



Wednesday, May 13th, 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, Gabbi Holand
 - D. Media Present: Todd Morgan
 - E. Public Present: Kristi Wilfahrt, Jesse Forester
- III. Kristi asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.
- IV. Kristi asked for approval of the minutes from the April Park Board Meeting held on 04/08/2026. Scott made a motion to approve the minutes from the April Park Board Meeting. Seconded by Jon, the motion passed all approved.
- V. Kristi asked for a motion for the authorization of expenditures as listed. Jon made a motion to approve the expenditures as listed. Seconded by Darrin, the motion passed all approved to pay bills.
- VI. Matt presented the April bank statement report for the Board's review.
- VII. Jesse Forester presented a plan to add shade structures to the Park Board's ballfields. The Ball Diamond Boosters will be applying for the American Academy of Dermatology Association (AADA) Grant with the help from the Grafton Park Board when the next round opens this fall. The grant will fund up to \$8,000 to install shade structures. The top 2 priorities would be to add shade structures at the Complex Fields and 8th Street Diamond Field. The Ball Diamond Boosters already have a Sun & Safety policy in place. They just need to find an AADA Dermatologist that will sponsor the grant application. The Park Board likes the idea of installing shade structures at the ballfields and knows that there is a significant need for shade at all ballfields. Scott made a motion to approve the installation of shade structures by the Ball Diamond Boosters Association at the Grafton Park Board ballfields contingent on receiving the AADA Shade Grant. Jon seconded the motion, motion passed all approved.
- VIII. Reports:
 - A. Recreation Manager
 - i. Gabbi reported that summer programs are filling up. Gabbi added some more room for the older golf groups. Gymnastics camp registrations opened Monday.
 - ii. Gabbi is looking for a coach for the pickleball program that will start in August.
 - iii. Recertification training is this weekend for returning Lifeguards. The 8 new Lifeguards and Water Safety Instructors have training at the end of May. New uniforms should be in next week. Goal is to be ready and open on June 1st.

- iv. Gabbi reported that Carolyn Karr was hired as the Office Assistant/Receptionist. Carolyn should be able to work later in the camping season which will be a huge help. The last few office assistants were school aged and all needed to go back to school at the beginning of August.
- v. Gabbi showed the Park Board the new welcome bags that will be distributed to each camper when they check in.

B. Director

1. Parks

- i. Bill reported that the wind has been slowing the progress on the flower beds. The flower beds need peat moss to be tilled in, but the wind would blow the peat moss away. Bill and Jim will finish working up the flower beds once the wind calms down.
- ii. The Trail Bridge Project will be finalized once the rest of the work is done on the embankments, which should be done next week.

2. Campground:

- i. Bill reported that a sinkhole around site 36 caused the sewer pipe to break at the stem connection to the outgoing pipe. Bill and Todd repaired the sewer pipe connections and back filled the repair site. Bill extended a thank you to the city street department for their help flushing out the sewer line after it was repaired. A lot of gravel got into the broken sewer connection that would have caused issues once the campground gets busier.
- ii. Cabin 9 passed the ND Health Department pre-operational inspection. The deck will be done by the end of next week. The 1st stay is scheduled to arrive on Thursday, June 4th.
- iii. Bill reported that he will order Cabin 10 at the end of May or beginning of June. Bill explained that he would like the cabin to arrive earlier so more work can be done before winter.

3. Pool:

- i. Bill reported that the park staff have been pumping out the pool and cleaning. The wind is blowing in dirt as quickly as it can be cleaned. The park staff will finish cleaning the pool and the pool will be filled next week. Bill explained that every year they must throttle the water flow to the skimmer down to prevent too much air getting into the system causing the pump to lose its prime. One of these years we will not be able to throttle the flow and the pump will not keep its prime. At that point we will not be able to filter water and the pool would close.
- ii. Bill and Kristi Wilfahrt have the Grafton Community Foundation Super Grant Interview tonight at 7pm. Bill invited anyone that would like to join them to the interview.
- iii. Kristi Olson reported that she will be forming a Foundation Fundraising Event Committee. She is looking for people from the community that may not have excess funds to donate to the project, but would be able to give the gift of time that it would take to put on events.
- iv. Kristi Wilfahrt updated the Park Board on the Pool Project. The Pool and Campground Project was not selected for the Destination Development Grant. Kristi W. shared that the Grafton Economic Development Committee (EDC) agreed to \$250,000 in funding for the Leistikow Park Pool Project. The funding is a 4 to 1 matching grant. With each \$100,000 raised, the Grafton EDC will donate \$25,000 annually for 10 years starting this year. The Grafton EDC also agreed to fund \$25,000 this year to help get more funds up front to help cover engineering costs, which are estimated to cost \$375,000. Kristi W. is working on a lead partner and securing community support.

4. Arenas:

- i. Bill reported that he is still waiting for a new Co-Ray-Vac system quote from Wayne's Heating.
- ii. The Zamboni is being serviced at Hill's Equipment. The Zamboni has been running rough all year and needs a tune-up.

5. Athletic Fields:

- i. Bill reported that all the neighbor's trailers and campers have been moved off the 8th Street Ballfield's property and a fence that was in the way of the alley road has also been removed. Bill will order more gravel in to widen the alleyway and talk to Cory about the street department maintaining the alley moving forward. Bill explained that the school bus uses that alleyway everyday that it can until the snow gets too deep then they must try to turn around at the 8th Street dead-end.
- ii. Bill is aiming at having the Complex south field scoreboard that the Ball Diamond Boosters Association purchased installed and working by early June, so it is ready for their 1st games.
- iii. Bill and Todd cut out overgrown sod on both of Chandler's fields. Todd will be working on the 90' field's mound in the next week. A new pitcher's plate has been ordered for that field.

6. Elmwood:

- i. The Historic Elmwood board will have the flooring replaced in the kitchen and entry way the week of May 18th.
- ii. Paul Holland started the prep-work on the new patio on the east side of the Elmwood house. The concrete is scheduled to be poured next Wednesday. The patio is paid for thanks to a grant received from the Grafton Community Foundation Annual Grant. The next phase will be to install a shelter over the patio.

C. Business Manager:

- i. Matt shared a year-to-date profit/loss report with the Park Board. Revenue is up from this time last year and expenses are slightly down. Overall, the Park Board is in good shape heading into the summer.
- ii. There are 3 Park Board seats up for re-election. Remember to vote on June 9th.

X. Old Business:

XI. New Business:

XII. Public Comments:

XIII. Adjournment: Kristi asked for adjournment. Darrin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon seconded the motion, motion passed all approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm.