



Wednesday, March 11th, 2026
Grafton Park Board Room
715 West 5th Street
Grafton, ND 58237
5:15 p.m.

Minutes:

- I. Call to Order by Kristi Olson at 5:16 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
 - D. Media Present: Todd Morgan
- III. Kristi asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. No changes were made to the agenda.
- IV. Kristi asked for approval of the minutes from the February Park Board Meeting held on 02/11/2026 & the March 9th Park Board Meeting. Scott made a motion to approve the minutes from the February & March 9th Park Board Meetings. Seconded by Jon, 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 January bank statement report for the Board's review.
- VII. Reports:
 - A. Recreation Manager
 - i. Gabbi reported that the Skating Show will be March 21st & 22nd this year with the ice plant being turned off on Sunday, March 22nd. Admission will be \$6 for adults, \$3 for students, and free for ages 5 and under.
 - ii. Soccer starts Tuesday, March 31st with practices every Tuesday & Thursday until April 30th.
 - iii. Pool Bingo Fundraiser is tentatively set for Saturday, April 18th. Gabbi asked the Board if there was anything they were aware of that is scheduled for the same day. The Board did not know of any conflicts, but they will let Gabbi know if they find any. Bill called the Grafton Chamber and they did not know of any conflicts either. This year kids under 18 years old will be allowed to attend with adult supervision and will be expected to be quiet while Bingo numbers are being called.
 - iv. Gabbi reported that plenty of graduation parties have been scheduled for the Centennial Center lobby.
 - v. Gabbi has received 8 lifeguard applications for the 2026 pool season. Gabbi is hoping to have 15-18 lifeguards again this year.
 - vi. Gabbi released a survey on Facebook about the Corn Maze. She received 5 responses and all the responses answered that they would like to see a semi-permanent corral for animals for a petting zoo.
 - vii. Gabbi has been contacting area businesses asking if they would like to supply something for a "Welcome Bag" that will be given to campers when they check into the campground. This will give area businesses to try to attract

business from those staying in the campground. Gabbi reported that our campground sees over 300 campers annually. A Leistikow Park Campground sticker will also be included in the bag.

B. Director

1. Parks

- i. Bill reported that the Grafton Beautification Committee has ordered equipment for a Storybook Trail. There will be 4 stations/stories. Each station will have 18 polls that will include a page of the story. The Beautification Committee hopes to have all the equipment delivered by mid-May so the park staff can install the stories by the end of May.
- ii. The Leistikow Park road will remain closed until the spring thaw is done.

2. Campground:

- i. Bill reported that 80% of the insulation has been installed in Cabin 9.
- ii. Parks staff have been receiving calls asking if the campground is open for arrivals. Bill explained that we have been letting callers know that we will start accepting arrivals as early as mid-April. Few have been securing the reservation and are choosing to call back when we are open.

3. Pool:

- i. Bill reported that Kristi Wilfahrt submitted the North Dakota Destination Development Grant on Thursday. Kristi O. shared Kristi Wilfahrt's update with the Board.
- ii. Bill explained that he will not purchase a large order of chemicals for the pool as he has done in the past due to the possibility of the pool not opening this year due to the sinking equipment room floor or the possibility of receiving the Destination Development Grant. There are enough chemicals left over from last year to operate the pool to July.

4. Arenas:

- i. Bill reported that the Centennial Center speakers blew again. Russ Geddes is working on replacing the damaged speakers and has found a few problems that were not fixed earlier. Russ will give Bill and Matt a list of upgrades needed to complete the project this summer.
- ii. Bill has been receiving bids to replace the Co-Ray-Vac heating system. It is estimated to cost \$120,000 to replace the Co-Ray-Vac heating system. Bill is waiting for quotes to install a heating system in the air handling unit for the heat reclaim from Lunseth Plumbing & Heating and Wayne's Heating. The quote from Wayne's Heating showed that it would be the cheaper heating option to install. Bill will present the quotes to the board once he receives Lunseth's quote.

5. Athletic Fields:

- i. Bill reported that he and Matt have a meeting scheduled with Nick Ziegelmann about adding an addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ball Diamond Boosters and the Grafton Park Board to include usage of the Centennial Center. This will allow the Ball Diamond Boosters the ability to start practices earlier and will help the Park Board offset the extra cleaning and utility costs associated with more usage in the Centennial Center.

6. Elmwood: (nothing to report)

C. Business Manager:

- i. Matt reported that he has been in contact with Brian Osowski with AMKO Advisors from Fargo, ND. Brian explained that there are different types of bonds available to the Park Board. General obligation bond would have the lowest interest rate which would be around 3%-3.25% and would have a maximum amount of \$1.2 million available to the Park Board. Matt explained that Brian was able to provide a letter explaining the general obligation bond option available to the Park Board for the Destination Development Grant. Matt calculated the general obligation bond payments to include 3.5% interest for the Destination Development Grant's budget. Brian explained that he will have a bonding package available for the Park Board to review in another 2 weeks. The Grafton Parks & Recreation Foundation and the Pool Project Capital Steering Committee are looking for major gifts/donations to cover the \$1 million Destination Development Grant match, but the Park Board will use the bond option if they are unable to raise enough funds.
- ii. Matt explained that when renewing a CD with Old National Bank he was asked to provide the minutes for the approval of the authorized signatures for financial institutions. Matt found that the last time that was done was over 2 years ago. Matt explained that previously it has been the Business Manager, Director, and the Park Board President. Kristi O. asked for a motion to approve Matt Oppegard (Business Manager), Bill Dahl (Director), and Kristi Olson (Park Board President) as authorized signers for financial institutions. Jon made a motion to approve Matt, Bill, and Kristi O. as authorized signers for financial institutions. Darrin seconded the motion, motion passed all approved.
- iii. There are 3 Park Board seats that are expiring in June. Those running for the Park Board seats will need to pick up a petition from City Hall and have it returned by Monday, April 6th at 4pm.

- X. Old Business:
- XI. New Business:
- XII. Public Comments:
- XIII. Adjournment: Kristi asked for adjournment. Darrin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Scott seconded the motion, motion passed all approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm.