

**GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT**  
**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF**  
**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
May 4, 2026

The MEETING took place at the Swim & Racquet Center and was live-streamed via Zoom for viewing & listening. Chair Rollins called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Craig F. Ehrnst *arrived at 5:41 p.m.*  
Steven M. Engel  
Robert K. Rollins, Jr.  
Susan Vogelgesang  
Erin Wright

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**

**PUBLIC REQUESTS:**

*Cil Ciliberti* opposed the Second Avenue location for the Boys and Girls Club, citing traffic, neighborhood impact, and overdevelopment concerns. He suggested alternative locations and urged finding a more suitable site.

*Dan Lundy* supported developing North Park as a state park, stating that it would beautify the area and benefit the community.

*Al Travasos* supported the installation of a cell phone tower, emphasizing safety, improved emergency communication, no cost to the District, and additional revenue.

*Greg Ryan* strongly supported the skate park and emphasized community trust, skaters' input in the design, and minimal restrictions.

*Evan Bennett* supported moving forward with a new skate park, noting the current facility is outdated and limited. He highlighted North Park as an appropriate site for recreational use.

*James Richardson*, representing Boca Teeca Presidents Council, opposed the skate park and additional active uses, citing noise, traffic, and conflict with the park's original "passive" intent. He requested community involvement in future planning.

*Asher Caponera* supported skate parks as safe, social spaces for kids to have fun and build friendships.

*Liz Snoap* supported North Park plans, emphasizing the importance of active outdoor spaces for children and families, as well as the value of public parks.

*Lucy Piero* supported the skate park, highlighting its benefits for youth and families. She noted it is not excessively noisy and suggested reasonable rules to balance community needs.

*Todd Adel* thanked the District for approving the skate park project and urged continued progress on the project. He said the current facility is outdated and that a new skate park would provide a safe, local place for skaters.

*Joel Lavintman* opposed the proposed skatepark near his neighborhood, citing concerns about nuisance, construction impacts, and changes to the character of the passive green space.

*David Bamdas* supported the skate park and described skateboarding as a positive, peaceful, confidence-building activity. He said the existing skate park has helped build strong relationships and community.

*Eileen Hubbard* opposed the skate park location, citing impacts to wildlife, green space, and the nearby creek. She said the skate park is a good idea, but it should be placed elsewhere.

*Kris Roberts* supported the skate park, saying skate communities enriched other cities where he has lived. He encouraged Boca Raton to embrace a youthful, modern recreational spirit.

*MaryAlice Kindred* supported the skate park and emphasized the need for safe places for children and teens to gather, exercise, and build relationships. She asked the Board to consider the youth demographic.

*Jennifer Yu* supported the idea of a skate park but opposed placing it near residential buildings. She suggested considering another location.

*Briana Kish* supported the skate park as a needed space for teenagers and individual sports. She said it would help youth stay active, off devices, and safely connected with others.

*Robert DuKate* opposed the skate park in a residential area and asked the Board to reconsider the location. He expressed concerns about the timing, the lack of notice to Boca Teeca residents, and the coordination with the City.

*Alexandria A.* supported skating but opposed rushing the project at the proposed location. She suggested waiting for the City's master plan and considering alternative locations.

*Hillary Keyes* requested more time and information before a decision is made. She asked for information on environmental and traffic impacts and clarification on public access.

*Andrew Lundy* supported the skate park and emphasized that North Park is public land, not private neighborhood property. He said Boca Raton should serve residents of all ages and life stages.

*Maria Mitchell* requested more information about the proposed skate park, especially its use by BMX bikes and how it would be operated.

*Earl Starkoff* urged a measured and balanced approach to North Park development. He suggested coordinating east- and west-side park uses and preserving flexibility before making additional commitments.

*Marissa Caponera* supported moving forward with the skate park and asked the Board to honor its prior vote. She described the skate community as supportive and said children have been advocating for the project for a long time.

*Dr. Shawn Stanton* supported the skate park and said skateboarding helped him build resilience and confidence. He encouraged residents to view the project as a positive, modest change.

*Rachel Bennett* supported the skate park, stating that the current Tim Huxhold Skate Park is outdated and restrictive. She said a new park would be safer, more inclusive, and beneficial physically, mentally, and socially.

*Jaclyn Anslow* opposed the proposed location, citing scale, traffic, lighting, noise, parking, cost, and environmental concerns.

*Miles Adel* supported the skate park and said community feedback has shown strong demand for it. He urged the Board not to wait and to move forward.

*Charlie Stan* supported adding a skate park, saying it would make his family happy and provide a place to skate.

*Ryan Droze* supported the skate park and said parks should be accessible within residential areas. He compared the noise from the skate park to that of other common park activities and said it would benefit the community.

*Briana Hagquist* urged the Board to pause and consider wildlife and environmental impacts before proceeding with construction. She requested environmental studies and greater care for green space and habitat.

*Diego* supported the skate park, citing his experience running an action sports complex. He said Boca Raton needs a well-built park for skaters similar to facilities in other cities.

*Florence Landau* opposed the skate park behind residential buildings. She said residents support a park but believe the skate park should be located elsewhere.

