



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, June 6, 2024

The regular meeting of the Johnson County Park Board was opened at 6:00p.m by Park Board President, Michael List. Dannette Morgan, Penny Lee, Mike Weaver and Gary Cooper were also in attendance. Park staff and audience in attendance: Kevin Leonard, Superintendent; Brad Wiser, Assistant Superintendent; Christy Howe, Recreation Director; John Young, Park Board Attorney; Dan Goins, Indiana Live Steamers; and Peggy Racke, Indiana Live Steamers. **Roll call was taken of those in attendance.**

Michael List moved and Gary Cooper seconded that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Dannette Morgan moved and Gary Cooper seconded that the May 2, 2024 minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Claims for June were presented for approval. **Mike Weaver moved and Gary Cooper seconded to approve the June claims, as presented for \$41,712.18. Motion carried.**

Legal Report:

- John Young informed the Board he had received an email from the Johnson County Attorney about Travelers Insurance. The county's representative from Travelers is continuing to review options for the Gatling Gauntlet. John said he would keep Kevin and the Board informed of any new information.

Christy Howe's Recreation Director Report:

- Christy thanked Gary Cooper, Judge Doug Cummins and Commissioner Brian Baird for attending the Vintage Camper Rally event. The event had close to two thousand people attend and over 50 vintage cars. She also thanked Doug Cummins for hosting a Sunday Service.
- The Golf Cart 500 was a fun event. There were 9 entries.
- Pours in the Park went well and had more vendors than last year.
- Dog Tags of Johnson County had their event in May. The event was successful and the group hopes to return next year.
- The campgrounds Wet and Wild event is on June 15th. Christy invited the Board to attend if they were able.
- Sparks in the Park is June 28th. Alliance Security is the only contract that hasn't been finalized.
- The Park received a \$500 Title Sponsor and \$100 T-Shirt Sponsor from Generations Custom auto & Collision.
- The BCU Soccer Camp had to cancel due to lack of registrations. The group showed interest in hosting an event in the fall for ages 4-16.
- The Park events have made \$12,333 in 2024 so far.

Brad Wiser's Assistant Superintendent Report:

- The new audio equipment came in for Arena 5. The staff is working on having that installed this week.
 - May was busy with 8 shows. The shows went well and had 1,861 nights of stall rentals. Barrels for Badges was the largest show of the month. They sold out every stall and brought in 50 temporary stalls.
 - June has 7 shows scheduled. The first one was an IEA show and took place last weekend. They had 962 nights of stall rentals. It was a large show but seemed to go smoothly.
 - Immediately following the IEA show the Cowboy Church Camp came in with 65 kids.
 - There is 3 shows this weekend. The last 2 shows of the month are expected to sell out.
 - Brad informed the Board that two different organizations reached out about the possibility of a coordinated effort in re-constructing the Dressage arenas and the Stadium arenas. The goal would be to re-do the base
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on the arenas for proper drainage and have consistent quality footing mixed with a fiber material in the arenas. With all the arenas having the same footing coordinators could have larger shows and more flexibility. Maintenance and water usage would be reduced with proper bases and footing. Both groups expressed they would help be willing to donate towards the project and look into fundraising opportunities. Brad told the Board he would look into what the estimated cost would be for a project of this scale and keep them informed.

Kevin Leonard's Superintendent Report:

- The maintenance crew has been working hard to keep up with the grounds and facilities. We are down one full time maintenance person right now so the other guys have had to help fill in. There's a good possibility we will have to transfer more money into overtime due to this.
- During Pours in the Park an inspector from Homeland Security came and informed us that exit signs are required at the Amphitheater. We are looking into getting those now.
- The Antique Machinery Show is next week from June 13th to the 16th.
- Kevin and Brad will be attending a meeting with Penny Lee and someone she knows to look at potential prairie locations on June 21st.
- We are on the agenda for the Council meeting next Monday to appropriate funds out of the Phelps Fund for the Blacksmiths to run electric to their building. We are also on the agenda for the Commissioners meeting next Monday to open sealed bids for the new office and camp store. We are excited to open those bids and depending on the cost of that project we can determine what could be next.
- We received the guidelines for the 2025 budget. Budgets will be due by June 27th. Kevin will email the budget to the Board once complete. Kevin said the budget could be approved in July by the Board. Kevin stated some things will be shifted around and plans to ask for another full time employee. With how busy everything has gotten, a new staff member is much needed.
- Kevin reminded the Board that the July meeting will be on Wednesday, July 3rd.

President's Report:

- Michael List commented about being thankful for the Troops defending our country in recognition of this past Memorial Day.

From the Floor and More:

- Dan Goins asked if the Park was still utilizing the radio for advertisement. Kevin Leonard confirmed the Park still had a contract for advertising and could send in advertising information for Live Steamers.
- Dannette Morgan complimented the Pours in the Park event. She commented on the open space of the Park and how well it is being utilized.

Gary Cooper moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:27 p.m. Dannette Morgan seconded. Motion carried.

Gary Cooper, Interim Secretary