# DES PLAINES PARK DISTRICT
# REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES
# MARCH 16, 2026

## I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

President James Grady called the Regular Meeting of the Des Plaines Park District Board of Commissioners to order at 6:00 pm. Commissioners answering present to the roll call in person were Commissioner Erin Doerr, Commissioner Eli Williams, Commissioner Jana Haas, Commissioner Alan Osinski and President James Grady.

Staff in attendance were Executive Director, Donald Miletic; Director of Facilities and Recreation, Brian Panek; Director of Administration & HR, Nicole Dale; Director of Parks & Planning, Aurelio Marquez, and Superintendent of Administration, Liz Vinakos.

Guests in attendance are included on the sign in sheet.

## II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - NONE

## III. PRESENTATIONS - NONE

## IV. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

- James Carl: Presented comment regarding meeting attendance, and submitted questions early to the Board. The Board provided responses.
- Susan Chavez: Discussed concerns regarding Commissioner benefits.

## V. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

A. REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – February 17, 2026
B. EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES – February 17, 2025
C. SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – None
D. VOUCHER BILLS:

| | |
|---|---|
| February 13, 2026 | $ 476,093.41 |
| February 27, 2026 | $ 477,308.50 |

E. PAYROLL:

| | |
|---|---|
| February 06, 2026 | $ 252,313.23 |
| February 06, 2026 | $ 237,929.70 |

**Motion by Commissioner Osinski to approve the Consent Agenda for March 16, 2026 as listed.**
**Second by Commissioner Doerr**

**Discussion:** NONE

**Roll call: Commissioner Haas, Aye; Doerr, Aye; Grady, Aye; Williams, Aye; Osinski, Aye**
**Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 0**
**Motion Carried: 5-0-0**

## VI. M-NASR REPORT: None

## VII. MONTHY REPORTS

**A. Executive Director:** Executive Director Miletic discussed that the Prairie Lakes grand opening received a huge turnout and was a success. Stated staff did a wonderful job to offer a modernized, safer facility. Mentioned that dog park was wet due to the weather and we are sectioning out areas for seeding and maintenance. Stated looking to go for another OSLAD grant. We recently received so much money in a small timeframe for grants, and now we are able to apply again.

**Discussion:** Commissioners and staff discussed maintaining the Dog Park. Also the opening of the fitness center.

**B. Facilities and Recreation:** Director Panek discussed the grand opening as well, the Matrix bikes being sent out for repairs early in the week, completion of the fitness stretching area, personal training orientations being spearheaded by Jenny (fitness supervisor) all sessions were filled, stated received a lot of responses for the fitness center renovation, mentioned upcoming events including Royal Ball, Floating Egg Hunt (sold out), Family Egg hunt, Fairy Fest, and Glow yoga.

**Discussion:** Commissioners and staff discussed Earth day, job fairs, and treadmills.

**C. Director of Parks and Planning**: Director Marquez mentioned that the punch list for the fitness center is being finished, has been following up ComEd for reducing energy consumption through adjustments, staff have been going to OSHA-10 hour and CPO training, and department is pressure testing pipes this week. Mentioned using Easy Archive to digitize all site plans.

**Discussion:** Commissioners and staff discussed the whirlpool and Easy Archive.

**D. Business Department**: Director Curtis was not in attendance, however Executive Director Miletic discussed preparations for summer, IT is busy with Teeup, District is in a healthy financial position, debt will be zero on December 1, 2027 and has the ability to work on large projects. This is not the norm for many park districts to be in such a great financial position. Staff are working hard to make it happen.

**E. Director of Administration & HR**: Director Dale discussed hosting the IMRF semiannual meeting with staff, open enrollment, welcomed new employee Lester as HR Coordinator, working on training for supervisors, interviewing for Mechanic I, Facility Maintenance I and accounting positions. Scholarships are being heavily utilized, there is some money still available.

**Discussion:**. Commissioners and staff discussed the recruiting process and returning staff for the summer.

**D.1 FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

**Commissioner Haas moved to approve the Financial Reports for March 16th 2026, as presented, and place a copy on file for audit.**

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Williams
**Discussion:** None

**Roll call: Commissioner Haas, Aye; Osinski, Aye; Doerr, Aye; Grady, Aye; Williams, Aye.**
**Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 0**
**Motion Carried: 5-0-0**

## VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**A. Algonquin Road Bridge – Discussion Only-** No update
**Discussion:** NONE

**IX. NEW BUSINESS:** None

**X. COORESPONDENCE**

**Discussion**: Association of Horizon – Thank you.

**XI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**
**President Grady opened Commissioner Comments.**

**Commissioner Osinski:** Discussed how the District not having to pass a referendum shows a strong financial outlook. Offered a shout out to Nicole on her promotion, and working on many important items of the park district.

**Commissioner Williams:** Stated Prairie Lakes is looking great and the Des Plaines Chamber has restaurant week from March 27th – April 5. Clarified email comments.

**Commissioner Haas:**. Hopes the Liponi event did well, seems like many participated in raising the paddle. Discussed a comment she received regarding Prairie Lakes, loved having vendors at the grand opening.

**Commissioner Doerr:** Commented about the fitness center and that it is a huge achievement. Saw theater productions lined up, received comments on the dog park. Saturday at Prairie Lakes there is a fundraiser for the GenCenter, previously Frisbee, shows how we work together as a community. Encouraged everyone to vote, glad out facilities are warm and welcoming.

**President Grady:** Stated Liponi raised so much money and had success. Saturday was a lot of fun, fitness center saw many people. Looking forward to a safe spring.

**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**XIII. CLOSE AND RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:** None

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Doerr made a motion to adjourn the Park Board Meeting at 6:38 pm**

**Seconded by Commissioner Haas**
**All in Favor, Opposed**
**Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent:0**
**Motion Carried: 5-0-0**

APPROVED

President

Secretary