Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, August 25, 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, August 25, 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, Jeanette Freeman, Jackie Hienbuecher, Lisa Metcalf, and Paul Price.

Guests at the Board meeting were:

- Kreg Wesley, 1394 Sandcastle Dr. Sycamore
- Aaron Gold – Speer Financial
- Andrew George, 912 Borden Avenue, Sycamore

Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –

Motion

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

Approval of Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the July 28, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Jewett 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 Ackmann moved to approve the July 28, 2026, Executive Session Regular 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 $119,675.91. 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 –

- Little Campers Thank You

Public Input –

- Andrew George talked about that it would be nice to have a bike pump track. He noted that Batavia has a decent one even though it is a little small.
- Director Bailey noted she got his email on it and she looked into it. She has put it on the list and if they can find some area to do this, they can look into it. We have flood plains that create problems for us.

Positive Feedback –

- President Kroeger noted that July was great with the daily users.
- He also noted that workers by the Marathon car wash told him there are homeless living in the area by Larsen Park.

Plan Commission: Commissioner Graves noted there was no meeting.

Award Bid for Bond: Supt. Hienbuecher introduced Aaron Gold from Speer Financial that will present the bond information. Aaron Gold went over the results. He noted that Resource Bank provided a net interest cost of 3.55%. He anticipates closing on September 8th with a final maturity of December 15, 2033. He recommends that the Districts General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026, be sold to Resource Bank at the price of $1,570,000 at a net interest cost of 3.55%.

Motion

Commissioner Jewett moved to accept the bid from Resource Bank of 3.55% 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.

Old Business:

Construction Updates:

Parkside Trail Connection: Director Bailey noted that there are no current grants available at this time.

Shelter in Pool area: Director Bailey noted we are waiting on Com Ed to disconnect the electricity. Supt. Donahoe noted it should be tomorrow – Com Ed was delayed due to the storms. Director Bailey noted we are waiting on pricing for the shelter in the pool area. Commissioner Graves asked if we could get sponsors to fund the shelter. Director Bailey noted that we would still need to know the cost first.

Community Center Expansion: Director Bailey noted that there was no further research to do. The pricing was for 2030 so we could plan out in the capital projects. President Kroeger asked when we will feel the crunch. Director Bailey noted we feel the crunch now. We can continue to operate as is. We can wait until we have the money to purchase the larger property and build a fieldhouse or whatever we would want to go with it. It would benefit us in the short term and allow us to kick the can down the road for a fieldhouse. We could do the expansion of the community within the next 5 years and meet the needs for a couple of years. Then we could figure out an actual plan for the rest of it. If we start now, we can figure out the funding for the community center. President Kroeger is asking how we figure out the timing and do we carry into next year. Director Bailey noted we can budget next year to do all the engineering surveys and figure out the cost projections. We know our estimated costs through 2030 for the expansion. Commissioner Graves noted he would like to go forward now. Commissioner Ackmann asked if there is a future field house she wanted to make sure that would not make the community center space irrelevant and would still be needed. Commissioner Doty noted he would like us to be in a position to be prepared to purchase land if it becomes available.

GWT: Director Bailey noted that they have done a lot so far. Supt. Donahoe noted they have the trail dug out and the pilings in for the bridge. They are expecting the bridge mid September.

Reston Ponds Phase II: Director Bailey noted we got the bids in last week.

New Business:

Sycamore Parks Foundation Update: Director Bailey noted that the foundation did not make as much money this year as last year. The outing was fun and the golfers liked the new games. She noted the Sip-N-Savor went well this year. She also noted she is looking into creating an investment account.

Reston Ponds Phase II Bid Award: Director Bailey noted that Upland did contact E. Hoffman to confirm the numbers and all were good.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to accept the bid from E. Hoffman, Inc. for Phase II Reston Ponds in the amount of $627,404.50._ 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.

Kishwaukee College Golf MOU: Supt. Price noted he wanted something on paper to solidify the agreement. This is just for their practice, and he can reevaluate in the Spring.

Motion

Commissioner Graves moved to approve the MOU with the Kishwaukee College Golf Team as presented. 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.

Master Plan and Strategic Plan: Director Bailey noted it is time to update these things. This is a draft and the staff still need to comment on it. She would like the board to look at and give their feedback. She wants to get it finished by the end of the year. She noted that herself, Supt. Hienbuecher and Supt. Metcalf attended a Financial Sustainability seminar. They want to get a policy on this created. She is suggesting that the board and staff meet every two years on the master and strategic plan.

Bond Ordinance 04-2026: Ordinance providing for the issue of $1,570,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026, for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

Supt. Hienbuecher noted this is the legal document that she must file with the county.

Bond Ordinance 04-2026 - cont'd:

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve Ordinance #04-2026 - Ordinance providing for the issue of $1,570,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026, for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof. 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.

Service Group Membership: President Kroeger noted the Kiwanis is looking for a younger board member to join. Commissioner Doty noted he had received an email on this, but he is not able to join at this time. He responded to the email that he could not join and suggested to possibly look into our staff if a board member cannot join. Director Bailey noted she would ask staff if anyone is interested in it.

KSRA Update (Executive Session)

Study Session: - None was scheduled.

Final Public Input – None

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 7:00 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Graves for the reasons listed below. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

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 7:02 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Jewett, and Kroeger present along with Director Jonelle Bailey, Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman, Supt. Donahoe, Supt. Hienbuecher, and Supt. Metcalf.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Executive Session at 7:28 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Jewett. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Graves.

Voice Vote

Vice President Doty 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 7:28 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Graves, Jewett, and Kroeger present.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 7:28 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Graves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackmann.

Voice Vote

Vice President Doty 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