

PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 6, 2026

ATTENDEES

Vice-Chairman Dustin Elkins called the meeting of the Stark County Park Board to order at 8:00 AM (MT). Paul Clarys, Dean Franchuk, Bernie Marsh, Neal Messer, Cory White, and Dustin Elkins were present. Chairman Courtney Presthus was absent. State's Attorney Amanda Engelstad was also present.

RATIFY AGENDA

Vice-Chairman Dustin Elkins called for the approval of the agenda. Bernie Marsh added DSU Rodeo Tractor Rental Discussion.

Neal Messer made a MOTION to approve the agenda as amended. Paul Clarys SECONDED. All voted Aye, motion carries.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Vice-Chairman Dustin Elkins called for the approval of the minutes from the December 2, 2025, meeting.

Cory White made a MOTION to approve the minutes as presented. Neal Messer SECONDED. All voted Aye, motion carries.

BILLS TO PAY

Vice-Chairman Dustin Elkins presented 2710.4620.000 Special Project Fund bills for \$237,400.83.

Neal Messer made a MOTION to approve, Dean Franchuk SECONDED. Roll call vote. All voted Aye, motion carries.

UPDATED FAIRGROUNDS EVENTS CALENDAR

Bailey Elkins provided an update on the Fairgrounds Events Calendar. She has been contacting previous event hosts to schedule their 2026 events. Bernie Marsh states that the Bakken BBQ has agreed to move its event to the Stark County Fairgrounds; however, Home on the Range has first right of refusal for the same weekend. The Park Board suggests the two events coincide. Bailey will contact the two parties to discuss.

EVENT COORDINATOR POSITION PROPOSAL/DISCUSSION

The Park Board members provided their opinions on how the position should be filled. Neal Messer suggests that Chairman Courtney Presthus and Portfolio Holder Bernie Marsh meet with Bailey to discuss the position.

SW SPEEDWAY REPAIRS

Cory White presented the project proposals that he has received for the SW Speedway repairs. The commissioners decided to put out an advertisement for bids on the repairs.

Dean Franchuk made a MOTION to put the Speedway Repair Project out for bid. Paul Clarys SECONDED. Roll call vote. All voted Aye, motion carries.

COUNTY FAIR RESILIENCY GRANT

Vice-Chairman Elkins reminded the commission of the \$100,000 County Fair Resiliency Grant, which has been committed to the livestock building project at the fairgrounds.

DSU RODEO TRACTOR RENTAL DISCUSSION

The DSU Rodeo Team has requested to borrow Stark County's tractor and groomer to maintain their arena.

Bernie Marsh made a MOTION to approve, Neal Messer SECONDED. All voted Aye, motion carries.

Neal Messer made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Cory White SECONDED. All voted Aye, motion carries.



Courtney Presthus, Chairman



Karen Richard, Auditor