

**OAK FOREST PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

James Emmett, President
Charles Wolf, Vice-President
Joseph Pilch, Commissioner
Roy Pruitt, Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT

Joseph Cainkar, Attorney
Joseph McDonnell, Treasurer
Kirstin Dahm, Director

ABSENT

James Katula, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Emmett called the regular meeting to order at the Oak Forest Park District Community Center, 15601 S. Central, Oak Forest, IL at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Upon a roll call Commissioners Emmett, Wolf, Pilch, and Pruitt were present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 10, 2025 AND JULY 24, 2025 BOARD MEETING

Commissioner Emmett made a motion to approve the minutes of July 10, 2025 and July 24, 2025 Board Meeting; seconded by Commissioner Wolf.

Roll Call Vote: Emmett – Yes, Wolf – Yes, Pilch– Yes, Pruitt– Yes

Motion approved.

PUBLIC SESSION

Commissioner Emmett opened Public Session, no one was present

COMMUNICATIONS

Director Dahm informed that coming up On Sunday, August 31st we will have the Old Times Family Picnic at Central Park from 12:00-8:00pm. Director Dahm also informed that registration for fall and winter activities is open to residents and non-residents.

PRESENTATION OF OFPD FLAG FOOTBALL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 4TH, 2025

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS – VOUCHER DATED AUGUST 28, 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$98,388.75

Commissioner Wolf made a motion to approve the bills-vouchers dated August 28, 2025 in the amount of \$98,388.75; seconded by Commissioner Pilch.

Roll Call Vote: Emmett – Yes, Wolf – Yes, Pilch – Yes, Pruitt - Yes

Motion approved.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING REPORT

A. Directors Report

Director Dahm reported that playground equipment has been selected for Heritage Park. The selected manufacturer was Little Tikes, and the play unit offered the park district the most variety of equipment for the best price. It also had unique features that we do not have at other parks. Director Dahm informed that they would be bidding out the installation of the play equipment, however, a company called Kids Around the World would be cutting the existing play unit at the posts and removing the unit to be used again for underserved children somewhere else in the world. Director Dahm discussed the timeline of the bidding, stating that the bid would be posted September 2nd, bid opening would be September 16th at 2:00pm, and awarding the bid will happen at the September 25th Board Meeting. Director Dahm reported on the Community Input Meeting that was held on August 20th for the Don Gorman Park Master Plan and OSLAD Grant Project. 16 individuals attended the meeting, and were very excited about the proposed upgrades the Park District is looking to make. A lot of the feedback given, related to things that are already in the Master Plan and scope of the OSLAD Grant, which people were very pleased to hear. Director Dahm informed that Representative Bob Rita will be hosting the make up Ice Cream Social event on Thursday, September 11th in the Central Park South Parking Lot from 5:00-7:00pm. Director Dahm reported that the annual Senior Picnic will be held on Friday, September 5th from 11:00am-2:00pm at Park Place. For this free event, seniors are served hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, potato salad and dessert, and are then able to play BINGO with prizes that have been donated from businesses in the community. Director Dahm informed that construction work will begin at Don Gorman Park for saw cutting of the east parking lot and removing the old basketball court. M&J Asphalt Paving Company will be completing this work for the park district, to allow the building of the looped walking path, construction of the proposed pavilion and splash pad. Doing this work in 2025, will help cut down on costs for the OSLAD Project in 2026.

B. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer McDonnell presented the July Financials to the Board and informed that total cash and investments as of July 31, 2025 are \$5,726,966.49. As reports shows, we received revenue from programs, the fitness center, and fees. Treasurer McDonnell informed that interest earnings for this year, could potentially be about \$60,000.00 over what was budgeted. Treasurer McDonnell also reported that there was an additional payroll in July, which is why payroll for the month of July looks a little high, we also had the payment for grass cutting in July that we did not have in June. Treasurer McDonnell informed that the unrestricted cash balance is above the restricted cash balance, which is where we want it to be. Treasurer McDonnell stated that we received our preliminary levy edit reports, and that everything looked good on there.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of work with M&J Asphalt Paving Company, Inc. for removal of asphalt at Don Gorman Park in the amount of \$29,000.00.

Commissioner Pruitt made a motion for approval of work with M&J Asphalt Paving Company, Inc. for removal of asphalt at Don Gorman Park in the amount of \$29,000.00; seconded by Commissioner Wolf.

Roll Call Vote: Emmett – Yes, Wolf- Yes, Pilch – Yes, Pruitt – Yes

Motion approved

B. Approval of purchasing Little Tikes Commercial Playground Equipment through ParKreation for Heritage Park in the amount of \$66,210.45.

Commissioner Pilch made a motion for approval of purchasing Little Tikes Commercial Playground Equipment through ParKreation for Heritage Park in the amount of \$66,210.45; seconded by Commissioner Wolf. Commissioner Emmett inquired about the possibility of adding lights at the park for increased safety.

Director Dahm informed that we could look into this.

Roll Call Vote: Emmett – Yes, Wolf – Yes, Pilch – Yes, Pruitt – Yes

Motion approved

C. Approval of purchasing ICON Shelter through ParKreation for Heritage Park in the amount of \$16,544.00.

Commissioner Pruitt made a motion for approval of purchasing ICON Shelter through ParKreation for Heritage Park in the amount of \$16,544.00; seconded by Commissioner Wolf.

Roll Call Vote: Emmett – Yes, Wolf – Yes, Pilch – Yes, Pruitt – Yes

Motion approved

D. Approval of Resolution 299.25 a Resolution Authorizing the Oak Forest Park District to Participate in the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Program.

Commissioner Wolf made a motion for approval of Resolution 299.25 a Resolution Authorizing the Oak Forest Park District to Participate in the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Program; seconded by Commissioner Pilch.

Roll Call Vote: Emmett – Yes, Wolf – Yes, Pilch – Yes, Pruitt – Yes

Motion approved

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Emmett commented on the hard work that the outside maintenance crew has been doing to get ready for the Old Times Family Picnic. Commissioner Emmett stated that the picnic grove is looking great, and the maintenance crew did a good job cleaning up the back of the maintenance building. He was very happy with how everything was looking for the picnic.


ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Emmett made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Pruitt.

On a voice vote, the motion to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. was approved.

APPROVED:

James R. Emmett, President

ATTEST:

James Katula, Secretary