

# BARTLETT PARK DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026

## Call to Order

President Eckelberry called the Board Meeting to order at **7:00 pm**.

## Roll Call

President Eckelberry called for the roll. Commissioners answering present were: Stephen M. Eckelberry, Diana Gunsteen, Susan M. Stocks, and Dale Ann Kasuba. Commissioners Lori A. Palmer, Jody Fagan and Nathan Botkin were absent.

Staff members present were Executive Director Kevin Romejko, Superintendent of Recreation Kim Dasbach, Superintendent of Parks and Planning Kelly O'Brien, Superintendent of Business Services Eric Leninger, Superintendent of Special Facilities Katie Mix, Superintendent of Villa Olivia Bobby Pierobon, and Executive Assistant, Maureen Carter.

## Pledge of Allegiance

President Eckelberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Consent Agenda

Mr. Eckelberry presented the consent agenda and requested a motion to approve. Mr. Eckelberry stated the consent agenda included approval of meeting minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on April 14, 2026, approval of the Monthly Treasurer Report, and approval of the April Bill List. Ms. Gunsteen motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Kasuba. Mr. Eckelberry asked for a roll call vote. ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Eckelberry, Gunsteen, Stocks, Kasuba,

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Palmer, Fagan, Botkin

**Motion Passed.**

## Public Comments

None

## Unfinished or Continuing Business

### **Approval of Comprehensive Master Plan**

Mr. Romejko explained Board and staff have been working on the Comprehensive Master Plan for the past 8 months. The process was so in depth, the company facilitating it went through a name change, from Hitchcock Design Group to RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture, during it. Monica Goshorn-Maroney from RVi was present at the previous Board Meeting to present the final draft and answer any questions. Ms. Gunsteen motioned to approve of the Comprehensive Master Plan, seconded by Ms. Stocks. **Motion Passed.**

## New Business

### **Approval of Resolution 26-01 Appropriated Transfer of Funds**

Mr. Leninger presented Resolution 26-01 and explained this resolution is annually presented to approve the transfer of money between funds. Mr. Leninger detailed each of the three proposed transfers and the funds the money would move from and to. Ms. Stocks motioned to approve of Resolution 26-01 Appropriate Transfer of Funds, seconded by Ms. Gunsteen. Mr. Eckelberry asked for a roll call vote.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Eckelberry, Gunsteen, Stocks, Kasuba,

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Palmer, Fagan, Botkin

**Motion Passed.****Department Updates****Business Services**

Mr. Leninger shared the District has, for the 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ending 4/30/2025. This is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

**Parks & Planning**

Ms. O'Brien stated April has been a challenging month for staff with about 7 inches of rainfall. Staff are focusing on getting athletic fields ready and contract mowing has started at the smaller parks. Mowing of the larger parks has been delayed because the larger mowers are at a greater risk of getting stuck. Staff is focusing on spring clean-up and replacing some of the plants that were stolen from Jim Jensen Pavillion and Schoppe Park last season. New to the Parks Team is Mechanic Martin Frankiewicz, who brings substantial mechanical experience and expertise, which will be an asset to the District. A company was hired to rod out the entire storm drain that runs across Apple Orchard Golf Course, to help with draining issue at the pond. Ms. O'Brien shared that the entire line has not been fully rodded in the past 10 years, and staff has noticed a significant difference in the drainage of the pond. Staff will make rodding of the entire 1,000 ft drain, part of preventative maintenance to avoid future issues. Facilities have already begun getting Barracuda Bay Water Park ready for the season with the installation of the new sign and landscaping and staff will soon begin painting and filling the pool.

**Recreation**

Ms. Dasbach provided pictures of the new Glow Archery offered at Bartlett Nature Center. The recent event has such great success that Glow Archery will be offered for Birthday Parties and at future events. Ms. Dasbach also shared photos of several updates at Bartlett Community Center including new room signs, custom gym wall mats featuring the District's logo and tagline, and new stage curtains and drapes in the Oak Room.

