

Alsip Park District Board of Commissioners
Minutes of Committee/Board Meeting
May 22, 2025

- Par. 1 **CALL TO ORDER**
President Perretta called to order the Meeting of the Alsip Park District Board of Commissioners at 6:30 pm.
- Par. 2 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Those in attendance gave the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Par. 3 **ROLL CALL**
The Secretary called the Roll with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, Schmitt and President Perretta present. A quorum was present.
- Par. 4 **OATHS OF OFFICE**
Attorney Cainkar invited newly elected Alsip Park District Commissioners to step forward and partake in the Oath of Office ceremony. Jackie Becker and Kathleen Perretta were duly sworn to four-year-terms of office as Alsip Park District Commissioner by Attorney Cainkar.
- Par. 5 **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES**
Motion made by Commissioner Kleina, seconded by Commissioner Schmitt, to approve the Minutes of April 28, 2025 as presented. Motion carried by voice vote 5 – 0.
- Par. 6 **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**
** Mr. Mike Sullivan spoke to the board regarding the possible setup of voluntary pollinator gardens in district greenspace. He noted restoring native plants would attract pollinators and cut down on grass mowing. A brief discussion ensued and Mr. Sullivan was asked to follow up with the director to discuss more details on creation and maintenance.
- Par. 7 **SECRETARY’S REPORT**
Secretary Poremba reported the county clerk’s office had requested updated information for its annual Directory of Elected Officials. She noted there were differences among the commissioners’ contact information in the current directory. She will follow up on providing the clerk’s office with correct and consistent information for the directory.
- Par. 8 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
FINANCE
Business Manager
Sue Bruesch’s Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 9 Manager Bruesch reported General Obligation Bond payment was due and asked for approval of the expenditure. The manager reported they were readying pool payment electronic operations for use and will begin training front desk and concession staff on how to handle sales.

- Par. 10 Motion made by Commissioner Schmitt, seconded by Commissioner Gutierrez, to approve payment of bills for the month of May 2025 in the amount of \$344,391.27. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, Schmitt and President Perretta voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 11 Motion made by Commissioner Schmitt, seconded by Commissioner Gutierrez, to approve the payment in the amount of \$38,845.27 for the interest on bonds. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, Schmitt and President Perretta voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 12 RECREATION
Recreation Superintendent
Superintendent Jennifer Torres' Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 13 Superintendent Torres reported Recreational Supervisor Merlo had returned to work from her leave. She added everyone was working together for Fun Fest and other upcoming events.
- Par. 14 Superintendent Torres reported staff CPR certification and recertification department training activities begin May 29th.
- Par. 15 Recreation Supervisor
Supervisor Merlo's Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 16 Supervisor Merlo thanked the staff for covering her workload during her absence. She noted a lot of Fun Fest details had been handled and she has been able to line up more entertainment and fun vendors for a great day.
- Par. 17 Preschool/Recreation Supervisor
Madilyn Petrushevski's Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 18 ATHLETICS
Athletics Supervisor
Payton Presler's Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 19 Fitness/Aquatics Manager
Leslie Guerrero's Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 20 Manager Guerrero reported nine lifeguards had passed testing with more tryouts scheduled soon as possible. She added the weather has been too chilly to continue training in the pool, which is scheduled to open the May 31st weekend.
- Par. 21 Manager Guerrero reported the new, highly anticipated gym equipment had arrived. She looks forward to installation of the pieces.
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- Par. 22 PARKS/MAINTENANCE
Superintendent of Parks
Superintendent Grubb's Board Report was placed on file.

