

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF DECATUR PARK
DISTRICT, MACON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD AT
DECATUR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
620 E. RIVERSIDE AVENUE, DECATUR, ILLINOIS
AT 12:00 NOON ON THE 21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2026**

The Board of Park Commissioners of the Decatur Park District, Macon County, Illinois, met in a regular session on Wednesday, the 21st of January, 2026 at the hour of 12:00 Noon at the Decatur Park District Administration Office, 620 E. Riverside Avenue, Decatur, Illinois at which time and place there were present the following officers and members of said Board:

Dr. Kristin White, President
Chris Harrison, Vice President
Shelith Hansbro, Commissioner via zoom
Stacey Young, Commissioner

Absent: Bob Brilley, Commissioner

A quorum of the members of the Board of Park Commissioners being present, President Dr. Kristin White called the meeting to order and declared the Board to be in session for the transaction of business.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited.

PUBLIC HEARING President Dr. White declared the public hearing open for public comment. As published in the Herald & Review, Notice of Public Hearing was given for the Park Board of Commissioners to sell not to exceed \$6,500,000 General Obligation Park Bonds and not to exceed \$5,000,000 General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source). The General Obligation Bond proceeds will be for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and existing land and facilities of the Decatur Park District and for the payment of related expenses. The Alternate Revenue Source Bonds will partially fund the construction of the new senior center. The public hearing is a required element of obtaining approval to issue the General Obligation Bonds the Decatur Park District issues annually. There were no comments from the public.

NO.16449 A motion was made by Commissioner Harrison and seconded by Commissioner Young to close the public hearing. Upon call of the roll, all voted aye.

NO. 16450 A motion to approve items 1-2 on the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Young and seconded by Commissioner Harrison. Upon call of the roll, all voted aye.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
2. Bills for Approval

PRESENTATION Ian Bain of MCK CPA's & Advisors presented the FY24-25 audited financial statements. Ian expressed the audit to be a clean report and proceeded through the audit report pages for review. An overview was given on audit standards, general major funds, required supplement information, financial highlights and other elements of the report. The presentation concluded with commissioner questions and a brief discussion. The commissioners thanked Ian. In addition, Laura thanked Cathy and Ian for their work on the audit.

NO.16451 following the MCK presentation staff recommended the approval of the FY24-25 audited financial statements. A motion was made by Commissioner Harrison and seconded by Commissioner Young to approve the FY24-25 audited financial statements. Upon call of the roll, all voted aye.

CFO Staff continue working on the first draft of budget submissions.

Brei is prepping for the hiring fair.

Congratulations to Zach for continued education in IT operations and receiving an IT operations specialist certificate.

RECREATION DISC group fitness numbers are doing great. In 2024 9,576 people attended group fitness classes. In 2025 13,925 in attendance!

On Saturday, January 25th the DISC will hold a Tennis Clinic (Red ball tennis) from 5 – 7 p.m. with Coach Corey Sandgren.

The Greater Decatur Chorale had its Annual Winter Concert on January 10th and 11th at Johns Hill Magnet School. The concert included performances by the Performing Company, Intermediate Lyrical dancers, Heart and Soul Choir and Heart and Soul in Motion as special guests. It was a great concert with approximately 300 people in attendance. Megan and her staff do a wonderful job.

The Special Olympics Basketball Skills competition was held Saturday, January 17th at Rantoul High School. Special Recreation participants came home with 5 gold metals, 2 silver and 1 bronze. Great job to all of them!

Best of Winter Stock (BOWS) Matilda Jr. rehearsals have begun on January 17th with approximately 140 performers in attendance.

The Decatur Park District Hiring Fair is scheduled for Friday, February 20th from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the DISC. Staff have sent information out to guidance counselors and other community agencies.

Currently the Devon has one more show to finalize. Lil Kim with Waka Flocka Flame went on sale today and Jordan Davis will go on sale tomorrow. Announcements are being made a week to two weeks prior to ticket sales. The season ticket renewal meetings are scheduled for February 19th and 22nd.

AIRPORT SkyWest reached the 10,000 enplanement goal for 2025. After the FAA gives the final tally that include charter flights there is a possibility the goal will be surpassed.

Starting February 1st TSA will be imposing a \$45.00 fee for travelers who do not have a REAL ID or another acceptable ID such as a valid passport. This \$45.00 fee is only good for 10 days and after the 10 days passengers without REAL ID will have to complete the payment process over.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS The factory manufacturer has informed staff that the interactive ball wall for Garfield Park will not be installed until March. The manufacturer does not do work through the months of January and February. Hopefully after the ball wall is installed everything will be completed by early May.

The new Scovill Park West Activity Center advertisement for bids will be in the Herald & Review Friday, February 23rd. Bid openings will be Wednesday, February 25th at 2:00 p.m.

Decatur Park District crews have completed the soffit and window repairs on the Scovill Zoo Educational Center building.

SKS Engineering has designed 158 additional parking spaces north of the existing parking lot located at the east pavilion of the soccer complex for the East Mound Park soccer complex parking lot expansion.

FOUNDATION The Foundation Governance committee met recently and are working towards updating the Memorandum of Understanding as well as restructuring meeting dates and social meeting dates. The committee includes Mark Huss, Mark Avery, Bruce Nimms, Jim Neff and Rod Schanefelt.

Aly has been working with staff on the mission and vision for the new senior center.

Aly will be attending the IAPD Soaring New Heights conference next week.

The ARTS department currently has a fundraiser to support the arts selling Nothing Bundt Cakes.

MARKETING is promoting the Decatur Park District Hiring Fair, Indoor Little Kritters, Youth Baseball and Softball, Best of Summer Stock Matilda and Devon Announcements.

Katie has been working on the new senior center logo and Splash Cove event information.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR acknowledged Laura Cooper for her preparation and responsiveness during the AA-bond rating interviews. Laura provided clear, timely and thorough responses beyond what was required. She has made it an efficient and positive process. When asked how the Decatur Park District compares to peer agencies the bond council emphasized that the Decatur Park District were among the strongest and most financially healthy districts they work with, particularly south of I-80. This financial strength reflects years of sound leadership dating back to Rodney Buhr , Kristin Sowa and continues strong with Laura.

Clay commended Russ Bodine for all of the in house work he and his crews take care of throughout the entire district rather than outsourcing.

As a reminder Clay and several staff members will be attending the IAPD Conference next week.

Commissioner Young was presented with a plaque and acknowledged for her 10 years of service on the Decatur Park District board.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Young Happy New Year and thank you to the audit team.

Commissioner Harrison Kudos to Zach and great job to staff with the continued growth at the DISC. Thank you Laura and team on the audit.

Commissioner Young made and Commissioner Harrison seconded a motion that the meeting adjourn. All voted aye and the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:52 p.m.

/s/ Melanie Moore
Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners

/s/ Dr. Kristin White
President, Board of Park Commissioners