

**Oakbrook Terrace Community Park District
15325 Ardmore Avenue
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
August 19, 2026
Minutes**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Oakbrook Terrace Community Park District Board of Commissioners held August 19, 2026

Call to Order: President Sweitzer called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Roll Call: Commissioner Berkshire, Commissioner Joy, Commissioner Lugo, Commissioner Rispens, Commissioner Sweitzer

Commissioner Absent: None

Staff Present: Shannon Elsey, Executive Director; Roger Behling, Superintendent of Parks & Facilities; and Lauren Jevaney, Superintendent of Recreation

Guests: None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Rispens reported that when she visited Terrace View Park on a recent Saturday morning, the mechanized gate restricting unauthorized vehicle access to the park was open. Director Elsey explained that this has been a recurring issue this summer due to the City of Oakbrook Terrace's use of the gate for its Friday evening Summer Concert Series, after which the gate is often left open. Director Elsey noted that she raised the issue with Director of Public Works Craig Ward, who explained that closing the gate immediately after the concerts is impractical because the sound crew does not retrieve its equipment until later in the evening. In the meantime, Park District staff in the area (oftentimes Nature Center staff on Saturday mornings) have been asked to close the mechanized gate when they encounter it open. Superintendent Behling stated that he will investigate whether remote access can be established for the mechanized gate, which may allow Park District staff to lower the gate arm remotely after City events.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion to approve minutes from July 2026 made by Commissioner Rispens, second by Commissioner Berkshire, one vote in abstention, none in opposition, motion approved.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion to approve financial statements from July 2026 made by Commissioner Berkshire, second by Commissioner Lugo, no votes in abstention nor opposition, motion approved.

Motion to approve profit and loss report from July 2026 made by Commissioner Rispens, second by Commissioner Berkshire, no votes in abstention nor opposition, motion approved.

Motion to approve disbursements for July 2026 made by Commissioner Berkshire, second by Commissioner Rispens, no votes in abstention nor opposition, motion approved.

Capital: Refer to Capital update report by Director Elsey.

NEDSRA

Refer to Director Elsey's report.

LEGAL

Refer to Director Elsey's report.

OLD BUSINESS

The Park District is applying for a grant through the 2026 Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Program, which provides competitive state matching grants to local governments for parkland acquisition and development. The program is administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and offers up to \$600,000 in development funding per approved project. RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture has been contracted to assist with the grant application process.

Together, RVi and Park District staff have developed a preliminary plan for the Terrace View Park renovation, including both the core OSLAD project and a set of project alternates.

OSLAD Project Components

- Nature play space
- New 40' hexagonal picnic shelter on a concrete landing
- Game tables
- Concrete path connections
- Accessible boardwalk with interpretive signage
- Stone outcropping fishing nodes
- Native plantings

These components, together with architectural and engineering fees, are estimated at \$1,200,000, with \$600,000 potentially covered through a 50/50 IDNR match.

Project Alternates

To address other critical elements of the park renovation, RVi has also outlined the following alternates, with an accompanying cost opinion:

- Shoreline restoration along the southwest half and north side of the pond

- Continuation of the accessible boardwalk with interpretive signage
- An additional stone outcropping fishing node
- An additional concrete path connection

If the District receives an OSLAD grant, all components, including these alternates, could be completed for less than the amount budgeted in the 2026–28 capital plan.

These components were presented to the Board at the July meeting and were well received. Additionally, the District hosted a Public Information Meeting regarding the Terrace View Park renovation on Monday, July 27th, from 6:30-7:30pm at the Lake View Nature Center, and the concept was shared with youth participants and their families in recent weeks. Community feedback has been positive overall, and no substantial revisions to the park's design are anticipated prior to submission of the District's OSLAD grant application, which will be submitted in advance of the August 31st deadline.

NEW BUSINESS

Audit report for FY 2025-26 was presented with recommendation for approval at the September board meeting.

The Oakbrook Terrace Park District currently provides approximately 2.4 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents and is seeking to adopt a long-term level of service goal of 5 acres per 1,000 residents. The 5-acre goal will serve as a long-range planning tool to guide strategic land acquisition, park redevelopment, intergovernmental partnerships, and capital investment decisions while helping the District maximize the recreational value of its existing parks. By adopting this level of service goal, the Park District establishes a measurable benchmark that supports informed decision-making, strengthens grant competitiveness, and reflects its ongoing commitment to enhancing the quality, accessibility, and sustainability of parks and recreational opportunities for current and future residents.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-819 (Acreage goal) made by Commissioner Berkshire, second by Commissioner Rispens, no votes in abstention nor opposition, motion approved. Roll call approved.

Approval of the OSLAD Grant Program Resolution of Authorization will formally authorize the Oakbrook Terrace Park District to submit an application to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for funding through the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant Program. Adoption of the resolution demonstrates the District's commitment to pursuing external funding opportunities that reduce the local financial burden of future capital improvements while advancing the District's goals. The proposed OSLAD application will seek financial assistance for improvements to Terrace View Park, enhancing recreational amenities, accessibility, and environmental sustainability for residents and visitors.

Motion to approve the OSLAD Grant Program Resolution of Authorization made by Commissioner Rispens, second by Commissioner Berkshire, no votes in abstention nor opposition, motion approved. Roll call approved.

Once demolition of the existing Nature Center restrooms was complete, initial inspections were conducted, revealing several items that need to be addressed. These include, but are not limited to, removal of non-operating ceiling fans/filters, removal of organic growth in the men's restroom, repair of several Z studs, and minor plumbing and electrical repairs. Additionally, Park District staff recommend a change order to upgrade the epoxy floor finish and add a tile transition strip along the bottom edge of the epoxy floor.

Motion to approve Change Orders 260024-61 and 260024-69 as presented by Crockett Construction made by Commissioner Rispens, second by Commissioner Berkshire, no votes in abstention nor opposition, motion approved.

As part of its 2026-28 capital cycle, the Park District has budgeted to purchase a new utility vehicle. The original plan was to purchase a second Kawasaki Mule. However, after consulting with the District's new Superintendent of Parks & Facilities and evaluating the available options, staff are recommending the purchase of a Kubota RTV-X2C equipped with a 72-inch Xtra Duty Front Blade.

Motion to approve the purchase of a Kubota RTV-X2C with a 72-inch Xtra Duty Front Blade from McCullough Implement Company in the amount of \$33,233.85 made by Commissioner Berkshire, second by Commissioner Joy, no votes in abstention nor opposition, motion approved. Roll call approved.

REPORTS

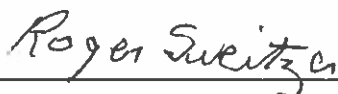
- Refer to Parks board report by Superintendent Behling
- Refer to Recreation/Fitness/Marketing board report by Superintendent Jevaney
 - Includes contributions by Recreation & Fitness Manager, Jen Saylor; Nature Center Manager, Kate Johns; Rentals & Customer Experience Supervisor, Alesha Reed; and Marketing Coordinator, Jen Cremerius

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NEXT MEETING: Regular Meeting – September 16, 2026 @ 6:30pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn regular board meeting made by Commissioner Berkshire, second made by Commissioner Rispens, no votes in abstention nor opposition, meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.



Roger Sweitzer, President



Susan Lugo, Secretary