- President Kroeger noted the golf course looks great.
- Supt. Price commented hats off to the maintenance crew.
- Commissioner Graves noted it was a great day for the course for opening day.
- Commissioner Jewett noted the bowling event went well.

Plan Commission: Commissioner Graves noted he was not at last month's meeting and this month's meeting was cancelled.

Construction Updates:

City Drainage Project: Director Bailey noted she emailed everyone with the project schedule she received. Supt. Donahoe noted we are hoping the week of the 13th they will be out there restoring the course.

Clubhouse Bathroom Remodel: President Kroeger noted the bathrooms really look good. He thanked everyone involved in it. It is a really big improvement.

Community Pool: Director Bailey noted waiting for CES to get back to us. She will email an update when she gets it.

GWT: Supt. Donahoe noted they removed the trees. Now they won't do anything until summer and the bridge in September.

Parkside Trail Connection: Director Bailey noted we are not applying until 2027 but keeping it on the list for now.

Construction Updates – cont'd:

Playground Replacement: Supt. Donahoe noted the planting should be coming soon.

Reston Ponds Phase II: Director Bailey noted we have not bid this out yet and we need to schedule the bid.

Shelter in Pool area: Director Bailey noted there is an agenda point on this later on.

Community Center Expansion: Director Bailey noted there is an agenda point on this later on.

Public Hearing on Budget and Appropriation Ordinance:
President Kroeger noted "At this time we will have the Public Hearing on the FY2026 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance 03-2026".

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to open the hearing. Commissioner Jewett seconded the Motion.

There were no comments from the public.

Motion

Commissioner Graves moved to close the hearing. 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.

New Business:

Ordinance 03-2026 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance: An Ordinance Adopting the combined annual budget and appropriation of funds for the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, Illinois for the fiscal year beginning on the first (1st) day of January, 2026, and ending on the thirty-first (31st) day of December 2026:

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the Budget & Appropriation Ordinance #03-2026 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.

Open Meetings Act required for all elected officials: Director Bailey noted this is just a reminder to do the training.

Annual Report Final: Supt. Price noted the net amount for the golf revenue is higher than what it actually was. Supt. Hienbuecher noted she will check the number and get with Sarah on this. Commissioner Doty noted it looks great. He did ask about the taxing districts on Page 81 and asked if the order should be changed.

Cancel April 2026 meeting:

Motion

Commissioner Graves moved to approve cancelling the April Board meeting. 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 5-0.

Golf Permanent tee time rules update: Supt. Price wanted to give the board an update on this and how it might go. He went through what the process would be.

Master Plan update approval: Director Bailey noted this would be a 10-year plan. They will be updating the strategic plan periodically and will have an annual review. She went over a few things that were added. The Green Leaf park and looking to purchase property for a field house and/or pool.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the Master Plan as presented with the additions talked about. 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.

Solar Panel Lien notice: Director Bailey noted the government pulled back green initiative money and it has put people in default. Our lawyers have been informed of this.

Williams Architects Proposal: Director Bailey noted we need to decide how detailed we want this to be. She needs the board to ok for her to sign the agreement. Each level we go up the cost goes up. There was more discussion on this.

Motion

Commissioner Jewett moved to approve the proposal from Williams Architects for $18,500. 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.

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Behavior Expectations Policy: Supt. Metcalf noted this is just informing the board about this.

Community Park Master Plan Proposal: Director Bailey noted this is already in our capital plan.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the Community Park Master Plan with Upland Design at $18,700 as presented. 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.

Public Input – None

Special Announcements –

Study Session: April - None was scheduled.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 6:48 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Graves for the reasons listed below. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jewett.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call 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 6:48 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Jewett, and Kroeger present along with Director Jonelle Bailey (via Zoom), Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman, Supt. Hienbuecher, Supt. Donahoe, Supt. Metcalf, and Supt. Price.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Executive Session at 6:51 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Ackmann. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jewett.

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 6:51 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Jewett, and Kroeger present.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 6:52 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Graves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jewett.

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