



Wednesday, October 8th, 2025
Grafton Parks & Recreation Board Room
715 West 5th Street
Grafton, ND 58237
5:15 p.m.

Minutes:

- I. Call to Order by Kristi Olson at 5:23 PM
- II. Board Members Present:
 - A. Board Members Present: Kristi Olson, Scott Hills, Jon Jelinek, Darrin Wollitz
 - B. Board Members Absent: Cory Burns
 - C. Staff Present: William Dahl, Matt Oppegard, Gabbi Holland
 - D. Media Present: Todd Morgan
 - E. Public Present: Kristi Wilfahrt
- III. Kristi asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. No changes were made.
- IV. Kristi asked for approval of the minutes from the September Park Board Meeting held on 09/10/2025. Jon made a motion to approve the minutes from the September Park Board Meeting. Seconded by Scott, the motion passed all approved.
- V. Kristi asked for a motion for the authorization of expenditures as listed. Scott made a motion to approve the expenditures as listed. Seconded by Jon, the motion passed all approved to pay bills.
- VI. Matt presented the July bank statement report for the board to review.
- VII. Reports:
 - A. Recreation Manager
 - i. Gabbi reported that Gymnastics started Sunday.
 - ii. Learn-to-Skate Figure Skating starts Thursday, November 6th. Figure Skating will practice 2 times a week on Thursdays and Sundays.
 - iii. The Grafton Learn-to-Skate Competition is set for January 25th at the Centennial Center Arena. This will be Figure Skating's big fundraiser for this season. Registrations for the competition are open now on EntryEeze.
 - iv. The Corn Maze attendance was down again this year continuing a downward trend. Food trucks are no longer a draw with the new food truck court in town. Those working at the admission hut had commented that nobody asked to purchase food to-go from the food trucks this year. There were several that purchased food to-go in past years. The Grafton Corn Maze is the most affordable corn maze in the area. Gabbi asked the Park Board if they had any ideas how to increase attendance. Ideas included different marketing then what is currently used, make petting zoos more permanent, and build cute "Instagram-able" structures. Scott asked how the field trips were compared to previous years. Gabbi explained that the field trips are about the same as last year even with having to reschedule a couple days due to weather. Kristi O. asked about a raffle draw such as a 50/50 for those to purchase when attending the maze. The obstacle course was a hit and there are plans for expanding it to be better next year.
 - B. Director
 1. Parks

- i. KLJ has put the bridge project out for bid with a due date of 1pm on October 20th. The Army Core of Engineers is still waiting on the 404 permit. We will not be able to start construction until the permit is approved. The Army Core is waiting for the EPA results on bat migration in the construction area. It is now delayed due to the government shutdown. We hope to be able to start yet this fall or early winter, depending on the length of the shutdown.
 - ii. The Beautification Committee purchased permanent lights for the Boy Scout Cabin but needed a soffit to install the lights. With the paint peeling from the fascia board, Bill decided to have metal fascia and soffits installed on the Boy Scout Cabin. The Price of materials came to \$1,300 and the installation should come in around \$1,400. The cabin looks great after the work was done. The Grafton Park Board extended a thank you to the Grafton Beautification Committee for all they have done to improve the Boy Scout Cabin.
2. Campground:
 - i. Matt reported Cabin 9 was delivered on September 16th, set on blocks, and leveled. The bathroom walls have been framed-in and ready for plumbing and electrical rough-ins. Windows will be installed this week. Kutz & O'Brien dropped off the shower enclosure on Tuesday and will start the plumbing rough-in shortly. Kringstad Electric will rough-in the electrical soon.
3. Pool:
 - i. Bill met with Jon Markensen with KLJ Engineering and the architect on Wednesday, October 1st for the new pool building. They were in the area and wanted a site visit to see the existing building and to look at potential locations for the new building. Braun Intertec was here on Thursday, October 2nd to drill two 30' bore holes on the south side of the pool. The holes will determine construction depths for footings. They did not hit water in either hole. Jon still thinks KLJ will have an estimate and block plan by November 1st.
 - ii. Kristi W. recapped all that was discussed about the Leistikow Park Pool Project at the Foundation meeting held on Wednesday, September 24th. Kristi W. explained that the next steps will be to form a Capital Steering Committee to raise the \$4-5 million needed for the Leistikow Park Pool Project. Kristi W. reported that the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students will help with marketing and theme for the pool project campaign.
4. Arenas:
 - i. Matt reported that during the ice plant start-up, the large brine pump blew the drain plug out causing brine to leak all over the floor. Lunseth and Bill feel that this was caused by last year's problem losing brine and the pump sitting dry for a time created a lot of corrosion around the threads. Lunseth Plumbing tapped a larger hole for a new plug. Dakota Refrigeration found 3 more leaks that caused 200 lbs. of refrigerant to leak out of the system. The fittings were tightened and system was filled with refrigerant. The ice plant vibrates so much that it causes the fittings to loosen. A handheld refrigerant leak detector was purchased so we can periodically check the fittings to stop any leaks right away. Should help save on expensive refrigerant bills.
5. Athletic Fields: (nothing to report)
6. Elmwood: (nothing to report)

C. Business Manager:

- i. Matt notified the board that the Elmwood Appreciation Lunch for the Grafton Park Board Members and Staff is scheduled for Monday, October 13th at Noon at Elmwood.

X. Old Business:

XI. New Business:

XII. Public Comments:

- XIII. Adjournment: Krist asked for adjournment. Darrin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon seconded the motion, motion passed all approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:11 pm.