

Medinah Park District
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
July 16, 2025 6:30PM
Connolly Recreation Center
22W130 Thorndale Avenue, Medinah, IL.

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Medinah Park District, DuPage County, Illinois was held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at the Connolly Recreation Center, 22W130 Thorndale Avenue, Medinah, IL.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Neitzke.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Alyssa Neitzke, President

Irene Jarocinski, Vice President

Jaclyn Scafidi, Commissioner

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present:

Steven Muenz, Executive Director, Board Secretary

Maria Piworski, Superintendent of Finance/HR

Vince DeGrado, Superintendent of Parks

Dan Touzious, Asst. Supervisor of Parks

Jim Huetson, Superintendent of Recreation

Public in Attendance

Stephanie Dooley, Jon E. Patkova, Ron Camino, Gwen Kawsiak, Jean Ott, Gokhan Cukurova, Ty Cobb, Sue Keeley, John Keeley, Brooks Wogelius, Jason Carpenter, Dave Malony, Hope Rapp, Stu Boughton, Pete Cesaroni, Julie Cesaroni

Quorum

Commissioner Neitzke recognized a quorum.

Approval of Agenda

President Neitzke asked if there were any additions, corrections, or deletions to the agenda. Director Muenz stated the agenda could move forward as amended as the Sikich financial report will be moved to item 8. It was moved by Commissioner Scafidi, and seconded by Commissioner Jarocinski to approved the agenda as amended. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: AN, IJ, JS

Nay: None.

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

President Neitzke asked if there were any requests to remove items from the consent agenda. Hearing none, President Neitzke asked for a motion. It was moved by Commissioner Scafidi and seconded by Commissioner Jarocinski to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: AN, IJ, JS

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried.

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Presentation

Brian LeFevre of Sikich presentation of Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. Commissioner Scafidi asked about the \$900,000 bond from 2014. Mr. LeFevre stated it was for a capital project. The original issuance was \$1,800,000. Commissioner Jarocinski stated it seemed the district lost money. Mr. LeFevre stated the budget was approved as to spend more than revenue brought in.

Staff Reports

A. **Financial Report** – None

B. **Recreation Report** – Commissioner Scafidi asked about the adult trip to Branson. Supt. Huetson said that the trip went well, some of the days were long but the shows were great. The district did have to join with another group and that caused a little confusion, but overall, it was great. The Touch-A-Truck great, but next time can the district please provide bags for give aways/swag.

C. **Risk Management Report** – None

D. **Parks/Maintenance Report** – None

Citizen Comments 6:57 pm

Gokhan Cukurova- Hardships within the district but financial report shows success over past 6 years and Finance Director should be recognized. Additional citizen comments item should be reinstalled on agenda. One of the residents spoke last month and accused staff of something inappropriate. Have Board conducted investigation.

Stewart Boughton-23-year resident. Discussion of Board seat and why were resumes requested. Why were 2 people who ran were not asked regarding openings? President Neitzke stated the Board chose how to complete the process and Board members did reach out.

Jean Ott- Tour came up and she took a tour in a previous year and Superintendent Huetson was correct that days may be long, but while travelling with a group, you may have to do what the others want as well. Touch-A-Truck was great.

John Keeley-Rumor regarding Meacham Creek. He is a neighbor and heard an engineer was hired and would like to know details.

Written/Verbal Communication from Public to Staff/Commissioners

Commissioner Scafidi said she has heard from residents asking about the condition of the Thorndale south parking lot parking lots. Meacham Creek was brought up as well, and, also the need for outdoor basketball courts. She also said that people from Chicago have been using the NFC outdoor fitness court. Commissioners Park parking lot has been a discussion as well.

President Neitzke has heard from residents regarding Meacham Creek as well as a basketball court.

Ex. Director Muenz said that a thank you note was received for the flowers sent to former Commissioner Blankenship's family for the passing of his father-in-law. Rose Butera also sent a thank you card thanking former Commissioners Jean Ott, John Blankenship and Janan Jarosinski and staff and wants all to stay safe.

Attorneys Report

None.

Director's Report – Notes

Pizzo report has been added to the Parks staff report. Pizzo worked at Meacham Creek Park on July 7, 2025.

Village of Itasca impact fee – March, 2021 a development built in which the Village of Itasca incorrectly marked as being within the boundaries of the Medinah Park District and the agency received a check for developer's fee in the amount of \$19,269.44. The village realized the fee was to be paid to the Itasca Park District. The village is not requesting the fees to be returned, but will continue to be a credit and, if in the future, a development in Itasca falls within the Medinah Park District, the developer fees will be taken from those funds. Commissioner Scafidi asked Ex. Director Muenz to please check with attorney regarding this matter, especially after the Village of Itasca's involvement with attempted takeover of parts of Medinah for an industrial park.

