

Regular Meeting

August 25, 2025

A. Call to Order & Pledge to the Flag

At the call of the President Gulas, the Joliet Park District Board of Commissioners met for a Regular Meeting in the Board Room of the Inwood Athletic Club, 3000 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, IL. The meeting began at 5:00pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Raasch, Perez, Tatro, Gulas, Mutz

Commissioners Absent: None

C. Opportunity For The Public To Speak - 3 minute time limit

No one addressed the Board.

D. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 21, 2025, and the Special Meeting and Executive Session of August 11, 2025 and August 20, 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Raasch, seconded by Commissioner Mutz, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 21, 2025, and the Special Meeting and Executive Session of August 11, 2025 and August 20, 2025. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Raasch, Mutz, Perez, Tatro, Gulas

Nays: None

E. Approval of the bills and payroll for the month of July 2025 - \$1,842,645.53

A motion was made by Commissioner Raasch, seconded by Commissioner Perez, to approve the bills and payroll in the amount of \$1,842,645.53 for the month of July, 2025. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Raasch, Perez, Mutz, Tatro, Gulas

Nays: None

F. Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2025

Glenn Kelley, Director of Finance, gave the Treasurer's report for the end of the month of July 2025 as follows:

|                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Cash on hand beginning of month: | \$ 7,781,382.23  |
| Total Receipts:                  | \$ 18,878,278.13 |
| Total Disbursements:             | \$ 20,654,613.13 |
| Cash on hand end of month:       | \$ 5,922,849.87  |
| Total Investments:               | \$ 18,576,776.70 |
| Total Cash & Investments:        | \$ 24,499,626.57 |
| Total Fund Balances              | \$ 12,931,893.74 |

Commissioner Mutz made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of July, 2025.

Commissioner Tatro seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Mutz, Tatro, Raasch, Perez, Gulas

Nays: None

## G. Communications

### 1. John Lukancic- City of Joliet

Mr. John Lukancic, Director of the office of Emergency and Disaster Management for the City of Joliet is requesting two tornado sirens be placed on Joliet Park District property. The City of Joliet already partners with the Joliet Park District with a siren located at the Joliet Memorial Stadium and Woodruff Golf Course. Mr. Lukancic is asking for a siren to be placed at Varnado Park on McDonough and Water Street. The former tornado siren at Eliza Kelly School, 100 West McDonough Street property is in question so siren needs to be moved. Varnado Park is two blocks west of Eliza Kelly School so would be an ideal location to place the siren close to previous location. The second siren location would be Theodore Crossings Park. The siren can be placed anywhere on Theodore Crossing Park property. Both sirens are solar and do not require electric. Project to move sirens is looking to be completed by the end of 2025. It is recommended Varnado Park siren be placed in the North West corner by McDonough Street due to sunlight exposure.

### 2. Executive Director Correspondence

Mr. Brad Staab, Executive Director, informed the Board that there was another plane emergency in August. Currently working with the FAA on the fence damage. Commissioner Raasch stated he would like to commend and recognize the Pilot at a future Board Meeting.

Mr. Staab stated that he met with Cemenos at the Park Friday about the space that was formally Flourish. They are hoping to open October or November 2025.

Mr. Staab is meeting with Jay Darnell, Primetime Tournaments, to discuss potentially extending his contract for the Inwood Sports Complex.

Mr. Staab met with Ann Sylvester, City of Joliet Director of Cultural Affairs & Special Events. Most of Ms. Sylvester's questions were regarding Cultural Events on the East Side.

Mr. Staab updated the Board on the request from Will County for a permanent easement off of Francis Road in Higinbotham Woods. It was stated that a fee for the permanent easement has not been agreed on and negotiations are ongoing.

### 2. Staff Reports

Mr. Ekstrom, Director of Horticulture and Golf Grounds, discussed the Horticultural Center Renovations. The chandelier was recently installed. Com Ed will be out this week to move power between Barber & Oberwortmann Horticultural Center and Bird Haven Greenhouse.

Mr. Ekstrom stated that the irrigation project at Woodruff Golf Club is close to being complete. Commercial Irrigation, Inc. will have information loaded into the computer to run the front nine this week and back nine next week.

