

**MINUTES OF THE
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT WY
CO/KCK BOARD OF PARK
COMMISSIONERS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9th, 2022**

The March 9th, 2022 meeting of the Unified Government WyCo/KCK Board of Park Commissioners was held at City Hall, 701 N. 7th Street, Room 515, KCK 66101 & Virtually via ZOOM Online

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Unified Government Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Diana Aguirre, Chairman. Angel Obert, Director stated proper meeting notice had been given.

ROLL CALL:

Members present were recorded for the minutes.

Board Members Present:

Diana Aguirre, Chairman
Carolyn Wyatt, Member
Bridget Holton-Deere, Secretary
Faith Rivera, Member
Karen Daniels, Member
Micah King, Member
Dani Gurley, Member

Board Members Absent:

Vilmer Alvarado, Member
Billy Brame, First Vice Chair
Jeff Sachen, Second Vice Chair
Tammie Romstad/KCKPS

Administration Present:

Angel Obert, Parks and Recreation, Director
Jack Webb, Parks and Recreation, Assistant Director
James Bain, Unified Government, Counselor
Nichole Marlowe, Parks and Recreation, Administrative Support Supervisor

I.– PRELIMINARIES

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Faith Rivera to adopt the March 9th, 2022 Agenda, seconded by Bridget Holton – Deere Motion Carried (Ayes 7, Nays 0)

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the February 9th, 2022 regular Board of Park Commissioners meeting are presented for review and consideration for approval.

A motion was made by Bridget Holton - Deere, seconded by Faith Rivera to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, February 9th, 2022, regular meeting. Motion Carried (Ayes 7, Nays 0)

II.- PRESENTATIONS, HEARINGS, COMMUNICATIONS

1. Visitors

Visitors may speak to the Board at this time.

As a general rule, the Board will not enter into discussion, but will direct Administration to take under advisement, make necessary response and bring items to a future agenda as may be appropriate.

- No Visitors

2. Correspondence

- No Correspondence

III.– OLD BUSINESS

- Pesticide Application at Parks – TruGreen presented documentation that was requested at the previous meeting. Bridget Holton–Deere asked if we could use a smaller park as a test park for a non-spraying season. Jack Webb stated that was not possible due to the specific purpose of the parks they do spray, parks that are sprayed have different playing fields. He stated the department was given a directive to start the spray program and would continue until that directive changed.

IV.- NEW BUSINESS

- Park Board Training Presented by James Bain – James Bain gave a refresher for new members. Shared a power point of how the Board is elected and the rules and procedures the board uses. Bridget Holton–Deere asked that he go over the elections, how long in office etc. Angel said Nichole Marlowe sent a copy of all the bylaws that can be referred to.

- Budget Update Given by Michael Peterson – Mr. Peterson shared a Presentation giving budget overview that was approved for 2022. He explained the 6 budgeted divisions and \$13.5 million budget allocated to the Parks & Recreation Department and explained percentages of how funds are distributed from county taxes. He stated the UG is having troubles filling job positions. Working to address additional Grants to improve parks. He gave the budget hearing dates and stated he believed the Public Hearing is March 31st and will let Angel Obert know for sure.
 - Angel Obert said she would make sure that Nichole Marlowe would send a copy of this presentation to all the Board Members. Adding a new park at Hutton Rd & Leavenworth Rd was mentioned as having \$250,000.00 set aside from budget. The Park is being built on land already owned by the Unified Government, and it will be near the new fire station.

V - OTHER BUSINESS

- **Staff Agenda**

Angel Obert started by introducing Shaya Lockett, the new Assistant Director of Recreation, for the Parks & Recreation Department.

Jack Webb –

- Opening day March 5th at 6 a.m. We had 150 cars waiting at the gates. By 9 a.m. we had 492 cars come through the gates. Doing one more Trout stocking this month and one more Catfish stocking in May.
- KABOOM Playground Build – Build day May 5 – 7th at Edgerton Park. Last build was Bill Klemm Park. This is a Community Event.
- De-Winterization Schedule – Open Shelters Easter weekend, Friday April 15, staff usually starts three weeks ahead of opening day. Spray Parks & Pool will be ready for open day Monday May 28th.
- Four new restrooms – These are being funded by Cares Act funds and are being placed at Quindaro Park, Kensington Park, St. Margaret’s Park and Rosedale Park. Construction has started at Quindaro should be roughly a 120-day build.

Angel Obert –

- Aquatics Update – Recruiting for Lifeguards. Currently have 13 applications for Lifeguards, 2 applications for Assistant Manager and 1 application for Manager. Contacted 8 of the applicants. Working on getting them certified. Community wide recruitment.
- KABOOM – Carolyn Wyatt is on Kaboom weekly call right now, you can let her know if you want to be on the call to help with build day. She is looking for members to be on committees.
- Recreation Update – Working towards Summer Programs and Sports taking place in Recreation Centers. Getting footprint of facilities to get legal childcare and

programing. Some issues with fire alarms and sprinkler systems. Hoping to be done before summer.

- Staffing – We have 80 full time employees right now, have 62 positions filled with 18 vacancies and currently, hiring for these positions is on pause. We are facing challenges and want to thank our 62 people for all their hard work. Lifeguard and summer positions are hiring at \$15 per hour.

- **BOARD MEMBER’S QUESTIONS OR COMMENT**

- Bridget Holton-Deere - asked how many kids are signed up to Lifeguard and how many are residents of Wyandotte County. Angel Obert said she would look at their applications to see. Bridget preferred to have local students. How long is training at the Y? Just depends on applicant skill level.
- Faith Rivera – Community member reached out about lines being put in at Argentine Rec Center for BPU usage for Metro 24. Angel said yes it was a project voted on by the Committee so they could separate the meters so they could accurately charge Metro for the facility. John Kelly looked into adding addendum to contract for Metro 24 to start paying their bills in a metered way instead of estimating bills. Community members are very thankful that the issue has been remedied.
- Micah King - Asked what the cost of adding in the line at the Joe E. Amayo Argentine community Center was?
 - John Kelly - \$60,000 to rework the electrical that was paid by Buildings & Logistics and the Parks & Rec office.
- Diana Aguirre – Asked if they did not pay anything for the first 3 years? and, asked How do you justify paying \$60,000.00 for this project?
 - John Kelly – Stated that most of the money for the project came from Building & Logistics budget and that they updated some of their existing infrastructure. The infrastructure that was put in is vital to Parks & Recreation and the BPU even if Metro isn’t there in a few years.
 - Angel Obert - Stated we could provide the original Metro 24 contract if Diana wanted to see it.
- Micah King – Asked, if there is a secondary use for the area that Metro is in now, if they are no longer there?
 - John Kelly – Stated, Yes, we would be able to use it in some Recreation fashion.
- Diana Aguirre – Requested the subject be added to the next meeting agenda.
- Karen Daniels – Asked about a public hearing on budget.
- Bridget Holton-Deere – Welcome new members everyone is doing a good job.
- Faith Rivera – Stated the Community Centers, specifically Argentine is asking for donations of board games for the kids. Thank you for all you do kids are really enjoying the centers.
- Micah King – Asked if the mowing changing this year? I was mowing 30 - 40 land banks. Jack said he wants a list of properties.
- Diana Aguirre – Stated that she would like to work closer with Angel and Jack Webb to help raise money for Parks and Recreation Centers.

Carolyn Wyatt left the meeting at 7:15pm.

VI – ADJOURNMENT

Diana Aguirre requested to adjourn, Faith Rivera made a motion, Bridget Holton - Deere seconded meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Motion Carried (Aye 7, Nays 0)

Diana Aguirre, Chairman