



PEKIN PARK DISTRICT

Minutes of
The Regular Board Meeting of Park Commissioners
6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 2, 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, Mike Dralle, Kyle Cain and Kristen Walraven. Commissioners absent were: Gary Gillis and Steve Sours Also, in attendance were: Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Chip Hill, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Casey Smith, Superintendent of Marketing & Communications Ericka Davis, Superintendent of Human Resources & Risk Management; Keith Knox, Parkside Fitness Manager; Scott Clausen, Superintendent of Parks; and Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation; Tony Maxison, Chief of Park Police; Alisha Dault, Miller Center Administrator; Shawna Burnice, Superintendent of IRVSRA; Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; and Michael Seghetti, Park District Attorney.
4. Additions to and/or deletions from the agenda, if any. Item 16 – Move to approve the August 21, 2025 Closed Session Minutes should be removed from the agenda as they are not completed.
5. Public Comments:
6. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Approval of meeting Minutes of September 4, 2025
 - B. Approval of the bills and payroll for 9/03/25 thru 9/29/25 in the amount of \$299,794.74
 - C. Approval of bills to be paid 10/03/25 in the amount of \$51,843.94

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented or to accept all items in the Consent Agenda except the item withdrawn.

Move to accept all items in the Consent Agenda as presented:
Motion Kristen Walraven; Second Mike Dralle.
All ayes by a voice call vote- Motion carried.

7. Motion to pass all items of business listed in the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote.

Move Greg Ranney; Second Mike Dralle.
All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

8. Fair Board Representative Report:
Commissioner McMillan gave the Fair Board report. She mentioned that the Arena Men's Bathrooms upgrade project was completed. There was discussion on the recent fair and potential changes/improvements to consider for next year. The Fair Board approved the LRB agreement with the Park District and PCSA. There was mention that the 4-H and Extension folks would like to see a meeting date added to the schedule of meetings calendar for June as there is a lot going on prepping for the Fair.

10. Executive Director's Update:
The ED mentioned that the PAV received a Blue Ribbon Award from the Pekin Chamber. He also mentioned that the Polling Site Accessibility Project Grant we applied for was declined and recommended that we apply again next year if monies are available. The Clerk's office believes that how they submitted it, it was rejected because those reviewing it did not realize the Miller Center was under a government agency (the Park District). The ED mentioned that he plans to have City staff come to an upcoming Board meeting to discuss the Fire Station location again on the south side by the sports complex and Rail Splitters Park. Commissioner Ranney asked why Railsplitters? The ED said that it has to do with the response time. Commissioner Dralle asked if Railsplitters was donated to us? Commissioner Ranney said it was. The ED and attorney said they would do a title search on Railsplitters.

11. Staff Reports:
The Miller Center Administrator thanked everyone who donated to her Breast Cancer Rowing Team that is competing in Boston in a couple weeks. She handed out a flyer about the event and said she will be sending a link, so if interested, one can live stream it. On the back of the flyer was about an upcoming fundraising event for the Miller Center at Monical's Pizza.

12. Commissioner Comments:
Commissioner Dralle asked if there were any updates on the PAV, particularly the donor and remaining large donation? The ED said there

was not but that the committee is committed to obtaining donations. He then asked if there was the possibility of the sports complex donor helping with the ballfields out there? The ED said he needs to contact the donor. Commissioner Cain mentioned Commissioner Gillis' podcast about the PAV and his mentioning of the Larry S. Estate helping with getting that done. It was nice to hear. Commissioner McMillan mentioned to the Chief of Police that there is a deer blind out at McNaughton Park. The Chief thanked her and said he would address getting it removed.

13. Unfinished Business:

A. Discussion of Community Wide Attitude and Interest Survey and District Wide Projects.

The ED went through the survey sample and asked the Board if they had any questions. Commissioner Walraven asked if this is to take the place of Beyond Your Base? The ED said no it was not. It was a survey to hopefully help us determine what projects to focus on, determine costs and talk with our Financial advisor on what exactly we can do with in our debt service limits. Commissioner Cain asked what if the results are all over the place, then what do we do about the referendum process? The ED said we have until January to back out of the Beyond Your Based scope of work. The Board felt it might be best to get the results of the survey back first before deciding on Beyond Your Base. The ED said he would have the final survey done for review at the October 16 meeting so it is ready to go out. We should be able to have results tallied by the November 20 meeting to make a final determination with the referendum and Beyond Your Base process.

B. Discussion and Approval of contracting with a referendum consultant, Beyond Your Base, for the not to exceed amount of \$65,865.

A motion was made by Kyle Cain to table this until the November 20 meeting to make a decision based on the survey results. Second Greg Ranney. All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

C. Discussion of the intergovernmental agreement with PCHS District 303; review of District 303 suggested changes.

The ED went through the changes/additions to the agreement draft from PCHS District 303. A question was raised about liability on falls in our parking lots during school use? The ED said they would need to look into this. The Parkside Manager asked if we should include some type of fee escalator into the agreement (i.e. a certain annual percentage increase)? The ED said this is something to bring forth in our response. Commissioner Dralle asked what Bradley University pays for tennis? The Parkside Manager said it was a flat fee over 10 K with an annual escalator. Commissioner Dralle asked if we could charge for the student parking? The ED was not sure about that but

that would be a challenge as it technically is a public parking lot. The ED said he would like to have the Supt. of Parks put together some costs for the ballfield prep work we do for them at no cost. Just so they can see that we are not wanting to charge for everything. We currently do not charge them for use of the Miller Center for their annual blood drive. The ED is going to take staff's comments and thoughts from the review/discussion tonight and make changes for the October 16 meeting to review/discuss.

14. New Business: None.

15. Closed Session:

- A. Move to convene into closed session under Open Meetings Act Section 120/2 (c) (1) to discuss the performance of specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park or recreational setting; and Section 120/2 (c) (1), to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; and Section 120/2 (c) (21) discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

Motion Greg Ranney; Second Kyle Cain.
All ayes by a roll call vote- Motion carried.
Time: 7:25 p.m.

- B. Move to reconvene into open session.

Motion Greg Ranney; Second Kristen Walraven.
All ayes by a roll call vote- Motion carried.
Time: 7:51 p.m.

16. ~~Move to approve the August 21, 2025 Closed Session Minutes.~~

17. Adjourn:

Motion Mike Dralle; Second Kyle Cain
All ayes by a voice call vote – Motion carried.
Time: 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.
Chip Hill
Board Secretary
Pekin Park District