

Bismarck Parks and Recreation District Management Teams

Updated June 2026

Management Team Objectives

The purpose of management teams is to provide Commissioners and Park District staff a method to communicate, review, and evaluate plans, projects, facilities, and programming relating to budgets, personnel, technology, and capital improvements.

- Management teams will meet a minimum of three times per year.
- Meeting agendas and minutes will be provided to all Commissioners and appropriate Park District staff.
- The management teams also serve as a means to assign topics, issues, and opportunities that come before the District for discussion, research, and recommendations.

Common management responsibilities to all teams:

- Annual reports
- Association and user group relationships
- Budget and finance
- Community relations
- Contract and agreement development and management
- Facility management
- Human resources
- Leases and easements
- Marketing
- Planning
- Program development and management
- Project development – capital improvements
- Risk management
- Technology

Management teams: Administration, Operations, and Facilities and Programs

Administration Management Team

Board Assignment: Board of Park Commissioners President

Management Team: Executive Director Leker, Kathy Feist, Dana Schaar Jahner, Julie Fornshell, David Mayer, and Mike Wald; others may be invited as needed.

Management Team Responsibilities:

- Audit
- Community relations
- Finance and budget
- Human resources
- Intergovernmental relations
- Legal
- Legislation
- Marketing
- Park District manuals (Human Resources, Accounting, Risk Management, and Comprehensive Plan)
- Planning

Facility Management, Development, and Maintenance: Administrative Office

Board President Responsibilities: Bismarck Recreation Council, Bismarck Community Bowl Authority

Staff Liaisons: City of Bismarck Pension Committee and Health Insurance Committee, Missouri Valley Complex Committee

Operations Management Team

Board Assignment: Two Park Board Commissioners

Management Team: Executive Director Leker, David Mayer, Riley Merkel, and Mike Sullivan; others may be invited as needed.

Management Team Responsibilities:

- Athletic fields
- Boat ramps
- Community gardens
- Disc golf courses
- Eagles Park & Campground
- Forestry
- General Sibley Park & Campground
- Greenways
- Hoge Island Park
- Interpretative and historical areas
- Joann Hetzel Memorial 4-H Building
- Land dedication and acquisition
- McDowell Dam Recreation Area
- Municipal Country Club
- Natural areas
- Nishu Bowmen Archery Complex
- Open space
- Outdoor complexes and courts
- Outdoor skating rinks
- Parking lots
- Parks
- Playgrounds
- Riverfront
- Trails (paved and unpaved)
- Walt Neuens Horse Arena

Commissioner Appointments: Forestry Advisory Board, Sleepy Hollow Liaison Committee, Renaissance Zone Authority

Staff Liaisons: Burleigh County Water Resource Board

Facilities and Programs Management Team

Board assignment: Two Park Board Commissioners

Management Team: Executive Director Leker, Mike Wald, Tim Doppler, RaNae Jochim, Colin Bales, and Ryan Geerdes; others may be invited as needed.

Management Team Responsibilities:

- BSC Aquatic and Wellness Center
- Capital Ice Complex
- Capital Racquet and Fitness Center
- Cultural events and organizations
- Dakota West Arts Council
- Elks Aquatic Center
- Fore Seasons Center
- Frances Leach High Prairie Arts & Science Complex
- Hillside Aquatic Complex
- Imagination Playground
- Indoor and outdoor swimming programs
- Open Gym
- Pebble Creek Golf Course
- Riverwood Golf Course
- Special events (for example, Halloween Party, Flurry Fest, July Celebration)
- Special populations programming
- Tom O’Leary Golf Course
- VFW Sports Center
- Wachter Aquatic Center
- Wellness programs (group and individual)
- World War Memorial Building
- Youth and adult programming

Commissioner Appointments: BSC Aquatic and Wellness Center Advisory Committee