



Johnson County Parks & Recreation Department will develop, operate and maintain parks that enrich the quality of life for residents and visitors alike, and preserve greenspace for future generations.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Johnson County Park Board of Directors
Johnson County Park Department
Thursday, August 6, 2026

- A.** The regular meeting of the Johnson County Park Board was opened at 6:12 p.m. by Park Board President, Dan Cartwright. Gary Cooper, Penny Lee, Scott Jamieson, and Jeri Thompson were also in attendance. Park staff in attendance; Brad Wiser, Superintendent; and Christy Howe, Recreation Director.
- B. Roll call: Brad Wiser took roll call of those in attendance.**
- C. Minutes: Jeri Thompson moved and Gary Cooper seconded that July 2, 2026 minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.**
- D. Other Business: From Floor**
- Peggy Racke informed the Board about the group offering train rides for the Board on the 10th of August. The Board discussed.
 - Peggy Racke informed the Board that the group was interested in building another shelter next to their G-scale track. Dan stated she would need to present a design for the Board to decide.
- E. Financial Report: Brad Wiser, Scott Jamieson, and Dan Cartwright**
- **Jeri Thompson moved and Gary Cooper seconded to approve the August Claim in the amount of \$62,743.67. Motion carried.**
 - Brad informed the Board on the Report of Collections.
- F. Campground Report: Brad Wiser and Jeri Thompson**
- Nothing to report.
- G. Hoosier Horse Park: Brad Wiser and Gary Cooper**
- July had 6 events. All the shows went well and came in slightly above the projected numbers.
 - August has 6 events scheduled. The first show of the month was IEA. The show went well and came in above the projected amount. Despite the bad weather, the contestants and organizers had a lot of good compliments about the Park and the Cross-Country Course.
 - The end of August is a busy season for the Horse Park with three barrel races in a row.
 - Brad informed the Board he hopes to present the 2027 Horse Park Contract for approval at the September Board meeting.
- H. Independence Park: Brad Wiser and Penny Lee**
- Brad informed the Board that the re-dedication rock for Independence Park will be placed next week.
 - Penny Lee stated that a few trees at Independence were dead and needed to be removed. The Board discussed signage and maintenance at the Park.
- I. Programs: Christy Howe and Jeri Thompson**
- The third Summer Concert will be at Independence Park on August 7th from 6:30pm-8:30pm.
 - The 30th Annual Car Show is on August 15th from 9am-4pm.
 - Movie in the Park will be on August 15th at the Welcome Shelter at 9pm.
 - The Golf Cart 500 will be on August 22nd.
 - Christy stated she is continuing to work on gathering volunteers for events.



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- Christy stated she has been working with Dan and Brad on the Military Appreciation Event. Dan stated that he had a good meeting with Colonel Bell and that Camp Atterbury is on board with the event. Christy stated she has ordered additional signage for the event and is continuing to work with the marketing team on promoting the event.
- Christy stated she would email the most up to date marketing info after the Board meeting. The Board discussed asking the marketing team if they could track who attends Park events and how they heard about the event. Christy stated that her and Dan sat in on a podcast with the owner of Elevated Marketing Solutions.
- Dan Cartwright informed the Board that he will be promoting the Park and the Military Appreciation Event to the Rotary Club this month.

J. Capital Improvements: Brad Wiser, and Dan Cartwright

- Brad informed the Board that the new kayak station should be close to completion.
- The new lake dock is scheduled to be installed on Monday or Tuesday next week.
- Brad updated the Board on the new banquet hall. Brad stated that the banquet hall will be a great addition to the Park and to the southern end of Johnson County.
- Dan and Brad met last week to discuss the possible interior layout of the Amphitheater with the architecture team. The Board discussed.
- Brad informed the Board that CW Sneed has begun work on the Senior Center drainage. The goal of the project is to stop water from entering the building during heavy rain.

K. Superintendent Report: Kevin Leonard

- Brad informed the Board that the new marketing team has been great to work with.
- Brad informed the Board that John Young was okay with the Park using its current Rental Room Agreement Form for the martial arts class. John young stated that he informed the organizer to add the proper entities to its student contract. The agreement has been sent to John Sears, and we are just waiting for him to sign. The agreement is for Tuesdays for six months at \$60 per day plus tax.
- Brad presented the new John Deere Skid Steer lease to the Board and asked for approval. **Jeri Thompson moved and Gary Cooper seconded to approve the lease and give Brad Wiser the authority to execute the contract. Motion carried.**
- Brad requested approval for the submitted 2027 Park budget. Brad stated that Kevin Leonard and Scott Jamieson had discussed the budget before it was submitted. **Gary Cooper moved and Scott Jamieson seconded the approval of the 2027 budget. Motion carried.** Brad informed the Board that the first reading will be in September.
- The Park is on the Council agenda for Monday, August 10th to transfer funds from 1179 Building and land to 1179 Operating Expenses. This is to cover the additional cost of events. The transfer is listed under consent on the Council agenda.
- The Parks agreement with Town Planner was signed this month for \$3,920. The Park will be featured in Center Grove, Greenwood, Franklin, and Columbus calendars. **Jeri Thompson moved and Penny Lee seconded to approve the agreement with Town Planner, pending legal. Motion carried.**

L. Legal Report: John Young

- John updated the Board on the Renaissance Faire agreement and stated the group will be getting a proposal to the Park.
- John stated that Kevin Leonard has resigned, scheduled for August 25, 2026. John asked the Board if they accept the resignation. **Gary Cooper moved and Jeri Thompson seconded to accept the resignation. Motion carried.**
- John informed the Board that he updated the Parks Resolution to Trespass. John removed Kevin Leonard, James Shields, and Donna Shields.



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M. President's Report: Dan Cartwright

- Dan Cartwright asked Brad to oversee the Park. **Scott Jamieson moved to make Brad Wiser Superintendent effective August 26, 2026, and Brad needed to obtain a NRPA Certification, at the Parks expense, prior to the end of year if possible. Gary Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- The Board discussed the Assistant Superintendent Position and asked Brad to look over the current job descriptions. Penny Lee recommended that the Park should consider hiring a new Assistant Superintendent with environmental knowledge. The Board discussed.

Penny Lee moved the meeting to be adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried.

_____ Penny Lee, Secretary