Commissioner Perez inquired about the slippery stairs at Woodruff. It was noted that Mr. Baranak, Director of Park Services, is meeting with Dan McDonald, Golf Grounds Superintendent, on Friday to come up with a plan to entrench new stairs up to the tee box.

Commissioner Tatro inquired about an opening date to start booking the Barber & Oberwortmann Horticultural Center. It was noted the Joliet Park District will first start using the facility for events this Fall. Starting with the Sponsor Party, Joliet Park Foundation's Poinsettia Luncheon and possibly a Joliet Chamber & Commerce Event.

Mr. Baranak, Director of Park Services, informed the Board that Park Services crew were busy working on storm cleanup, which involved 15 fallen trees, including a massive tree at West Park.

Mr. Baranak updated the Board on the Waterford Pointe Park retention issue, stating that the issue has been figured out. Commissioner Raasch inquired about the bench area on the north side of the sidewalk needing gravel. Commissioner Raasch inquired about the four wheelers going through the park. It was noted a split rail fence could be used to keep four wheelers out.

Ms. Brumfiel, Director of Recreation, informed the Board that kids are back to school and Kids at Hart at Nowell Park Recreation Center (NPRC) has 40 participants.

Ms. Brumfiel informed the Board about the following programs:

- Troy Trojans has 76 participants.
- NPRC increased membership to 404. The highest number since opening.
- Back to School Fest was on August 9, 2025. It was a great event and volunteers and staff gave away over 500 book bags.
- Fall Adult trips has 44 registered for Maine and 24 for New England.
- Sunshine and Rainbows Learning Center had their orientation and classes start September 9.
- Synergy competitive dance team has tryouts on September 22.

Ms. Brumfiel stated that Joliet Catholic Academy has their first football game on Friday and University of St. Francis has started using the Joliet Memorial Stadium and Inwood Sports Complex for their fall sports.

Ms. Brumfiel announced there are 250 kids registered for fall soccer, which starts September 6 and in-house softball leagues will start the week of September 8.

Mr. Kelley, Director of Finance, updated the Board regarding fraudulent checks. The incident has been reported to the Joliet Police Department. Eight checks came through and the bank has caught all of them. As of now, there are no losses.

Mr. Kelley stated he has been working with Mr. Baranak on obtaining quotes to lease new vehicles for Park Services fleet. Anticipating around 25 new vehicles, including both Special Recreation of Joliet & Channahon (SRJC) and Nowell Park Recreation vans. Commissioner Mutz inquired what the best option would be, to buy or lease. It was noted leasing would be the best option due to not having to be responsible for any major issues or recalls.

Teri Talarico, Director of Operations, updated the Board on the Nature Center exterior improvements. It was noted that it will be completed tomorrow. It was also stated M&M Log Home Care pointed out a few areas of concern. Mr. Baranak and Ms. Talarico reached out to Adler Roofing to install fourteen new downspouts and reseal the gutters.

Ms. Talarico stated Little Sprouts Early Learning Center starts after Labor Day with 53 students enrolled.

Ms. Talarico stated back in March of 2025 the Board approved the Metra agreement for the temporary easement for Metra to access the bridge where the train is located. The fee will be \$5,000 for the temporary easement. It was noted the project will not start until 2028 and will remove around 46 trees and will all be replaced with native trees.

Ms. Talarico updated the Board on updates at the Inwood Athletic Club. The cardio equipment was replaced. It was noted staff is working with Life Fitness and Cybex on some TV issues.

Ms. Talarico stated the Inwood Athletic Club walking track will be installed around October 22. It will be a two-week process. The goal is to be open for members as much as possible. It was noted that staff is waiting on quotes for installation of new carpet for the lobby.

Ms. Talarico stated the pool filter will be replaced in 2026.

Ms. Talarico stated there are 2,844 members at the Inwood Athletic Club. It was noted that membership numbers are up from last year.

Commissioner Mutz inquired about the roof at the Inwood Athletic Club. It was noted Gene May came out to do repairs on three HVAC units that were causing the leaks.

Commissioner Mutz inquired about Ice Rink leaks. It was noted that the leaks have been addressed and the roofing company will pay for the replacement of carpet in the hallway.

Commissioner Raasch commended Ms. Talarico on how good the Nature Center looks after the exteriors repairs.

