

**DIXON PARK DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
1312 WASHINGTON AVENUE DIXON, ILLINOIS  
April 16, 2025, 6:00PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President, Rodney Frey called the meeting to order at 6:00PM

Roll Call: President, Rodney Frey-Present  
Vice President, Keith Aurand-Present  
Secretary, Anthony Venier-Present  
Commissioner, Autumn Brady-Absent  
Commissioner, Nathan McCoy-Present

Staff Present: Duane Long, Executive Director  
Michelle Lawson, Office Administrator  
Tyler Hodapp, Maintenance Director

**II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

A. Move Old Business B ahead of Correspondence.

**III. VISITORS-** Tim Lee-WIXN, Josh Shipman-Bow Hunting.

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE-** Rodney Frey read a thank you letter from CEO East Class of 2025 for the donation of the silent auction gift for their Bogus Bingo Event.

**V. BOARD MINUTES-Review/Amend/Accept**

A. **Motion to Approve March 12, 2025 Regular Board Minutes by**  
Nathan McCoy; Seconded by Anthony Venier. Vote by Roll Call: Keith  
Aurand-Yes; Rodney Frey-Yes; Autumn Brady-Absent; Anthony Venier-Yes;  
Nathan McCoy. Motion Carried.

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**VI. FINANCIAL REPORTS-Review/Amend/Accept**

**A. Profit & Loss vs. Actual, Balance Sheet, and Disbursements for March, 2025**

Duane Long reported the end of the fiscal year fund balance is \$247, 299.06. \$60, 214.00 will go into a carry over for Corp Fund. \$29, 210 will go to Erosion Control at Lowell Park and Barn Roof Repairs. The Recreation Fund will carry over \$15,987.00 for Projects TBA. \$14817.00 will be carried over for Facility with \$5,000 staying in Fund Balance for future Capital Improvements in the Facility. The donation from Trajectory Solar of \$100,000 has been deposited. We are still waiting on the final grant payment from the Vaile Court Project.

**Motion to Approve March Financial Reports by**

Nathan McCoy; Seconded by Anthony Venier. Vote by Roll Call: Keith Aurand-Yes; Rodney Frey-Yes; Autumn Brady-Absent; Anthony Venier-Yes. Motion Carried.

**VII. REPORTS**

**A. Commissioners-**

1. Autumn Brady-Absent
2. Rodney Frey-Rodney congratulated Nate, Autumn and Keith for their re-election to the Board. Rodney would like to see us upgrade the Board picture on the website at our next meeting. He reminded the Board we will seat the re-elected members at the May Board Meeting.
3. Keith Aurand-None
4. Anthony Venier-Anthony would like to see repairs to the bike path west of the Walgreen's Estate. The path has a couple of potholes that need to be repaired. Duane Long asked Anthony to send him pictures and he will get that repaired. Anthony would like to see the wooden sign on the bike path updated. The sign is original to the path and is hard to read. Anthony would like to see some cosmetic improvements to the Golf Room. After the 1st season with the new simulator the ceiling will need padding to protect it from ball damage. The darts need to be checked after each rental to make sure the tips are not broken. He is glad to see the new carport to cover the UTV for the range.

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5. Nathan McCoy-Nate thanked the staff for installing the AED machine at pickleball. Nate is working on getting funding for an AED to be placed at the Vaile Basketball Courts.

- B. **Executive Director**-Duane Long reported he has been working on completing the budget for the new fiscal year. Duane told the Board all the equipment Tyler Hodapp, requested for maintenance, was purchased in the last fiscal year. Duane has looked further into the erosion control in Lowell Park and there is no permit needed for the project. This will lower the cost of the project. Project Rock is about 3 weeks ahead of schedule. New concrete pillars will be up on the bridge in July. The trail excavation will begin soon.

### VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Review/Approve Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance #646 for Public Review**

Duane Long read the final changes to the budget. This budget after approval will be on display for 30 days to the public.

