



# **Kankakee Valley**

## **PARK DISTRICT**

### **Kankakee Valley Park District Board Meeting Minutes March 23, 2026**

The Board Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm 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; Attorney David Freeman, Ariana Padilla.

Not present: Melissa Woodard, Superintendent of Business Zach Mullady; Superintendent of Revenue Facilities

Public Present: Michael Obodzinski, Erick Soderberg, Dr. Larry Reiner

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Angelina Gear.

#### **Public Comment:**

No public comment

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Union meeting April 13, 2026

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

No Discussion.

Ayes: IIIII

Nays: 0

#### **FINANCIALS**

Presentation of financials by Executive Director Bruni.

Motion was made to combine Approval of February 2026 Financials and Bills Payable February 2026 by Commissioner Skelly and seconded by Commissioner Matthews.

No Discussion.

Ayes: IIIII

Nays: 0

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Update on Mayor R.J. Bailey Park Renovation Project**

Rick Collins provided the board with pictures of the park from today. Change order for time, Need carpenters for boardwalk completion. Canoe launches last part of project. Commissioner Skelly asked to please have the sidewalk leveled. Rick said they will take care of that.

### **Update on Kankakee County Museum Agreement (Discussion)**

Museum Agreement

- Attorney Miner sent over agreement with all the terms discussed at last month's meeting
- Only question remains if you look on page three, item 6, the capital improvement projects and expenditures, it's clearly laid out in that first paragraph there that any capital improvements will be submitted to KVPD for approval.
- Review and then send it to Museum on Wednesday or Thursday.

### **Update on KCC Sign (Discussion)**

KCC Digital Sign Agreement

- Spoke with Dr. Boyd about changes to the agreement.
- Verbiage in agreement on usage of sign for KVPD.
- KCC will pay for utility bill for the sign.
- The agreement we already have for them pays us the \$3000 in tuition credits that we currently have. So that would stay the same. They would pay for the purchase and the installation and the electricity.
- KCC would handle upkeep of the signage and then we would get to be able to put marketing materials up there.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Presentation from Larry Reiner regarding Legislative Liaison (Discussion)**

Dr. Larry Reiner presented his proposal of services.

### **Discussion and approval of 2026 Audit engagement agreement with SKDO in the amount not to exceed \$23,500.00. (Action)**

Motion was made to approve 2026 Audit engagement agreement with SKDO was made by Commissioner Matthews and seconded by Commissioner Frey.

No Discussion

Ayes: IIIII

Nays: 0

**Discussion and approval to participate with Kankakee Taxing bodies to conduct an appraisal of the St. Mary's Hospital properties for tax purposes. (Action)**

Motion was made to approve by Commissioner Matthews and seconded by Commissioner Frey.

Discussion:

Regarding the Saint Mary's property here in town, it was bought a year and a half, two years ago and they have not filed for a tax exemption. So, the county clerk is going to put them on the tax roll. The initial step that this encompasses is to approve an appraisal of the property. Cost will be \$806.

Motioned passed

Ayes: IIIII

Nays: 0

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Superintendent of Buildings/Grounds Rick Collins:**

- Aroma Park reviewing of trees.
- Using Goselin Park Building as storage for Disaster Relief supplies.
- Maintenance Facilities at Legion
- Outdoor Restrooms prepare to open May 1<sup>st</sup>
- Reviewing staffing for summer
- Splash Valley Opening Process
- Boat Ramps will be completed soon

**Superintendent of Business Melissa Woodard:**

- No report

**Superintendent of Recreation Rachael Click:**

- Athletics increased growth
- IV growth, Example in skating lessons
- Youth Programs positive increase
  - Getting ready for Spring Sprouts program
- Senior programs mostly walk-ins – slow pre-registrations
  - Donut Day most positive with numbers
- One round of sponsor/partner packets sent out

**Superintendent of Revenue Facilities Zach Mullady:**

- No Report

**Executive Director Ross Bruni:**

- \$600,000 received for Bird
- \$188,000 also in application process
- Union agreement
- Star Radio is getting 95 Splash Valley season passes 4/6 launch, we are getting \$10,000 in air advertising, 150 - 30 second ads throughout 2026

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Historical Society - Commissioner Frey:**

- Meeting on Wednesday
- Saturday training for their Board

**SRA - Executive Director Bruni & Commissioner Matthews:**

- Van totaled \$6,600

**KRS - Commissioners Gear, Skelly & Executive Director Bruni:**

- Construction Dates
- Issue no water access
- Fundraising recap at meeting
- Legion 1<sup>st</sup> phase presentation 4/15 to the community

**Building Commission Report - Commissioner Skelly:**

- No Report

**COMMISSIONERS FORUM**

Commissioner Eisengart

Meeting at cemetery on 4/12.

Positive feedback on cemetery

Commissioner Gear

Thank Rick and Ross for storage at Goselin Park building for Aroma Park Storm clearing. Fundraiser at Goselin later this summer.

**Executive Session**

No executive session

## **ADJOURN MEETING**

Commissioner Gear made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Eisengarat. Board was adjourned at 6:24 pm.

## **OFFICIAL REPORTS:**

1. Board Meeting Minutes (February 23, 2026)
2. Presentation and Approval of Financials February
3. Mayor Bailey Project Update
4. Update on Kankakee County Museum Agreement
5. Update to KCC Digital Sign Agreement
6. Presentation from Larry Reiner regarding Legislative Liaison
7. Discussion and approval of 2026 Audit engagement agreement with SKDO
8. Discussion and approval to participate with Kankakee Taxing bodies to conduct an appraisal of the St. Mary's Hospital properties for tax purposes
9. Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds Report
10. Superintendent of Business Report
11. Superintendent of Recreation Report
12. Superintendent of Revenue Facilities Report
13. Executive Director Report
14. Committee Reports
15. Commissioner Forum

Respectfully submitted: Ariana Padilla