



CRETE PARK DISTRICT

Board of Commissioners
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2025

The meeting was call to order at 6:00 pm by President Laura Stawicki

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Laura Stawicki, Jen Smith, Sheila Einhorn, Carrie Sharma, Mike Smith.

Others present: Andy Biesterfeld, Janel Geary, Jordan Desiderio, Jamie Healy

Public comment: none

M. Smith moved and J. Smith seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

All members present voted Aye.

Motion Carried 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

M. Smith moved and J. Smith seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2024 Special Board Meeting.

All members present voted Aye.

Motion Carried 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

M. Smith moved and J. Smith seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the December 20, 2024 Special Board Meeting.

All members present voted Aye.

Motion Carried 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

Monthly financial reports for November and December were presented. Noting that due to no regular meeting in December there are two months worth of reports.

M. Smith moved and J. smith seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye

J. Smith Aye

M. Smith Aye

L. Stawicki Aye

S. Einhorn Aye

Motion Carried 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

M. Smith moved, and C. Sharma seconded a motion to approve payment of the bills for November 1 - December 31, 2024, which may include travel and lodging, of \$345,124.26.

Discussion: M. Smith confirmed that the large number was due to the bond payments.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye

J. Smith Aye

M. Smith Aye

L. Stawicki Aye

S. Einhorn Aye

Motion Carried 5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain



CRETE PARK DISTRICT

M. Smith moved and J. Smith seconded a motion to approve the payment of payroll for November 1 – December 31, 2024 in the amount of \$78,7891.62.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye	J. Smith Aye
M. Smith Aye	L. Stawicki Aye
S. Einhorn Aye	
Motion Carried	5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

Action Items

M. Smith moved and J. Smith seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2425 - 5.6 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye	J. Smith Aye
M. Smith Aye	L. Stawicki Aye
S. Einhorn Aye	
Motion Carried	5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

J. Smith moved and C. Sharma seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2425 – 5.7 A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT AN OPEN MEETINGS ACT DESIGNATED EMPLOYEE.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye	J. Smith Aye
M. Smith Aye	L. Stawicki Aye
S. Einhorn Aye	
Motion Carried	5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

M. Smith moved and J. Smith seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2425 – 5.8 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNORS FOR THE DISTRICT'S BANK ACCOUNT WITH OLD PLANK TRAIL COMMUNITY BANK.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye	J. Smith Aye
M. Smith Aye	L. Stawicki Aye
S. Einhorn Aye	
Motion Carried	5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

M. Smith moved and J. Smith seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2425 – 5.9 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPOINT AN INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE CRETE PARK DISTRICT.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye	J. Smith Aye
M. Smith Aye	L. Stawicki Aye
S. Einhorn Aye	
Motion Carried	5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain



CRETE PARK DISTRICT

Reports

Recreation: Supt. Geary stated that the Administrative Office would be closed on January 23 and 24 as the staff will be attending the IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference. The office at Willard Wood will be open on Friday January 24 during the hours of the ABC Play Program. Commissioner J. Smith asked about rentals for the weekend and Supt. Geary replied they were staffed, and conference attendees will be returning on Saturday. We have received a positive response to our participation in the new Crete Connections Collaborative newsletter. Marketing Supervisor Jordan Desiderio represent the District on this committee and is doing a great job. Jordan Desiderio and Jacob Metzner are looking into taking the Certified Park and Recreation Professional exam. NRPA is having a special during the month of January \$100 off, which is a great price. Commissioner Sharma asked how the ABC Play program, Geary responded that it is going well and we have received some mid-session enrollees. Commissioner J. Smith asked about the Egg hunt enhancements as written in the report. Geary commented that it is not a complete change in the event, just ways to make it more of an experience, by possibly combining with the Park Pals Breakfast with the Bunny.

Parks and Planning: Martin Park is finally complete from the incident in the spring. We are just waiting for the check from PDRMA. The Parks Supervisor position is still open, and we will look to post the vacancy at the end of January/early February. Desiderio, Geary and Biesterfeld met with Campfire Concepts this morning to go over the progress and view a rough draft of the priority matrix. We are looking to have a complete rough draft of the Strategic Plan to present at the Committee of the Whole meeting in March. Commissioner Sharma asked if we knew why we did not receive the OSLAD grant. Supt. Biesterfeld stated that we did not, and he will be contacting our Landscape Architects soon to see if they know the answer. Biesterfeld stated that there were only two districts in Will County who received funds. Said that Jamie Healy is doing a good job representing our District to the Legislatures, however we need to get our name out there more. Due to not receiving the grant we will not be doing the bond. We will work on smaller projects on the list. Heritage Park lock software is at the top of the list. Four locks will be replaced, the two bathrooms, the Rotunda door and the shop door. Trying to get in touch with the contractor that Emer and Son (who no longer does field work) put us in touch with.

President's Report

President Stawicki stated that the Commissioners need to make sure that each are up to date with the OMA Certification. J. Smith and C. Sharma stated they will have to call as they are not having luck signing into the site. Supt. Biesterfeld has created a digital Board Survey to provide information to the staff and Campfire Concepts in the direction the board would like the district to go. After the current board fills it out, it will be sent to the candidates running for the commissioner positions in the next election.



CRETE PARK DISTRICT

Future meeting dates:

February 5, 2025,	Marketing Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
February 19, 2025,	Regular Board Meeting	6:00 pm
March 5, 2025,	Committee of the Whole	6:00 pm
March 19, 2025,	Regular Board Meeting	6:00 pm

Old Business

None

New Business

none

J. Smith moved and C. Sharma seconded a motion to enter into Executive Session at 6: 29

pm: Open Meetings Act – Section 2c(1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye	J. Smith Aye
M. Smith Aye	L. Stawicki Aye
S. Einhorn Aye	
Motion Carried	5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

S. Einhorn moved and M. Smith seconded a motion to close the Executive Session and return to the Open Session of the Regular Meeting at 6:50 pm.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye	J. Smith Aye
M. Smith Aye	L. Stawicki Aye
S. Einhorn Aye	
Motion Carried	5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

Action May be taken:

J. Smith moved and M. Smith seconded a motion to provide to Andrew Biesterfeld a stipend, in addition to his regular salary, of \$400 per pay period until the position of Executive Director is filled.

On a roll call vote:

C. Sharma Aye	J. Smith Aye
M. Smith Aye	L. Stawicki Aye
S. Einhorn Aye	
Motion Carried	5 Aye 0 No 0 Abstain

J. Smith moved and S. Einhorn seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 pm all commissioners present voted Aye.



CRETE PARK DISTRICT

Submitted by;
Janel Geary, CPRP
Superintendent of Recreation

Lauren Stawicki
President

J. Smith
Secretary

2-19-25
Date Approved