- Par. 23 Superintendent Grubb reported on work attended to by the department and/or contractors at various parks and buildings. The new diving board was installed and a damaged water supply line at the meter vault was repaired at the aquatic park. New painted wall and deck pool depth markers were installed to comply with the IDPH regulations.
- Par. 24 Superintendent Grubb reported several water lines in the valve box at Laramie Park had been damaged over the winter and reconfigured to prevent future damage. A new water feature for the park had been installed and tested. The base under some play areas had become unsettled, which required removal of the artificial turf to restore the safe play construction. He requested ratification of the necessary repairs to the safety surface.
- Par. 25 Superintendent Grubb reported the LED lighting upgrade at Commissioners Park had been completed and staff were trained on operating the 365-day programming timer.
- Par. 26 Superintendent Grubb reported the installation of new flush valves and faucets at the Apollo Recreation Center had been completed by Kennedy Plumbing.
- Par. 27 Superintendent Grubb presented quotes from trash removal companies and recommended approval for the agreement from Republic Services for 2025, 2026, and 2027.
- Par. 28 Motion made by Commissioner Schmitt, seconded by Commissioner Kleina, to ratify the repairs to the safety surface at Laramie Park by Perfect Turf in the amount of \$4,500.00. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, Schmitt and President Perretta voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 29 Motion made by Commissioner Schmitt, seconded by Commissioner Kleina, to approve the Trash Removal Agreements as presented. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, Schmitt and President Perretta voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 30 GOLF COURSE
Operations Manager
Rich Gottardo's Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 31 Manager Gottardo requested ratification of the expense from Ed's Home Remodeling for repair of the door.
- Par. 32 Motion made by Commissioner Becker, seconded by Commissioner Gutierrez, to ratify the door repair by Ed's Home Remodeling in the amount of \$3,800.00. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, Schmitt and President Perretta voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par.33 MAIN OFFICE
Manager
Donna Smith's Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 34 Manager Smith invited the board to the Senior Citizen Spring Luncheon scheduled for Monday, June 23rd featuring a tray of sandwiches from Mr. Subs. She asked for confirmations of commissioners who will attend.

- Par. 35 Motion made by Commissioner Gutierrez, seconded by Commissioner Becker, to approve a \$400.00 donation to the Alsip Park District Senior Citizen Club for their 2025 Spring Luncheon. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, Schmitt and President Perretta voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 36 President Perretta ended the Committee portion of the Meeting and excused the staff at 3:36 pm.
- Par. 37 **DIRECTOR’S REPORT**
Jeannette Huber’s Board Report was place on file.
- Par. 38 2025-2026 Committee Assignments
Director Huber presented a copy of the recommended 2025-2026 Committee Assignments. There were no questions or comments.
- Par. 39 2025-2026 Board Meeting Schedule
Director Huber presented a copy of the recommended 2025-2026 Board Meeting Schedule. There were no questions or comments.
- Par. 40 Freedom Park/OSLAD Grant Update
** Director Huber reported the design development of Freedom Park had been completed and construction documents were in the works. She added soil borings needed to be performed for planning and construction suitability.
- Par. 41 Motion made by Commissioner Schmitt, seconded by Commissioner Becker, to approve the services of Soil and Material Consultants of Freedom Park for soil boring not to exceed \$7,043.00. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, Schmitt and President Perretta voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 42 Apollo Recreation Center Expansion/PARC Grant Update
** Director Huber reported the audit of the Apollo Recreation Center expansion and PARC Grant expenditures had been completed. She was able to submit the final pay request to the IDNR for the remaining \$500,000.00 in grant funding for the center’s expansion.
- Par. 43 Skate Park/OSLAD Grant Update
** Director Huber reported dates will be looked at for a rededication of the Skate Park and noted she will begin finalizing the close-out documents for the grant project.
- Par. 44 Cal-Sag Trail/ICC Update.
** Director Huber reported the CSX Agreement is final for the Cal-Sag Trail and she has contacted the attorney in Springfield for an update on the status of a final Arkema agreement.
- Par. 45 Aquatic Park Facility Review Committee Update
** Director Huber reported the Aquatic Park Committee had an effective first meeting reviewing issues and upcoming needs of the pool. Staff will follow up on questions and considerations.
- Par. 46 FY2025-2026 Budget Planning
Director Huber invited the board to submit ideas of new offerings or activities to include in the budget for discussion at the committee meeting.

- Par. 47 NRPA Conference
** Director Huber reported the NRPA Conference was scheduled for September 16 – 18. She had reservations at two area hotels to ensure rooms for five Board Members and three staff to attend at a cost of \$5,960.00. She asked the possible participants to confirm attendance details so she can wrap up the details.
- Par. 48 Motion made by Commissioner Schmitt, seconded by Commissioner Becker to approve registration for up to 3 staff and 5 Board Members to attend the National Recreation and Park Association National Convention at the cost of \$5,960.00. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, Schmitt and President Perretta voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 49 **ATTORNEY’S REPORT**
No report.
- Par. 50 **NEW BUSINESS**
There was no New Business to come before the Board.
- Par. 51 **OLD BUSINESS**
There was no Old Business to come before the Board.
- Par. 52 **ADJOURNMENT**
Motion made by Commissioner Kleina, seconded by Commissioner Becker, to adjourn the Meeting. Motion carried by voice vote 5 – 0.
- Par. 53 The Meeting adjourned at 3:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Poremba, Board Secretary

** Denotes follow-up action required