

**URBANA PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 MINUTES - REGULAR BOARD MEETING
 TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026
 6:00 PM
 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS FACILITY
 1011 E. KERR AVENUE
 URBANA, ILLINOIS 61802**

A regular meeting of the Urbana Park District Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at the Planning and Operations Facility, 1011 E. Kerr Avenue, Urbana, IL at 6:00 p.m. The notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the park district administrative office and at the location of the meeting. Copies of the notice and agenda were received by each commissioner of the district and by local newspapers, radio, and television stations at least forty-eight hours before the meeting in compliance with the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois. A copy of the notice and agenda is attached to the minutes. Also available for inspection are all documents that were reviewed or approved at the meeting. UPTV taped the meeting for future airing.

COMMISSIONERS	PRESENT	ABSENT
President Cedric Stratton	X	
Vice-President Meredith Blumthal		X
Commissioner Laura Hastings	X	
Commissioner Sarah Roper	X	
Commissioner Ashley Withers	X	

Also present were Rachel Lenz, Executive Director;
 Corky Emberson, Superintendent of Recreation;
 Laura Orcutt, Superintendent of Business Services;
 Derek Liebert, Superintendent of Planning and Operations;
 Andy Rousseau, Project Manager;
 Sarah Sandquist, Executive Director, Champaign Park District;
 Jarrod Scheunemann, Deputy Executive Director, Champaign Park District;
 Allison Jones served as Recorder.

I. Call to Order

President Stratton called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

A. Remote Attendance

There was no remote attendance requested.

II. Accept Agenda

COMMISSIONER HASTINGS MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WITHERS TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE ADJUSTMENT OF MOVING VIII. New Business, Item A.: Review CUSR FY 2026-27 Budget DIRECTLY AFTER PUBLIC COMMENT. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, ALL SAID "AYE."

III. Public Comment

- A. Public Comment – There were no comments from members of the public.
- B. UPD New Staff Introductions – There were no new staff introductions.

- VIII. New Business, Item A.: Review CUSR FY 2026-27 Budget

On behalf of the Champaign Park District and CU Special Recreation, Jarrod Scheunemann and Sarah Sandquist thanked the Urbana Park District Board for their dedication and allocation of resources to make CU Special Recreation a priority. Jarrod Scheunemann noted that CUSR strives to focus on outreach, advocacy, and leadership to support the mission. He provided an overview of the CUSR budget for FY 2026-2027 including items such as new branding & logo, purchasing a new bus for transportation, support for the Theater Program, upcoming construction for a circle driveway at the CUSR Center, community collaborations and programming expansion, staff position adjustments, summer camp, and inclusion assistants.

IV. Urbana Park District Advisory Committee (UPDAC) Report

Hannah Sheets provided a written report of the February UPDAC meeting. Commissioner Hastings commented on all the useful information shared with UPDAC from the IAPD Annual Conference.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the February 3, 2026 Study Session Meeting
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the February 10, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
- C. Monthly Reports
 - 1. Administration
 - 2. Planning/Operations
 - 3. Recreation
- D. Action to Accept the Philanthropy Report and Gifts Listed with Gratitude
- E. Approval of the Monthly Paid Accounts Payable

COMMISSIONER HASTINGS MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ROPER TO APPROVE ALL OF THE ACTION ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AND ACCEPT ALL THE INFORMATION ITEMS LISTED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA IN AN OMNIBUS MANNER. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, ALL SAID "AYE."

VI. Reports

- A. Financial Reports
 - 1. Revenue & Expenditure Report
There was no Revenue & Expenditure Report available.
 - 2. Action on Treasurer's Report
Laura Orcutt presented the Treasurer's Report.

COMMISSIONER WITHERS MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ROPER TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR AUDIT. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, ALL SAID "AYE."

3. Capital Budget Report

Laura Orcutt presented Capital Budget report.

Andy Rousseau provided updates on the Weaver Park Kickapoo Rail Trail, hardscape improvements for 2026 & 2027, and King Park design services and OSLAD grant funding.

Derek Liebert presented updates on public charging stations for electric vehicles at UPD facilities.

B. You Belong Here Report

A written report was provided by staff.

C. Executive Director

Director Lenz provided updates on several projects, including:

1. Congresswoman Budzinski Support: - this legislator has provided great support for the updates at Prairie & Weaver Parks and the Health & Wellness Center;
2. Training & Onboarding Matrix Team – staff are working to provide more standardized onboarding throughout the district, a new Training & Onboarding Matrix Team was created and has begun working on different projects;
3. Marketing Department update - the Marketing Department is being shifted under Administration and moving their location to the Cottage;
4. Tech/IT Issues – staff are continuing to explore updated software options, such as Microsoft 365, as well as new registration software, etc.;
5. Health and Wellness Center usage – Corky Emberson provided an overview of usage at the Health & Wellness Facility, including 2,008 memberships, 7,993 visits through February 2025, 5 rentals, and 375 OSF scholarship members.

D. President

1. Review of upcoming meeting agenda

President Stratton reviewed several upcoming meetings including UPDAC on 3/24/26, the next Board Study Session on 4/7/26, and the next Board Meeting on 4/14/26.

E. Liaison Reports

1. Finance Study Group

President Stratton noted that the Finance Study Group last met February 12, 2026 and will meet again near the end of March.

2. UPD Policy Study Group

Commissioner Hastings noted that the Policy Study Group recently met to discuss the Board Policy Manual and are meeting again on May 6, 2026 at 4:00 PM.

3. Urbana Parks Foundation Representative

Commissioner Withers noted that the UPF met the previous day and focused discussion on the Blair Society, coordination with the Don Meyers & Girls Club for programming, and the UPF

Annual Dinner coming up on May 28, 2026.

4. UPDAC Planning Study Group

Commissioner Hastings noted that the UPDAC Planning Study Group is meeting with staff soon to set the next 6 months schedule.

VII. Old Business

- A. Action on any Old Business removed from the Consent Agenda
There was no old business removed from the Consent Agenda.

VIII. New Business

- A. Review CUSR FY 2026-27 Budget
See above.

- B. Action to Award the Purchase of a New Articulated Loader
Andy Rousseau provided an overview of the need for replacement of the articulated loader, the budget, and disposal of the current loader via auction.

COMMISSIONER HASTINGS MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ROPER THE URBANA PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AWARD THE PURCHASE OF THE AVANT ARTICULATED LOADER AND ATTACHMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,182 TO ALTA EQUIPMENT COMPANY OF BLOOMINGTON, IL., AND AUTHORIZE DISPOSAL OF THE EXISTING 2014 AVANT 528 FOR AUCTION. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN, ALL SAID "AYE."

- C. Action on any New Business removed from the Consent Agenda
There was no new business removed from the Consent Agenda.

IX. Comments from Commissioners

Commissioner Hastings commented that the parks are looking good and ready for the summer weather and heavy traffic.

X. Adjourn

President Stratton adjourned the meeting at 6:59 PM.

Cedric A. Stratton, President

Rachel D. Lenz, Secretary

(Seal)

Date Approved: April 14, 2026