**Special Facilities**

Ms. Mix followed up on previous discussion of the Aqua Egg Hunt that took place on April 1<sup>st</sup>, by providing registration comparisons for the past three years. Staff have seen a steady decline in registration for this event over the past two years but still feel the event falling during Spring Break is what contributed to the low numbers this year. Ms. Mix shared information on the upcoming Barracuda Bay Water Park season. Barracuda Bay will have 188 part-time staff, 122 of which are returning staff. Season pass sales are up to 790, which is a significant increase from last season, and the new facility sign and interior directional sign have already been installed. There will be one additional new sign which will have the new Barracuda mascot on it and will list the height requirements for each attraction. Ms. Mix also shared statistics for **LIFECENTER**, rentals and party packages, and registration revenue for the month of March compared to last March. Finally, Ms. Mix provided photos of the new blinds that have been installed in Program Room 5 and the Arts and Crafts Room.

**Villa Olivia**

Mr. Pierobon provided statistics for golf rounds and food and beverage revenue for the month of April compared to last year. After significant delays due to wet ground, staff are planning to have the crane out next week to take down the remaining equipment from winter sports. Mr. Pierobon shared there will now be live piano music during select Sunday brunches and discussed the upcoming Mother's Day Brunch. Reservations are currently at 317.

**Executive Director Updates**

In addition to upcoming dates provided in his written report, Director Romejko discussed a concerning new piece of legislation currently being considered and discussed in the Illinois Senate and House of Representatives. Director Romejko explained SB 3907 (Morrison, J.)/ HB 5373 (Mason, J.) is a major overhaul of the State's daycare licensing statute. The new legislation supports the new Illinois Department of Early Childhood (IDEC). As the legislation is currently written, periodic recreational programs offered by park districts and other public recreation agencies would be subjected to potential state licensure and regulation. IAPD has been trying to negotiate with IDEC, proposing compromise language, and explaining how Park Districts meet the child safety requirements this new bill is looking to enforce on park districts. Director Romejko is scheduled to meet virtually on Thursday with Senator Karina Villa, who is one of the District's State Senators and on the State's Education Committee, to discuss this bill and the negative impact it would have on park districts as currently written. Director Romejko shared his concern that as currently written SB 3907 and HB 5373 would give the State control of regulating traditional, short-term, periodic recreational programs such as swim lessons, dance classes, and summer camp. During the upcoming Legislative Conference at the State Capital IAPD is encouraging all park districts to help promote "The Power of Play." Bartlett Park District has created shirts and stickers to hand out and will be highlighting all the recreational programs we offer our residents.

Director Romejko also shared Village Administrator, Paula Schumacher, reached out to compliment us on how nice Apple Orchard Golf Course looks this year.

**Commissioner Comments**

None

**Closed Session**

Ms. Gunsteen moved to adjourn into Closed Session for the discussion of Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting as Mandated by Section 2. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). Ms. Gunsteen made a motion, Ms. Stocks seconded. Mr. Eckelberry asked for a roll call vote to adjourn into Closed Session. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Eckelberry, Gunsteen, Stocks, Kasuba

Nays: None

Absent: Palmer, Fagan, Botkin

Abstain: None

**Motion Passed at 7:28 PM****Reconvening of Board Meeting**

Mr. Eckelberry called the meeting back to regular session at 7:51pm and called for roll. Commissioners answering present were: Stephen Eckelberry, Diana Gunsteen, Susan Stocks, and Dale Ann Kasuba. Also present was Executive Director, Kevin Romejko.

**Action Resulting from Closed Session**

None

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Ms. Gunsteen moved to adjourn the Board Meeting, seconded by Ms. Kasuba. **Motion carried at 7:52 pm.**

Minutes Approved by the Board on May 12, 2026.

By:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Romejko, Board Secretary