

# Wahpeton Park Board Minutes

**September 24, 2025**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Wahpeton Park Board was held on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at 5:15 pm at the Community Center in Wahpeton, North Dakota.

Commissioners present: Hatting, Formaneck, Watson, Gripentrog.

Staff present: Brad Edwardson - Director of Parks and Recreation, Kathy Diekman- Zoo Director, Katie Nelson – Recreation Manager, Park Board Clerk- Connie Metcalf.

Meeting was called to order by Park Board President Watson.

**Citizen's Request:** Public comments on 2026 Budget.

Gripentrog motioned to accept 2026 budget, seconded by Formaneck. MC 4-0

## **Approval of Minutes:**

\*Motion by Formaneck to approve the Park Board regular meeting minutes held on August 20, 2025. seconded by Hatting. MC 4-0.

\*Motion by Formaneck to approve Special Meeting minutes held on August 22, 2025. Second by Hatting. MC 4-0.

## **Reports from Officers**

### **Director of Parks and Recreation:**

Introduced Katie Nelson to board members.

Brad made the schedules for WVB/CVB for the Fall session.

Music in the Park went well this summer.

Bowling season has started for Special Olympics.

Still waiting on bids for concrete dugouts, cages, shelter at Airport Park.

### **Zoo Director:**

Zoo Boo is 2-5:00 - October 25.

Wild Game Show is November 21. Tickets are on sale now.

Winter behind the scenes will be announced in October.

Tom Schmaltz is retiring on September 25.

Addy Paul was approved for Animal Curator and Lacy Stier as Lead Zookeeper.

Director discussed year end funding with zoo and financial funding.

MSC (Bullis, Devillers) to approve working toward a JPA (park Board-Zoo)

Relationship pending a formal agreement.

Checking id \$230,325.00

# Wahpeton Park Board

## Reports from Commissioners and Committees:

**Maintenance / Planning Committee:** Edwardson reported

**Buildings:**

Working on the interior of JSF restrooms.

**Grounds:**

Preparing the JSF for football games.

JSF bleachers have been removed.

**Equipment:**

JSF scoreboard receiver needed to be replaced. Scoreboard needs to be shut off after every use.

**Planning:**

Hughes flooring needs to be replaced very soon. Cleaned 9/22/2025.

Need dugout drawings for Airport field. NDNG will build this winter.

**Other:**

UV Bobcat trade in program is going on.

**Personnel/Finance Committee:** Edwardson reported

**Personnel:**

Director/committee interviewed 3 Candidates.

\*Gripentrog motioned for approved of Katie Nelson for Recreation Manager, seconded by Hatting. MC 4-0.

Discussion was held regarding PB members notification of applicant who is hired when it happens.

City will help with Zoo Labor through the winter months. There will be a JPA. Brad will email reports to Darcie every month with financial details.

**Finance:**

- End of month balances
  - Park Board \$464,380.63.
  - Park and Rec Foundation \$69,876.41.
- Other Assets
  - Bell CD - \$110,160.09.
  - Bell Money Market- \$27,562.04.
  - BMO Money Market - \$36,625.75
  - Edward Jones - \$7,595.75.
  - RJ Hughes – Trust (US Bank)-\$126,513.29.
  - Fleenor Trust (BMO) \$107,997.07
  - Zoo Debt - \$379,405.42 (2024 balance)
- Budget Review

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**Recreation:** Edwardson reported

Fall programming is starting. Lots of kids and adults have signed up.

Kelly McNary will represent Wahpeton at the State Babe Ruth meetings on October 4 & 5.

We are targeting 4 or 5 youth basketball tourneys this winter.

**Scheduled Committee meetings:**

- **Maintenance / Planning Committee** – Tuesday, October 14, 2025 – 12 PM – Park Shop.
- **Personnel / Finance Committee** – Wednesday, October 15, 2025 - 12:00 – 12:40 PM WCC.
- **Recreation Committee** – Wednesday, October 15, 2025 - 12:40-1 PM – WCC.
- **Zoo Committee-**
- **HOR committee -**

**Commissioner’s Requests:** Hatting mentions broken posts on Diamond #1.

**Financial Reports:**

- Financial reports available.
- Monthly bills submitted.

\***Formanek** motioned to approve financial reports and approve Park Board bills, seconded by Gripentrog. MC. 4-0.

**Unfinished / New Business:** (100% approval for vote consideration).

**Date of Next meeting:** Wednesday, October 22, 2025 - 5:15 PM – Wahpeton Community Center.

**Adjournment.**

\*Hatting motioned to adjourn. Second by Gripentrog. MC 4-0.

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**Brian Watson, Park Board President**

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**Connie Metcalf, Park Board Clerk**