

Oakbrook Terrace Community Park District
15325 Ardmore Avenue
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
July 15, 2026
Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Oakbrook Terrace Community Park District Board of Commissioners held July 15, 2026

Call to Order: Vice President Berkshire called the meeting to order at 6:34pm

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

Commissioner Absent: Commissioner Lugo

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

Guests: Lacey Lawrence, Director – Parks and Recreation for RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Rispens reported that during a visit to Terrace View Park on Sunday, July 5th, she observed that the portable restrooms were in poor condition. She inquired whether they were being serviced as scheduled and if more frequent service should be considered. Director Elsey informed the Board that the portable restrooms are scheduled to be serviced every Friday. However, it is unclear from the service documentation whether they were cleaned on Friday, July 3rd. Director Elsey also mentioned that the condition of the portable toilets may have been particularly bad because of the high volume of visitors attending the City's Independence Day celebration at Terrace View Park on Saturday, July 4th. Superintendent Behling stated that he would review the service documentation during his next visit to the park.

Commissioner Rispens also reported that the solar bollard lights at Dorothy Drennon Park were not functioning. Director Elsey noted that the batteries in the solar units had been replaced within the past six months, suggesting that another issue may be affecting their operation. Director Elsey and Superintendent Behling stated they would investigate the problem further and take the necessary steps to restore the lights to working order.

Commissioner Berkshire asked whether there are additional measures the District can take to enforce the prohibition of e-bikes in the parks. He noted that the issue is particularly prevalent

at Dorothy Drennon Park, where youth and teens have been riding e-bikes on the turf, causing damage to the playing surface. Director Elsey explained that e-bikes are prohibited on District property under the District's General Use Ordinance and that signage is posted throughout the parks. However, she acknowledged that enforcement remains challenging. She added that in some communities, municipalities and local law enforcement agencies have partnered to improve compliance and enhance public safety.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion to approve minutes from June 2026 made by Commissioner Rispens, second by Commissioner Berkshire, no votes in abstention nor opposition, minutes approved.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion to approve financial statements from June 2026 made by Commissioner Sweitzer, second by Commissioner Rispens, no votes in abstention nor opposition, motion approved.

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

Motion to approve disbursements for June 2026 made by Commissioner Sweitzer, 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

After several months of negotiations, the City of Oakbrook Terrace and the Oakbrook Terrace Park District have reached an agreement on the terms of a lease extension for Terrace View Park. Under the agreement, the lease term will be extended to align with the existing air rights lease, resulting in a new expiration date of January 27, 2087.

The Amended and Restated Lease Agreement was formally approved at the June 23rd City Council meeting. Approval by the Board of Park Commissioners is also required to authorize execution of the agreement.

Motion to approve the Amended and Restated Lease Agreement between the City of Oakbrook Terrace and the Oakbrook Terrace Community Park District made by Commissioner Sweitzer, second by Commissioner Berkshire, no votes in abstention nor opposition, motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

The Park District intends to apply 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.

The Board was very receptive to the preliminary plan presented by RVi. Commissioner Rispens noted that while she liked the nature play space, she did not like the sand element within that space. She also proposed the idea of integrating a storybook walk and adding wildlife habitats such as bat or bird houses.

The District will host a Public Information Meeting regarding the renovation of Terrace View Park on Monday, July 27th from 6:30-7:30pm at the Lake View Nature Center. At this meeting, staff will present the preliminary renovation concepts and gather community feedback, which will help finalize the park's design and support the upcoming OSLAD grant application.

REPORTS

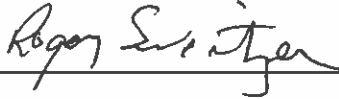
- Refer to Parks board report by Director Elsey (serving as Interim Superintendent of Parks & Facilities when report was written)
- Refer to Recreation/Fitness/Marketing board report by Superintendent Jevaney
 - Includes contributions by Recreation & Fitness Manager, Jen Saylor; Nature Center Manager, Kate Johns; Rentals & Customer Experience Supervisor, Alesha Reed; and Marketing Coordinator, Jen Cremerius

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NEXT MEETING: Regular Meeting – August 19, 2026 @ 6:30pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn regular board meeting made by Commissioner Sweitzer, second made by Commissioner Rispens, no votes in abstention nor opposition, meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.



Roger Sweitzer, President / Bradley Berkshire, Vice President



Susan Lugo, Secretary