



*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.*

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
**Johnson County Park Board of Directors**  
**Johnson County Park Department**  
Thursday, April 2, 2026

- A.** The regular meeting of the Johnson County Park Board was opened at 6:00p.m. by Park Board President, Dan Cartwright. Gary Cooper, Penny Lee, Scott Jamieson, and Jeri Thompson were also in attendance. Park staff in attendance: Kevin Leonard, Superintendent; Brad Wiser, Assistant Superintendent; and Christy Howe, Recreation Director; and John Young, Park Attorney.
- B. Roll call: Kevin Leonard took roll call of those in attendance.**
- C. Minutes: Jeri Thompson moved and Scott Jamieson seconded that March 5, 2026 minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.**
- D. Other Business: From Floor**
- Ben Cockram with Indiana Live Steamers stated that ILS could not run trains on the day of the military appreciation event but said they could set up a vendor booth. The Board discussed the event. **Scott Jamieson moved and Gary Cooper seconded allowing Indiana Live Steamers to set up a vendor booth for free at the event. Motion carried.**
- E. Financial Report: Kevin Leonard, Scott Jamieson, and Dan Cartwright**
- Kevin Leonard discussed the claims. **Jeri Thompson moved and Scott Jamieson seconded to approve the April claims as presented. Motion carried.**
  - Kevin discussed the Report of Collections with the Board. Scott Jamieson asked if the Board should consider giving Kevin the authority to handle things like refunds without the Boards approval. The Board discussed the topic and asked Kevin to provide a list of items for them to consider.
- F. Campground Report: Brad Wiser and Jeri Thompson**
- Brad informed the Board that the road on the North side of the full hook-up sites has now been widened by 8ft, and additional parking has been added.
  - The Community Shelter is starting this coming week. The shelter will be 24ftx24ft and includes receptacles, lighting, and a firepit. The Park will also be adding additional parking for the shelter and frost-freeze.
- G. Hoosier Horse Park: Brad Wiser and Gary Cooper**
- Brad asked for Board approval to purchase an Aggra-Vator attachment. Brad discussed the details of the attachment and the benefits of it. Brad and Kevin recommended using funds from the Horse Park Gift Fund for the purchase. **Jeri Thompson moved and Gary Cooper seconded the approval to purchase the Aggra-Vator with the Horse Park Gift Fund. Motion carried.**
  - Brad asked for Board approval for the Park to purchase 2 John Deere Gators for the price of \$19,375.52. Brad stated the Park will continue to use old gators and will be able to rent them out for horse shows. **Scott Jamieson moved and Jeri Thompson seconded the approval to purchase the John Deere Gators for \$19,375.52. Motion carried.**
  - March had 3 events at the Horse Park. All the events went well. So far, all the shows have come in above the projected amount. Brad stated that he and Gary Cooper have stayed in communication about the shows.
  - April has 5 shows scheduled. National Drive is at the end of the month of April and is one of the larger shows at the Horse Park. Brad invited the Board to visit the Park while the show was taking place.
  - Brad informed the Board he is continuing to work on several aspects of the Horse Park such as scheduling, footing, and maintenance. Brad is keeping Gary Cooper informed of all these tasks.
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- The Board discussed the Park running well.

#### **H. Independence Park: Kevin Leonard, Brad Wisner and Penny Lee**

- Brad discussed the gazebo at Independence Park and stated it is near completion.
- Brad and Penny Lee met and figured out a game plan for the new trees at Independence Park.
- The Shelters are complete and the landscaping will be starting soon. The landscaping is expected to take three to four days.
- The trail construction has started. So far, the existing trail has been completely removed, and they are working on widening the trail to 9ft.
- Brad requested approval for an additional \$12,500 for the trail at Independence Park. This is to cover additional square footage. **Scott Jamieson moved and Gary Cooper seconded the additional amount of \$12,500 for the Independence Park trail. Motion carried.**
- Brad presented a quote for sealcoating the parking lot and road at Independence Park. The quote came in at \$20,399. Brad stated the cost would be half if they chose to only do the parking lots. **Scott Jamieson moved and Gary Cooper seconded to sealcoat the entire parking lot and road for \$20,399. Motion carried.**
- Kevin Leonard requested the Board approval for an additional \$10,000 for sidewalk replacement between the gazebo and the playground. **Gary Cooper moved and Jeri Thompson seconded the approval of \$10,000 for concrete work. Motion carried.**
- **Gary Cooper moved and Jeri Thompson seconded the approval of a donation from Scott Jamieson for parking bumpers. Motion carried.**
- The Board discussed the re-dedication event for Independence Park. Dan Cartwright asked Penny Lee to lead the direction of the event.

