

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF DECATUR PARK  
DISTRICT, MACON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD AT  
DECATUR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
620 E. RIVERSIDE AVENUE, DECATUR, ILLINOIS  
AT 12:00 NOON ON THE 6<sup>th</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2023**

The Board of Park Commissioners of the Decatur Park District, Macon County, Illinois, met in a regular session on Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> of September, 2023 at the hour of 12:00 Noon at the Decatur Park District Administration Office, 620 E. Riverside Avenue, Decatur, Illinois at which time and place there were present the following officers and members of said Board:

Bob Brilley, II, President  
Chris Harrison, Vice President  
Shelith Hansbro, Commissioner  
Dr. Kristin White, Commissioner - Via Zoom and exited the meeting at  
12:35 p.m.  
Stacey Young, Commissioner - Via Zoom

A quorum of the members of the Board of Park Commissioners being present, President Brilley called the meeting to order and declared the Board to be in session for the transaction of business.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited.

**NO. 16270** A motion to approve items 1-2 on the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Hansbro and seconded by Commissioner Harrison. Upon call of roll, all voted aye.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
2. Bills for Approval

**PRESENTATION:** Matt Chaifetz, President of Contour Airlines joined the board meeting via zoom to present Contours Essential Air Service (EAS) proposal and answer any questions the board may have in regards to Contour Airlines. Contour operates a fleet of 25 regional jets. These jets seat 30 passengers with a 36” seat pitch in every row. This gives the passenger extra leg room for each seat. Contour has an interline agreement with American Airlines and offers connections to destinations around the world. The board of commissioners all asked extensive questions and discussed options. Executive Director Gerhard thanked Mr. Chaifetz for attending the meeting and added that the board can only make a recommendation based on what is best for the community to the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the DOT will consider all factors and ultimately make the decision. SkyWest will continue air service during this time.

**NO.16271** Staff recommended approval of the purchase of a playground system from Gametime c/o Cunningham Recreation for Garfield Park in the amount of \$145,985.13. The purchase will be made on the U.S. Communities cooperative purchasing agreement. A portion

of the funding required for the Garfield Park revitalization was included in the 2023 Capital Budget. Commissioner Young made and Commissioner Harrison seconded a motion to approve the purchase of a playground system from Gametime c/o Cunningham Recreation for Garfield Park. All voted aye upon the call of roll.

**CFO** The 10-Year Capital Plan worksheets have been distributed to department heads. First draft requests should be turned in by September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Commissioner 2-2-1 meetings are anticipated for late October.

Golf rounds for August are down a bit due to the excessive heat. Overall year to date rounds are up 5% from last year.

**RECREATION** Splash Cove has wrapped up for the season. At this time the number of customers look to be up 3000 from last season.

The Devon Amphitheater has 8 more events prior to the end of the season. This weekend starting Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> Fool House, September 10<sup>th</sup> Night Ranger and September 16<sup>th</sup> Thunderstruck.

Fall programs have begun.

Staff continue planning Boo at the Zoo and Trees on the Tees. Boo at the Zoo tickets will go on sale September 13<sup>th</sup> and Trees on the Tees tickets go on sale November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**AIRPORT** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has agreed to the Decatur Airport having the Scareport event. Keep in mind the FAA can cancel it at any time. Scareport is scheduled for October 21<sup>st</sup> and will be hosted in the new Fire House/SRE building. President Brilley thanked Director Wright for all of his efforts given to the FAA to have the Scareport event.

The Decatur Airport will host the Illinois Airport Maintenance Conference September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Airport maintenance staff from all Illinois airports come to attend this conference.

Steve Adams of Adams Aerial entertained 28 South African farmers that were here to attend the Farm Progress Show by giving them a tour of his hangar of crop-dusting planes.

The Farm Progress Show brought in 532 operations over the 3-day period.

SkyWest had 990 enplanements for the month of August and 6968 year to date.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** Maintenance staff have started to winterize Splash Cove now that the season is over.

Staff continue to work on the Decatur Park District 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event.

A ribbon cutting is tentatively scheduled in early October for the new airport fire house/SRE building.

Project Manager Russ Bodine has been busy with many projects the Decatur Park District has going at this time. The Devon Amphitheater Concessions Expansion bid is planned to be published in the Herald & Review next week. The demolition bid for Nelson #1 pavilion is due Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Decatur Park District received the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) grant for the Scovill Activity Center trail improvements. This grant will allow for resurfacing of the perimeter trail at the Scovill Activity Center.

**MARKETING DIRECTOR** Banners have been designed for Boo at the Zoo. Trees on the Tees currently has 31 sponsors.

Executive Director Gerhard acknowledged and thanked Marketing Director Myers for her work. Commissioner Hansbro agreed and thanked her as well.

**FOUNDATION DIRECTOR** The second Music Bingo will be hosted Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at the Devon Amphitheater.

Zoorific is September 16<sup>th</sup> at Scovill Zoo.

**ATTORNEY FLYNN** There is a need for executive session.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**Commissioner Hansbro** Thank you to Executive Director Gerhard for all of his hard work.

**Commissioner Young** Thank you and good job to staff and Director Gerhard.

**President Brilley** Glad to be here and thank you as always to staff.

At approximately 12:50 p.m., Commissioner Harrison made and Commissioner Hansbro seconded a motion to move into executive session. Upon call of roll, all voted aye.

A motion to adjourn executive session and return to open session was made Commissioner Harrison, seconded by Commissioner Hansbro and unanimously approved.

A motion to adjourn the open session was made by Commissioner Hansbro and seconded by Commissioner Harrison and unanimously approved.

/s/ Melanie Moore  
Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners

/s/ Bob Brilley  
President, Board of Park Commissioners