Ms. Talarico thanked staff for the Namastadium event. It was noted 80 were registered and \$1300 was donated to Pink Heals Joliet Chapter.

Commissioner Tatro inquired about membership sales at the Inwood Athletic Club. It was noted purchasing an annual membership is the best savings.

#### H. Action Items

##### 1. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

##### 2. New Business

##### a. Resolution #25-226– A Resolution Approving Disposal of Surplus Equipment and Other Items

The following items were presented as surplus: 60 boxes of Armstrong Ceiling Tiles, 2007 GMC Sierra 2500 and 1899 Zamboni 8.5 H.P. Edger

Commissioner Raasch made a motion to approve Resolution #25-226, a Resolution approving Disposal of Surplus Equipment as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mutz and carried as follows:

Ayes: Raasch, Mutz, Perez, Tatro, Gulas

Nays: None

##### b. Bids and Award of Contract

##### b(1). Kathy Green Multi-Purpose Center HVAC Project- Gene May Heating & Cooling- \$51,520.00

President Gulas made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mutz, to approve the Kathy Green Multi-Purpose Center HVAC Project as presented, to Gene May Heating & Cooling, 516 Twin Rail Dr, Minooka, IL 60447, for the bid amount of \$51,520.00. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Mutz, Raasch, Perez, Tatro

Nays: None

##### c. Quotes and Award of Contracts

##### c(1). 2025 Full Featured Phone System- Medlin Communications- \$49,927.51

President Gulas made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Perez, to approve the 2025 Full Featured Phone System as presented, to Medlin Communications, Inc. 16W235 83<sup>rd</sup> St., Ste C, Burr Ridge, IL 60527 for the quote amount of \$49,927.51. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Perez, Raasch, Mutz, Tatro  
Nays: None

I. BOARD COMMENT

1. Committee Report

a. Joliet Park Foundation

Foundation meeting is scheduled for September 10.

b. Joliet Regional Airport

It was noted that the Airport Committee meeting is scheduled for September 3 and the Airport Fest is September 21.

President Gulas praised Brian Legan, Inwood Golf Club Manager, and staff for a great event at Inwood called Wine a Little, Laugh A Lot "Putting for Pinot". It was a sold out event.

President Gulas thanked Brian Legan, Inwood Golf Club Manager, staff and Jill Kren, Administrative Assistant, for a job well done at Moonlight Golf.

President Gulas praised Ms. Brumfiel, Director of Recreation, staff and Megan Williams, NPRC Superintendent, for a wonderful Kids Community Day event at Nowell Park Recreation Center.

President Gulas praised Jason Shook, Wedgewood Golf Club Manager, and staff for breaking a few revenue records this year.

President Gulas thanked Mr. Kelley, Director of Finance, for a job well done staying ahead of fraudulent issues.

Commissioner Raasch complimented Mr. Ekstrom, Director of Horticulture and Golf Grounds, and staff at Inwood Golf Club for a good job on the greens and sand trap maintenance.

Commissioner Perez praised staff for their work during Summer Camps.

J. Executive Session: The Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of a Specific Employee or Legal Counsel for the Park District; Purchase or Lease of Real Property for the Use of the Park District, Including Meetings Held for the Purpose of Discussing Whether a Particular Parcel Should be Acquired; The Setting of a Price for Sale or Lease of Property Owned by the Park District; Pending Litigation; Probable or Imminent Litigation

At 5:58pm, a motion was made by President Gulas, seconded by Vice President Tatro, to go into

Executive Session per the Open Meeting Act to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of the Park District, Section 2(c)(1); to discuss the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the Park District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired, Section 2(c)(5); to discuss the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the Park District, Section 2(c)(6); to discuss sale or purchase of securities, investments or investment contracts, Section 2(c)(7) and, to discuss pending litigation or probable or imminent litigation, Section 2(c)(11). The motion carried as follows

Ayes: Gulas, Tatro, Raasch, Perez, Mutz  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

At 6:41pm the Board returned to the regular meeting.

K. Adjournment

With all agenda items discussed, a motion to adjourn was made by Vice-President Tatro. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Perez and it carried unanimously. The time was 6:42pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Kren  
Recording Secretary