#### **I. Programs: Christy Howe and Jeri Thompson**

- April 18<sup>th</sup> is the Scrambled Eggs Adult Easter Egg Hunt. This event will have axe throwing plus other vendors. There have been 57 confirmed companies who have donated prizes to this event. The Board discussed the event and volunteer options. Dan and Jeri said they would be attending the event.
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Vintage Camper Rally. There will be several different vendors at this event.
- Christy is working on details for a Summer Concert Series and is working to finalize dates.
- The Park was awarded \$10,000 from Festival Country, \$2,500 will go towards the Summer Concert Series.
- Christy will be attending the Convention, Visitor, and Tourism Board meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> to request \$7,500 to go towards renting an ice-skating rink for one day for Deck the Stalls. John Young mentioned that CVT has shown interest in purchasing the rink for events. The Board discussed options of the rink
- Christy informed the Board that she is meeting with Vonda Brooks to discuss the Military Appreciation Day event. The Board discussed the event. Christy is working on passing out flyers for the event.
- Christy and Brad will be meeting with a representative from Belight the World to discuss lights for Deck the Stalls.
- Kevin and Christy are scheduled to meet with Bish's RV in Anderson to discuss sponsorships and donations.
- Christy stated she was contacted by Cincinnati Circus. She will be researching the event and will discuss this at the next Board meeting.
- The Board discussed options on what to do with the material from the Gatling Gauntlet.



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**J. Capital Improvements: Kevin Leonard, Brad Wisner, and Dan Cartwright**

- Brad informed the Board that the deposit for the dock replacement has been submitted. Once the deposit is received, the company will ship the material and schedule the installation date.
- We are waiting for a COI from Rent-Fun for the kayak rental station. Once this is received, the installation will be scheduled.
- Dunn Roof is expected to start within a few weeks. The ceiling paint prep has started but is currently on hold until the roof is complete.

**K. Superintendent Report: Kevin Leonard**

- Kevin asked the Board for their thoughts on officially closing the Gatling Gauntlet. The Board discussed the topic. **Scott Jamieson moved and Jeri Thompson seconded to close and tear down the Gatling Gauntlet. Motion carried.** John Young discussed the course material needing to be deemed surplus and recommended the Board give Kevin and Brad authority to determine the value of the material. **Gary Cooper moved and Scott Jamieson seconded to give Kevin Leonard and Brad Wisner authority to determine the value of material and to deem surplus. Motion carried.**
- Kevin asked the Board to approve a refund for Kenneth and Kay Tearman. **Scott Jamieson moved and Jeri Thompson seconded the approval to refund Kenneth and Kay Tearman for their camping. Motion carried.**
- Kevin presented an agreement with Atterbury Job Corps and for the Board's approval. The Board discussed the agreement. **Jeri Thompson moved and Scott Jamieson seconded the approval of the contract pending legal. Motion carried.**
- Kevin informed the Board that the Park Office hours will now be 8am-2pm on Saturday and 8am-12pm on Sunday.
- Kevin updated the Board of the Utility Regulatory Commission. The penalty was to attend training or pay a \$5,000 fine. The Park will receive another letter within a few months to schedule the training.

**L. Legal Report: John Young**

- John explained to the Board that a charitable organization would have to be established in order to pursue a gaming license.
- John discussed naming rights with the Board. There was a lot of discussion on different options and fees.

**M. President's Report: Dan Cartwright**

- Dan discussed building cabins with the Board and presented a proposal from Crossroads Engineers in the amount of \$10,500 for a master plan for the cabin's infrastructure. **Scott Jamieson moved and Jeri Thompson seconded the approval of the proposal from Crossroads Engineers for \$10,500. Motion carried.**
- Dan stated that Kevin did a great job with 5-year plan. The Board discussed having meetings with user groups. Kevin mentioned that he was already working on some changes, such as the Gatling Gauntlet, golf cart trails, and Park WIFI. The Board had lots of discussion about the 5-year plan.
- The athletic complex project is currently out for bid and is planned to be done this year.
- The banquet facility is moving forward, and an architecture firm has been hired. Dan discussed looking into additional staff with all the new amenities being brought to the Park. The Board discussed the new projects and the growth of the current amenities.

**Gary Cooper moved the meeting to be adjourned at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried.**

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Penny Lee, Secretary



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