



PEKIN PARK DISTRICT

Minutes of
Special Board of Commissioners Meeting
6:00 p.m. Thursday, August 7, 2025
Robert N. Blackwell Admin Building
Pekin, IL 61554

1. Call to order. President McMillan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance. All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll call.

The following Commissioners were present: Sue McMillan, Greg Ranney, Steve Sours, Gary Gillis, Kristen Walraven, Mike Dralle and Kyle Cain (6:05). Commissioners absent were: Steve Sours Also, in attendance were: Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; and Casey Smith, Superintendent of Marketing & Communications. Staff not in attendance were Ericka Davis, Superintendent of Human Resources & Risk Management; Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation; Shawna Burnice, Superintendent of IRVSRA; Keith Knox, Parkside Fitness Manager; Scott Clausen, Superintendent of Parks; Chip Hill, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Tony Maxison, Chief of Park Police; and Alisha Dault, Miller Center Administrator.

4. Referendum Presentation and Discussion with aQity Research & Insights, Inc.

Jeff Andreasen introduced himself and his company's history and experience, and went through his power point and proposal. He answered questions regarding their process regarding the needs assessment survey and polling surveys to narrow down the referendum direction and question.

5. Referendum Presentation and Discussion with Beyond Your Base

Paul Hanley and Skylar White introduced themselves and their company's history and experience. They went through their process of polling surveys, educating the voter and marketing what their clients want to do. They went through a

timeline of when things would need to be done, as well as their proposals on the scope of work they can do. They too answered questions regarding their process and polling surveys to narrow down the referendum direction and question.

6. Board Discussion after Referendum Presentations

The Board had a brief discussion regarding both consultants and their process(es). Beyond Your Base seemed more like an informational campaign of our amenities/facilities/proposed projects. A question was raised as to whether or not there is a go/no go line/threshold to make a decision as to whether not to continue moving forward once the process starts. The ED can ask that question, but feels that both consultants due to their years of doing this will know fairly quickly if we even have a chance to pass a referendum and to consider/not consider drafting a question. The question arose too how this will affect our debt service. This is where our financial advisor will come into play and guide us during the process. It was also brought up that we need to find out if anybody else in the community is planning to do a referendum.

7. Adjourn.

Motion Gary Gillis; Second Greg Ranney.
All ayes by a voice call vote – Motion carried.
Time: 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.
Cameron Bettin
Asst. Board Secretary
Pekin Park District