

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
March 19, 2026

The Board of Park Commissioners held their regular meeting on March 19, 2026 in the Tom Baker meeting room of the City/County Building. President Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. The pledge of allegiance was said. Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske and Redmann were present.

Commissioner Jeske moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Gilbertson seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Ryan Lagasse, President of the Capital Curling Club, provided an update on the USA Curling Junior Nationals that will be held in Bismarck at Wachter Arena March 30 – April 4.

Commissioner Jekse moved to accept the low bid of \$374,980 from Twin City Roofing for the World War Memorial Building reroofing project. Commissioner Redmann seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Gilbertson moved to accept the low bid and alternate A from Strata Corporation for a total of \$591,675.30 for the General Sibley roadway improvements project. Commissioner Redmann seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

City Engineer Gabe Schell reviewed the Tyler Coulee Regional Stormwater Project with the Board. Commissioner Herzog moved to approve the access easement for the Eagle Crest lift station area and the stormwater easement for the Clairmont Family Conservation Park and Pioneer Park area as requested for this project. Commissioner Gilbertson seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Redmann moved approval for a 6' sidewalk project along the east side of Clairmont Drive to be included in a planned street improvement with the city of Bismarck and for this sidewalk to be assessed to the Park District. Commissioner Jeske seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Herzog moved approval for the Park District to partner with the city of Bismarck on a feasibility study for a community recreation center with a not to exceed price of \$75,000 from the Park District toward the study. Commissioner Redmann seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Redmann moved approval for the Park District to proceed with selling approximately two acres of undeveloped land in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Boston Drive and Burleigh Avenue to the city of Bismarck for development of fire station 6. Commissioner Herzog seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Redmann moved to approve one time funding of \$3,000 for Bismarck's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in 2026 as proposed and requested by the Funatix. Commissioner Jeske seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Jeske moved to accept a statue dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi to be placed at Peace Park as a gift from the government of India. Commissioner Redmann seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Finance Director Kathy Feist reviewed the proposed 2027 budget development schedule.

- March 18 – Budget packets distributed to managers and directors requesting detailed budget requests with information from managers due to directors on April 8. Directors review requests and submit budget information to the finance director by April 29.
- May 4-22 – Budget meetings with the directors and assigned staff.
- June 18 – The proposed 2027 work plan and budget binders distributed to the Park Board commissioners.
- June 22-July 2– Budget meetings with commissioners, directors, and executive director
- July 16 – Introduction of 2027 preliminary budget.
- August 10 – Preliminary budget provided to Burleigh County Auditor
- September 17– Public hearing on 2027 budget, adopt final budget, and determine annual tax levy.
- October 10 – Levy certification and final budget to County Auditor

Commissioner Gilbertson moved to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Consideration of February 19 and February 23, 2026 Board meeting minutes
- Request approval to submit Recreation Trail Program grant application
- Satchel Paige statue request to call for bids
- Request to dispose of obsolete equipment

Commissioner Redmann seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Gilbertson moved to approve bills for payment with checks 408405 to 408410, and 220683 to 221067 along with bank drafts DFT001696 to DFT001707, EFTs 3784 to 3830 and

direct deposits 97060 to 97998. Commissioner Jeske seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Redmann moved approval for the Board to go into executive session to discuss the executive director applications. The Park Board has the authority to go into executive session for this purpose pursuant to NDCC 44-04-18.27. Commissioner Jeske seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

The executive session began at 7:12 pm. Present at the executive session were Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, President Zimmerman, Legal Counsel John Ward, Executive Director Kevin Klipfel, and Administrative Services Manager Julie Fornshell. The Park District has the authority to go into executive session for the purposes of discussing the executive director applications that are considered confidential at this time. The Park Board has the authority to go into executive session for this purpose pursuant to NDCC 44-04-18.27.

Commissioner Redmann moved to adjourn the executive session at 7:48 pm. Commissioner Jeske seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

The regular Park Board meeting was reconvened at 7:48 pm and the doors to the meeting were opened to the public. Commissioner Jeske moved the following applicants as finalists for the executive director position: Joshua Clevenger, Ryan Geerdes, David Leker, and Mike Sullivan. Commissioner Gilbertson seconded the motion, and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Gilbertson, Herzog, Jeske, Redmann, and President Zimmerman. The nays being none, the motion carried.

The next regular Board meeting will be held April 16, 2026 at 5:15 pm in the Tom Baker Meeting Room. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.