OSLAD/DECO grant updates. OSLAD had a June 10, 2025 deadline that the state representative did not meet and the funds will be processed in the state fiscal year 2026, which began July 1, 2025. There is no current timetable regarding how long it will take for the funds to be processed and paid out. DCEO representative was contacted and no timetable was provided regarding the payout for the application. The grant funds are earmarked for a new HVAC system in the Walnut Room.

Items for Discussion

NRPA conference attendance Commissioner Scafidi and President Neitzke were in favor of National Conference as long as the state conference wouldn't suffice. Commissioner Jarocinski stated she is not in favor of Ex. Dir. Muenz attending.

Commissioners Park no parking zone. A map has been provided to the Board regarding where no parking signs will be installed. The township has stated JULIE will mark the location and signs should be installed within a week of that date. Commissioner Scafidi requested the district place the traffic warning sign as soon as possible. President Neitzke asked if the county engineer has been out to the site. Ex. Dir. Muenz stated he continues to contact the township regarding the engineer.

PDRMA Health Program membership – The district has a 3 year contract with PDRMA for health insurance. Ex. Dir. Muenz stated PDRMA requires a resolution no later than October 4, 2025. Staff stated PDRMA health insurance is solid and fees do not fluctuate or increase as much as other options.

Meacham Creek Park natural area – A Zoom meeting was held July 9, 2025 with DuPage County staff. An area in the southeast corner of the park may be rezoned to allow the park district the opportunity to use up to the property line as long as any build stays at least 100 feet outside the flood zone. Commissioner Scafidi stated the district is working with Bloomingdale Township it would cost \$1,000 to rezone parking at Meacham Creek and some non-native invasive trees could be used as a natural play structure. Commissioner Scafidi stated the goal of the district is to build a natural playground to make the location more usable. President Neitzke stated the area may also be used for a scavenger hunt. Public comments from local residents stated the park should not be updated and should remain as is. A resident comment asked regarding the rumor of rare plantings on the site. Ex. Dir. Muenz read an email from Pizzo and Associates explaining no rare plants exist on the site.

2026 OSLAD grant cycle. The district received information from the State of Illinois. The booklet is on the IDNR website and Ex. Dir. Muenz shared the staff has been asked about options for an upcoming grant project. Ex. Dir. Muenz requested a list of options from the Board. Deadline for the 2026 fiscal year OSLAD grant is September 30, 2025.

Board of Commissioners seats – The deadline for accepting information was July 15 at 5:00pm. It is tentatively set for next Wednesday July 23 and Thursday July 24, 2025 to interview potential candidates for the open board seats, interviews to start at 6:30 PM, there are 5 candidates.

Commissioners Comments:

President Neitzke- None

Commissioner Jarocinski – Thanked Asst Supt. Touzious for the detailed vehicle gas log.

Commissioner Scafidi- Asked about the high amount of the office supplies for the year to date, Ex. Director Muenz said the new server was incorrectly entered into wrong GL code, this will corrected and information will be shared with the Board.

Old Business/Action Items

A. Items removed from Consent Agenda – None

B. FOIA Requests – No new FOIA requests at this time.

C. Plaques (Grygiel/Felcan) – The Board previously approved a plaque for a tree as a memorial for Commissioner Grygiel and Commissioner Scafidi requested a discussion regarding a bench located at the front of the Connolly Recreation Center. The family of Augie Felcan has requested a plaque at field #3.

Commissioner Scafidi suggested the possibility of a plaque for Mr. Felcan on a dugout bench at field #3.

Commissioner Jarocinski stated the past Boards did not want to set precedent by providing benches for previous Board members. Commissioner Scafidi stated Commissioner Grygiel touched a lot of lives and deserves to be recognized. Commissioner Jarocinski stated Commissioner Grygiel was not a Medinah resident and does not agree Commissioner Grygiel deserves a bench in front of the building. President Neitzke stated a discussion can be had regarding Commissioner Grygiel. Commissioner Scafidi stated the Board can provide a list of locations and discuss further.

New Business

A. Resolution 25-14: Otis Elevator: It was moved by Commissioner Scafidi and seconded by Commissioner Jarocinski to approve Resolution 25-14, a contract between the Medinah Park District and Otis Elevator Company for the construction of a mechanical door restrictor. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: JS, AN, IJ

Nay: None
Absent: None

It was moved by Commissioner Scafidi and seconded by Commissioner Jarocinski to approve Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, presented by Sikich for the fiscal year of 2024 of the Medinah Park District. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: AN, IJ, JS
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Scafidi and seconded by Commissioner Jarocinski to adjourn the regular meeting of July 16, 2025 at 8:10 PM. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

All in favor: Ayes (3) AN, IJ, JS
Opposed: Nays (0)
Absent: (0)
Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Muenz, Board Secretary

Alyssa Neitzke, Board President

Date: July 16, 2025