



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 5, 2025

The regular meeting of the Johnson County Park Board was opened at 6:00p.m. by Park Board President, Gary Cooper. Dannette Morgan, Shalee Bradley, Jeri Thompson and Mike Weaver 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; Mike Dawson, Indiana Dressage Society President; and Peggy Racke, Indiana Live Steamers.

Roll call was taken of those in attendance.

Dannette Morgan moved and Jeri Thompson seconded that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Jeri Thompson moved and Mike Weaver seconded that the May 8, 2025 minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Claims for June were presented for approval. **Mike Weaver moved and Dannette Morgan seconded to approve the June claims, as presented for \$59,678.90. Motion carried.**

Legal Report:

- John shared with the Board that he believed the National Parks Service would not allow the Sheriff's Department to utilize the old office building. The National Parks Service requires that buildings are used for recreation. The Board discussed the situation and requested a copy of the Parks deed. John recommended that the Sheriff's Department submit a written request for use of the space and the request could be submitted to the National Parks Service for approval.
- John informed the Board that to increase the Park's spending the Board would just have to make a motion.

Christy Howe's Recreation Director Report Read by Brad Wiser:

- The Golf Cart 500 went well and had 10 registered carts.
- Pours in the Park had a great turnout. 186 tickets were sold and all vendors showed up.
- The Antique Machinery Show is June 19th through the 22nd. This is a popular event and always has a good turnout. The Renaissance Faire is on June 21st and 22nd. Sparks in the Park is on June 27th.
- Generations Custom Auto and Collision is the new Title Sponsor and T-Shirt Sponsor for the annual car show. Pahl Lawn Care will also be a sponsor for the event.
- Summit Racing donated a Car Show Kit that included 100 bags, stickers, cards, and 50 kids choice voting cards.

Brad Wiser's Assistant Superintendent Report:

- May had 7 Horse Park events and all went well. The last event of the month was a new barrel race. They organization has already reached out and wants to book multiple shows in 2026.
- June has 6 events and 1 camp scheduled. IEA was the first show of the month. This is typically one of the larger shows at the Park. Despite lots of rain the show went well and had a great turnout. The Indianapolis Charity Show is the last show of the month. This show typically purchases over 2,000 bags of shavings from the Park. A standard show uses 300 to 500 bags of shavings.
- We are still waiting to hear from the Contractor on the status of the gutter installation at J barn and K barn. The bin blocks for the new barn muck stations were delivered this week and Park Staff should have them installed within the next few weeks.



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- Kevin and Brad met with Wes Harrison and Commissioner Baird last week to discuss a possible bond project to renovate the Dunn Arena Building. The goal would be to turn the large storage space into a banquet hall that can hold around 250 people.

Kevin Leonard's Superintendent Report:

- The ribbon cutting for the new pickleball courts was on Monday. It went well and had a great turnout. People were utilizing the courts right away.
- Kevin explained the status of the gazebo replacement at Independence Park and requested the Board's permission to move forward with replacing the gazebo and to seek bids. **Dannette Morgan moved and Mike Weaver seconded allowing Kevin to move forward with seeking quotes. Motion carried.**
- Kevin requested the Board's approval to move forward with a quote from Spotlight Strategies for \$12,818.50 for new signage throughout the Park. The Board originally approved up to \$10,000. **Jeri Thompson moved and Shalee Bradley seconded the approval to move forward with the quote from Spotlight Strategies for \$12,818.50. Motion carried.**
- Kevin recommended Gary Cooper, Dan Cartwright and Jeri Thompson for a committee on what the Park should do with the old office building. The recommended board members agreed to the committee.
- Kevin requested the Board to raise the spending limit for the Park on invoiced materials and projects to \$7,500. The Board discussed the potential increase. **Jeri Thompson moved and Mike Weaver seconded raising the spending limit to \$7,500. Motion carried.**

Presidents Report

- Nothing to report.

From the Floor and More:

- Peggy Racke thanked the Park for assistance with their water meter. Peggy asked the Park who maintains the flowers at the Cabin. Brad informed her that the Soil and Water Department and Park staff are the ones who maintain it.

Shalee Bradley moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:44 p.m. Jeri Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

Penny Lee, Secretary