



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, July 2, 2026

- A. The regular meeting of the Johnson County Park Board was opened at 6:00 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, Assistant Superintendent; and Christy Howe, Recreation Director.
- B. **Roll call: Dan Cartwright took roll call of those in attendance.**
- C. **Minutes: Scott Jamieson moved and Gary Cooper seconded that June 5, 2026 minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.**
- D. **Other Business: From Floor**
- Ben Cockram informed the Board that the new building at Indiana Live Steamers is near completion and asked the Park if they would install the door handles for the building. Brad stated their locksmith has already been called and is on the schedule.
 - David Spears requested permission from the Board to utilize one of the Parks rental buildings on Tuesday evenings from 5 p.m. to 9p.m. for a kid's martial arts class. David requested the building at a discounted rate. The Board asked several questions about the details of the class. David said \$60 per day would work for his budget. The Board was in support of the class. **Gary Cooper moved and Scott Jamieson seconded to approve and allow the class to utilize one of the rental buildings at \$60 per day, pending the administrative staff and Board agree on the contract, and the contract would not exceed six months. Motion carried.**
- E. **Financial Report: Brad Wiser, Scott Jamieson, and Dan Cartwright**
- Brad presented the June claims. **Jeri Thompson moved and Gary Cooper seconded to approve the claims as presented. Motion carried.** Scott Jamieson discussed highlighting the credit card transactions in the claims report and providing more detail on what the card is used for.
 - Brad discussed the Report of Collections with the Board.
- F. **Campground Report: Brad Wiser and Jeri Thompson**
- Brad informed the Board that the campground is running smoothly. There were a considerable number of cancellations on the weekend for Sparks since the event had to be cancelled. Those campers were given credits.
- G. **Hoosier Horse Park: Brad Wiser and Gary Cooper**
- June had 5 events. Numbers were below the projected amount on the invoice sheet. The Indianapolis Charity Show, which is typically the largest show in June, was smaller than previous years. The organizer told Brad some of this was from gas prices and the integrity of the footing last year. Brad said the organizer was happy with the improvements to the footing in Baker this year. Park staff added additional sand to the arena prior to the show. The Indianapolis Charity Show reached out after their event to schedule for 2027.
 - July has 6 events scheduled. The Bureau of Land Management will have an adoption on July 8th through the 11th. The projected numbers are expected to be accurate this month.
- H. **Independence Park: Brad Wiser and Penny Lee**
- Brad stated that Independence Park has continued to be very busy. The Park looks good and the staff are continuing to improve the maintenance strategy to keep everything in good shape.



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I. Programs: Christy Howe and Jeri Thompson

- There will be 5 events in July. Christy is continuing to gather volunteers for the events.
- The Park will have a booth at the Johnson County fair. Scott Jamieson recommended Christy email the Board with time slots, so Board members could volunteer if they were available.
- The Park received \$3,195 from Festival Country.
- The Renaissance Faire was successful though numbers were slightly lower than what the organizer of the event was anticipating. Christy discussed how the group wishes to grow and over time they will utilize more of the Park. The Board discussed the Renaissance Faire and future contracts.
- Sparks in the Park had to be cancelled due to weather. The firework show will be moved to Deck the Stalls in December. The Board discussed the event.
- Christy and the Board discussed a trial basis on tent camping.
- Christy stated that the new marketing team is posting on social media now and is working with them to ensure all the dates are accurate. The Board discussed the marketing team.

J. Capital Improvements: Brad Wiser, and Dan Cartwright

- There have been 3 design meetings so far for the new banquet hall at the Park. The goal is for the entire project to be completed in 2027.
- Dan discussed the cabins project being scaled down due to cost and the possibility of having primitive cabins in the campground. The Board discussed the different options.
- Dan, Kevin, and Brad have been meeting with the architectural team for the Amphitheater. The primary focus has been on the structure of the stage. Dan stated he would keep the Board informed once more information is gathered.
- The construction of the sports courts will be starting sometime toward the end of summer.

K. Superintendent Report: Kevin Leonard

- Brad discussed the Antique Machinery group wanting to add on to their building. The drawings were presented to the board. Brad stated that the Park staff did not have any issues with this is the Board approved. **Scott Jamieson moved and Gary Cooper approved the project as presented. Motion carried.**

L. Legal Report: John Young

- Nothing to report.

M. President's Report: Dan Cartwright

- Nothing to report.

Scott Jamieson moved the meeting to be adjourned at 7:14 p.m. Motion carried.

____Penny Lee, Secretary