



HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR PARK DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners

Goldberg Administration Center
3301 Flossmoor Rd., Flossmoor, IL 60422

Minutes of August 18, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 pm by Commissioner Dennison. Commissioners Schafer and Walker were present. Also present were Executive Director Doug Boehm, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Karen Garrity, Superintendent of Recreation Oralethea Davenport, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Patrick McAneney, Irons Oaks Manager Cheryl Vargo, Ice Arena Manager Jennah Carlson, H-F Racquet & Fitness Club Manager Dan Schaffer, Marketing & Public Relations Manager Bob Birgel, Human Resources Manager Kelly Rose, Coyote Run General Manager Tom Denklau, *H-F Chronicle* Reporter Marilyn Thomas, and Secretary Anne Brabec. Commissioners Bachus and Coderre were absent.

Commissioner Dennison opened the meeting by acknowledging and appreciating all the efforts of the staff during this second round of tornado cleanup.

CHANGE IN AGENDA – None

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS – None

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Commissioner Walker moved to approve the claims list in the total amount of \$1,045,836.61. Commissioner Schafer seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Dennison, Schafer, and Walker. Nays: none. Motion approved.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JULY 31, 2026

Superintendent Garrity indicated the increase in Corporate revenue is due to the settlement check received from Blue Cross/Blue Shield; Recreation is up due to the camp scholarship grant, Irons Oaks nets out with the increase in camp and decrease in Adventure Center revenues, and Ice Arena lessons and leagues are a little behind budget and different from last year due to this summer's shutdown to melt and refreeze the ice.

Commissioner Schafer wondered when the district can expect to see bills and reimbursements come in from the tornado cleanup; Director Boehm indicated they will be ongoing for some time, and Manager Carlson, the district's safety coordinator, is working with PDRMA to file claims.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Minutes July 7, 2026, and July 21, 2026

b. Dental Insurance Renewal

A report from the Human Resources Manager recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the MetLife dental plan for the period of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027.

c. Life Insurance Renewal

A report from the Human Resources Manager recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the policy proposed by MetLife to provide a \$100,000 life insurance plan for all full-time employees for the period of October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027.

d. Vision Insurance Renewal

A report from the Human Resources Manager recommending the Board of Park Commissioners approve the policy proposed by EyeMed vision insurance plan for all full-time employees for the period of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027.

Commissioner Schafer moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Dennison, Schafer, and Walker. Nays: none. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Medical Insurance Renewal*

Human Resources Manager Kelly Rose reported that she worked with the district's new broker to keep the same grandfathered Blue Cross/Blue Shield medical plan that the district has had for many years. The broker came back with a 22% increase on this plan, as well as proposals from Cigna and Aetna that would have changed many of the current benefits. The broker negotiated the Blue Cross increase down to 14.9%, which is in line with the 15% increase that was budgeted.

Commissioners acknowledged that the lower percentage increase is impressive, and it is important that employees do not have to make changes to their current healthcare providers.

Commissioner Walker moved to approve the renewal of the current Blue Cross/Blue Shield HMO and HSA/PPO employee medical insurance policies for October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027.

Commissioner Schafer seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Dennison, Schafer, and Walker. Nays: none. Motion approved.

b. Purchase of New Yamaha EFI Quietech Golf Carts*

General Manager Denklau reviewed that he had planned to update the course's 76 golf cart fleet over four years, replacing 19 each year, starting in 2025. This year's budget includes funds to replace another 19 carts, yet when pricing and trade-in values was discussed, it is best to purchase the remaining 57 within the next two years.

Commissioner Walker moved to approve the purchase during the current budget year of twenty-three (23) 2026 Yamaha EFI Quietech Golf Carts in the amount of \$98,463 from Harris Golf Cars Sales.

Commissioner Schafer seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Dennison, Schafer, and Walker. Nays: none. Motion approved.

Commissioner Walker moved to approve the purchase during the 2027-2028 budget year of thirty-four (34) 2027 Yamaha EFI Quietech Golf Carts in the amount of \$154,394 from Harris Golf Cars Sales.

Commissioner Schafer seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Dennison, Schafer, and Walker. Nays: none. Motion approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Executive Director Boehm

- Patrick McAneney and the parks team have done a great job of clearing storm damage, as have Phil Knight and the golf course maintenance team to get the golf course back operational. There is still months more work to do.
- Cheryl Vargo, Oralethea Davenport and Dan Schaffer put together school day off programming for this week and the start of next week due to the start of school being delayed. There has been a nice response from the community for this; kudos to them and the Rec staff for making it happen.
- It's an absolutely eye-opening experience, and all the people here in front of you have pulled more

than their fair share of weight.

- There will be no Committee meeting on September 1, and the regular meeting in September has been moved from the 15th to the 22nd.

Commissioner Walker

- Told his personal experience with the tornado and shared how to think about everything as a story. Looking back on this time all the work involved will be a reference point, but so will how so many people in the community bonded and showed up and that there were no casualties. He sees that HFPD employees showed up, and he thanked them for all their work.

Commissioner Schafer

- Added that not only has there been a lot of work to be done, but being without power in facilities and in homes made things even worse. Great to see that some of the facilities came back up before others so the park district could provide support to the community.

Commissioner Dennison

- Wondered if it is possible to get an additional chipper; Superintendent McAneney indicated that Manager Denklauf has obtained one from the Village of Flossmoor, although the golf course is still too wet to drive on with this equipment.
- Asked where branches are being dumped; McAneney replied that they are now using the Village of Homewood's site on 175th Street since the Apollo lot where they had been dumping is full. The fence at the Apollo lot will now remain closed since there has been illegal dumping there.
- The pool closed, which is insignificant this year with everything else that has happened.
- Commended pool manager Anthony Mancha on obtaining a 5-star rating during the pool audit.
- Glad to see the GoodSpeed pool night went well.
- Wonderful to see Supervisor Diaz getting the affiliate groups together for Park Pride events.
- Mid-summer music was fabulous.
- Thank you to Manager Vargo for sharing the complimentary letters from campers' parents.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Walker moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 pm. Commissioner Schafer seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



Douglas P. Boehm, Secretary