

CITY OF SUNBURY
EASTERN DELAWARE COUNTY JOINT RECREATION DISTRICT
May 1, 2025

Call to Order

Halli Watson called the Eastern Delaware County Joint Recreation District meeting to order on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Sunbury Council Chambers.

Ms. Watson then officially swore in Maria Sobota to the Eastern Delaware County Joint Recreation District Board of Trustees.

Roll Call

Those answering roll included Mr. Greg Elliott, Ms. Jody Grieger, Mr. Bernard Kooi, Mr. Todd Musacchio, Ms. Halli Watson, and Ms. Maria Sobota. Others in attendance included Sunbury City Administrator Daryl Hennessy and Mike Ringle from the law firm of Bricker Graydon.

Visitors

There were no visitors who wished to speak to the Board.

Minutes

Motion by Ms. Grieger to approve the minutes with corrections, seconded by Ms. Sobota. Upon roll, all yeas. Minutes passed.

Old Business

Efforts are underway to acquire insurance for the Board. Mr. Ringle advised the Board that it is eligible for insurance under the Ohio Plan. He will forward the application to the Chair and Treasurer to complete and submit for a quote.

Mr. Elliott reviewed his efforts to establish First Commonwealth Banks as the public depository for Board funds and introduce Resolution Number 2025-07. Mr. Ringle noted that an EIN has been established, and the team is currently waiting for the full account setup to be finalized.

Motion by Mr. Elliott to approve Resolution 2025-07, A Resolution Designating First Commonwealth Bank a Public Depository of the Public Moneys of the Eastern Delaware County Joint Recreation District. The motion was seconded by Ms. Grieger and upon roll, all yeas.

New Business

Mr. Ringle went over the conditions for Board operations, stating that public participation must be allowed, and that certain actions, such as tax levies and major hiring decisions, must be conducted during in-person meetings. While the Board prefers to meet in person by default, virtual meetings are permitted when appropriate for added flexibility.

Motion by Mr. Elliott to approve Resolution 2025-08, A Resolution Adopting a Virtual Meeting Policy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kooi and upon roll, all yeas.

Ms. Watson provided a recap of a meeting with YMCA leadership and Mr. Elliott, where Garry Linn, Chief Operation Officer of the Central Ohio YMCA, discussed the organization's experience with public-private recreation projects. Meeting participants also discussed the need to conduct a market analysis and needs assessment and the potential costs for such services in the private market. Additional funds from

participating JRD jurisdictions will likely be needed to complete this work. Additionally, the YMCA recommended securing at minimum at least 8–10 acres of land, with larger sites preferred for more comprehensive facilities. The Board and City staff discussed preparations for the upcoming YMCA presentation and scheduled tours of the Reynoldsburg YMCA, with several members attending on May 7 and 8. Additional spots remain available for others. Members are also encouraged to tour a variety of recreation facilities such as those in Westerville, New Albany, Powell, and Delaware to help guide future decisions on design, partnerships, and funding strategies.

Mr. Ringle provided an overview of a sample Procurement Policy from another Joint Recreation District. The draft policy proposes spending thresholds that will need to be adapted to align with the current resources of this Board and discussed at a future meeting.

Mr. Kooi asked about the previous Joint Recreation District formed in 2006 and what lessons could be learned from that experience. Mr. Hennessy shared that he plans to hold virtual meetings with two former board members, Mr. Forman and Ms. Brehm to discuss what went well, what didn't, and the reasons the previous effort was ultimately unsuccessful.

Adjournment

There being no further business for the Board, Ms. Watson moved to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by **Mr. Kooi**. The motion was approved 6-0.