**Motion to Approve Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance #646 for Public Review by**

Anthony Venier; Seconded by Keith Aurand. Vote by Roll Call: Keith Aurand-Yes; Rodney Frey-Yes; Autumn Brady-Absent; Anthony Venier-Yes.  
Motion Carried.

- B. **Review Bow Hunting Rules for 2025-2026 Season-Josh Shipman**

Keith Aurand opened with the proposal to keep the rules the exact same for one more season and reevaluate the request to restrict walkers to just the gravel paths during hunting season. Keith also suggested that if a change was needed instead of putting up more signs the park district add QR codes to the current signs. The QR codes would be used to get information out to the public using the trails. Josh Shipman, hunting coordinator would like to see the hunters rewarded for a good first season under the new rules. He would like to contain the community walkers to areas outside the hunt areas. Duane Long asked the

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board to think of what goals they want for the Park District. Would they like to see the program aimed at a trophy hunt which could constitute closing down hunting areas or keep all the areas of the Meadows open.

Josh Shipman told the board hunters may choose to leave the program if hunting areas are continually disturbed during the hunting season. Anthony Venier agrees to try one more season with the current rules. He asked if data could be collected in the form of an incident report and this could give the board more evidence of the issues needing attention.

**Motion to Keep Bow Hunting Rules the same for 2025-2026 Season with No Added Rule Changes. Two goals of the program are to provide a safe, successful, and enjoyable recreational hunting experience for well qualified and ethical participants. Secondly, is to provide basic management of both the deer herd and the environment of the Meadows. Keep Primitive Camping Sights A & B Open and Close C until May 16, 2025 by**

Keith Aurand; Seconded by Anthony Venier. Vote by Roll Call: Keith Aurand-Yes; Rodney Frey-Yes; Autumn Brady-Absent; Anthony Venier-Yes; Nathan McCoy. Motion Carried.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Approve Sale of Old Garbage Truck-Ordinance #647**

The 1995 F350 will be sold for scrap. The truck served its purpose and maintenance has purchased a new garbage truck.

**Motion to Approve Ordinance #647 by**

Nathan McCoy; Seconded by Keith Aurand. Vote by Roll Call: Keith Aurand-Yes; Rodney Frey-Yes; Autumn Brady-Absent; Anthony Venier-Yes. Motion Carried.

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**B. Approve Petunia Festival Lease-Bethany Wright**

Project Rock may cause some changes to the lease. Table approval of Petunia Festival Lease to the May Board Meeting.

**Motion to Approve Ordinance #647 by**

Nathan McCoy; Seconded by Anthony Venier. Vote by Roll Call: Keith Aurand-Yes; Rodney Frey-Yes; Autumn Brady-Absent; Anthony Venier-Yes.  
Motion Carried.

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION-**

Motion to go into Executive Session by Anthony Venier, seconded by Keith Aurand to consider information regarding the purchase, sale, exchange, or lease of real estate at 7:45 PM.

Vote by Roll Call: Keith Aurand-Yes; Rodney Frey-Yes; Autumn Brady-Absent; Anthony Venier-Yes; Nathan McCoy.

Motion Carried.

**XI. TAKE ACTION TO COME OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:03PM by Anthony Venier, seconded by Nathan McCoy.

Vote by Roll Call: Keith Aurand-Yes; Rodney Frey-Yes; Autumn Brady-Absent; Anthony Venier-Yes; Nathan McCoy.

Motion Carried.

**XII. ADJOURN**

Motion by Anthony Venier to Adjourn, seconded by Nathan McCoy to Adjourn.

Vote by Roll Call: Keith Aurand-Yes; Rodney Frey-Yes; Autumn Brady-Absent; Anthony Venier-Yes; Nathan McCoy-Yes

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 PM

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Signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rodney Frey

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony Venier

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Autumn Brady

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Aurand

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nathan McCoy

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