



Kankakee Valley

PARK DISTRICT

Kankakee Valley Park District Board Meeting Minutes February 23, 2026

The Board Meeting was called to order at 5:03pm by Commissioner Skelly. Those present for roll call were Commissioners A. Gear, J. Frey, D. Skelly, M. Matthews, N. Eisengart (in person or by electronic means). Others present (in person or via Teams): Ross Bruni, Executive Director; Rick Collins, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds; Rachael Click, Superintendent of Recreation; Zach Mullady, Superintendent of Revenue Facilities; Attorney David Freeman, Ariana Padilla.

Not present: Melissa Woodard, Superintendent of Business

Public Present: No public present

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner James Frey

Public Comment:

No Public Comment

COMMUNICATIONS

No Communications

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2025, by Commissioner Frey and seconded by Commissioner Matthews.

No Discussion.

Ayes: IIIII

Nays: 0

Motion was made to vote via Teams for Commissioner Gear by Commissioner Skelly and seconded by Commissioner Matthews.

No Discussion.

Ayes: IIIII

Nays: 0

FINANCIALS

Presentation of year-to-year financial comparisons by Executive Director Bruni for January 2025 and January 2026. Gave Board Members update on January Financials

Motion was made to approve items C, D, E, F of the consent agenda by Commissioner Eisengart and seconded by Commissioner Frey.

No Discussion

Ayes: IIIII

Nays: 0

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Mayor R.J. Bailey Park Renovation Project

They were out last week. Superintendent Rick Collins provided photos. Carpentry for boardwalk started. Next project is decking and playground. Commissioner Skelly asked about leveling sidewalks. Superintendent Collins said they are supposed to do that.

Update on Kankakee County Museum Agreement (Discussion)

Museum Agreement

- Attorney for the KCHS provided a draft of an agreement with revised terms. Executive Director Bruni and attorney's discussed and proposed amended terms
- Discussion on how KCHS is to use the levy allocation. Should be directed towards Museum operations. David Freeman, Attorney read the code related to Museum Levy and stated the terms can be written how the Board sees fit.
- Board consensus that funds allocated under the agreement to be used for operating and maintaining the Museum Campus as outlined in the agreement, including repairs and maintenance and capital improvements.
- Commissioner Skelly would like to meet with KCHS Board

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Executive Director Annual Compensation Adjustment (Action) 4% increase retroactive to September 2025

Motion was made to approve Executive Director Annual Compensation Adjustment by Commissioner Skelly and seconded by Commissioner Matthews.

No Discussion

Ayes: IIIII

Nays: 0

STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent of Buildings/Grounds Rick Collins:

- Thanks, Executive Director Bruni and Commissioners for conference.
- Painted Charlton Room and Ice Valley upstairs party room
- Scheduling the Boat Dock, Splash Valley, Splash Pad opening
- Had maintenance meeting with Executive Director Bruni

Superintendent of Business Melissa Woodard:

- No report

Superintendent of Recreation Rachael Click:

- There was 95% growth in Toddler playtime from previous report
- Growth in Youth Fundamental of Basketball
- Ice Valley had good month
- Youth programming trickling on in new kids
- Email blast patrons and sign ups
- Increase sponsorships – 18 possible sponsors, 12 positive responses
- Senior Programming up
- Marketing 17,400 social media views

Superintendent of Revenue Facilities Zach Mullady:

- Thank you for allowing us to attend conference
- Customer service training at conference
- Starting Little Blackhawks

Executive Director Ross Bruni:

- Budget preparation timeline was presented to the Board
- Expenditure and revenue and that's how the budget will be presented this year
- The capital projects proposed and discussion for the next three years, three-year projection on budget.
- Sell Bond in November. More capital out of that Bond starting this year due to paying off a previous bond last year
- Maintenance department meeting last week formulation of our overall maintenance program
- ECDA Meeting possible Grants for KVPD
- Registered for IAPD financial sustainability program and certification

- Registered for Legislative Conference in May

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Historical Society - Commissioner Frey:

- Deep cleaning on March 9th
- Board workshop meeting
- March 21st Floral Tea Party
- March 28th Funding Mothers Colonial time 250th USA Anniversary

SRA - Executive Director Bruni & Commissioner Matthews:

- Logo rebranding
- Lighting good
- Discussion about Manteno and Momence joining RVSRA

KRS - Commissioners Gear, Skelly & Executive Director Bruni:

- Liability Insurance Approved
- Presentation of budget next meeting
- Introducing new fundraising goals

Building Commission Report - Commissioner Skelly:

- March meeting

COMMISSIONERS FORUM

Commissioner Eisengart

Cemetery: Possible mid-late March, early April, go out there
Riverview Historic Views Sign for Cobb put funds toward sign.

Commissioner Gear

I did have something to add to that about the sign at Cobb Park. I also had a board member from the Riverview Historic District approach me and say that the historic district would be willing to put funds towards that sign, so it matches with the neighborhood. If you want to talk with them, they're willing to. Discussion on Bird sign at Bird Park

Commissioner Skelly

I very much appreciate everyone and the discussions. Please enter Steve Hunter Park. I believe that needs to be on the sign list. I would love, love, love, love to figure out a way to get the harbor fixed.

Executive Session

No executive session

ADJOURN MEETING

Commissioner Fry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Matthews. Board was adjourned at 6:33 pm.

OFFICIAL REPORTS:

1. Board Meeting Minutes (January 26, 2026)
2. Presentation and Approval of Financials December and January
3. Mayor Bailey Project Update
4. Update on Kankakee County Museum Agreement
5. Approval of Executive Director Annual Compensation
6. Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds Report
7. Superintendent of Recreation Report
8. Superintendent of Revenue Facilities Report
9. Executive Director Report
10. Committee Reports
11. Commissioner Forum

Respectfully submitted: Ariana Padilla