*Michael Schneider* opposed the skate park in a residential area and suggested Spanish River Park as a better location. He favored walking trails, golf, and community center uses for North Park.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:**

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Vogelgesang and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 20, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

**REGULAR BUSINESS:**

**1. Skate Park Contract with American Ramp**

The Board considered approval of an agreement with American Ramp Company for the construction of a skate park and pump track at North Park under a Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contract for approximately \$3 million. Staff provided an overview of the project, noting that the skate park represents a small portion of the overall 212-acre park, which will largely consist of green space, trails, and over 1,000 newly planted trees. The project follows extensive public input, including six public meetings and design charrettes, and responds to community demand. American Ramp, a specialized contractor with significant experience in skate park construction, reduced its proposed cost by 5% and agreed to include as-built drawings. Board members discussed environmental considerations, confirming that prior studies found no protected species on site and that soil remediation and regulatory oversight will occur during development. Commissioners expressed strong support, emphasizing the project's recreational value, responsible planning, and benefits to the community, including providing a safe, dedicated space for skateboarding and related activities.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve the agreement with American Ramp Company for the construction of the North Park skate park and pump track under the Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contract, with construction to proceed only upon completion of all required permitting and City approvals.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

## **2. Cell Tower RFP Discussion**

The Board discussed the Wireless Communication Facilities RFP, which had been under consideration for approximately two years. Executive Director Harms reported that the District received one proposal in response to the RFP from Hahn Towers, Inc. for Sugar Sand Park. The Board reviewed several available options, including proceeding with ranking the proposal, requesting a presentation from the proposer prior to ranking, accepting the proposal and authorizing negotiations, rejecting the proposal, reissuing the RFP, or deferring action.

Mr. Goren, District General Counsel, clarified that despite receiving only one proposal, the Board could legally proceed to rank it or accept it directly. Discussion included concerns regarding access, infrastructure requirements, and coordination with the City. Staff clarified that the District's role would primarily involve providing an easement agreement rather than construction services.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to accept the proposal from Hahn Towers, Inc., authorize Executive Director Harms to negotiate the terms of the agreement with General Counsel, and return to the Board for approval of the final contract.

### **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

### **APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND INVOICES:**

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the payroll and invoices as presented, totaling \$92,264.01.

### **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

## **REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Executive Director:**

#### **North Park Project – Bid Schedule Update**

The North Park project has been rebid. While bids were originally expected at the end of May, the due date has been extended to June 5 at 11:00 a.m. to comply with advertising requirements. A public bid opening will take place in the Boardroom.

#### **DeHoernle Park Agreement – City Feedback**

Staff has received comments from the City regarding the DeHoernle Park agreement. This will be reviewed with legal counsel this week.

#### **Audit Services Agreement – Grau & Associates**

Following the Board's unanimous decision to extend the agreement with Grau & Associates for one year, discussions have taken place with Mr. Tony Grau. The firm will incorporate additional services to properly account for Boca Paddle revenue that the District will receive.

#### **FAU Soccer Fields**

Executive Director Harms reported that she and Chair Rollins met with representatives from Florida Atlantic University to discuss ongoing field-condition concerns. FAU is working to

address the issues. Additionally, the discussion highlighted the need for the District to begin planning for future soccer field locations as existing agreements near expiration, and FAU will need those fields for their growing needs on campus.

**District Counsel:**

Mr. Goren provided an update on ongoing State legislative discussions regarding ad valorem taxes and noted that no final decisions or related legislation have been adopted to date. He referenced House Bill 1329, which concerns additional local government budget disclosure requirements. He advised the Board that his office will continue to monitor legislative activity and provide updates as information becomes available.

**Commissioners:**

*Commissioner Wright* thanked the public for supporting the North Park skatepark project and expressed confidence that the completed park and surrounding improvements would be a valuable community amenity. She encouraged residents to trust the process and emphasized that the Board’s focus remains on serving the community.

*Commissioner Vogelgesang* reported attending the City Manager’s forum at the downtown library, noting strong public attendance and discussion regarding parks and recreational amenities. She stated that the City appears willing to cooperate with the District on community needs and projects.

*Commissioner Engel* commented on the amount of misinformation circulating on social media regarding District projects and operations. He encouraged residents to contact the District directly with questions to ensure they receive accurate information before forming opinions on issues.


*Commissioner Rollins* reported on the recent meeting with FAU representatives regarding deteriorating field conditions at the soccer fields. He stated the District expressed serious concerns about the maintenance of the fields and noted that games had been relocated to allow FAU to begin restoration efforts sooner. He emphasized the need to continue advancing Phase II field-development discussions with the City and suggested considering turf fields in the future, given the high level of usage. He also requested updates on the City’s plans for its golf course property.

Chair Rollins requested that the Executive Director evaluate current usage of the baseball fields at Patch Reef Park and assess the feasibility and cost of temporarily reconfiguring them to support a softball hub. The evaluation should include impacts to existing users, operational considerations, and any related recommendations.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

  
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Robert K. Rollins, Jr. Chair

  
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Craig F. Ehrnst Secretary-Treasurer