GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 6, 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
Steven M. Engel
Robert K. Rollins, Jr.
Susan Vogelgesang
Erin Wright

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Executive Director Harms requested that the Tentative Millage Rate Discussion be removed from the agenda due to updated information received from the City and the Property Appraiser. By Board consensus, the Tentative Millage Rate Discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Briana Hagquist addressed the Board regarding the importance of parks, wildlife, and green space, and encouraged awareness of gopher tortoises during hatching season. She also expressed support for the proposed media policy, additional cameras at Sugar Sand Park, and the District's efforts regarding the millage rate.

Marci Schatzman, Boca Raton Tribune, commented on the proposed media policy and offered to speak with the Board regarding how the media operates before adoption of any related policy.

Albert Cacace commented that no single board member should speak for the entire body unless authorized to do so. He also supported the proposed security cameras and raised questions regarding public records, system costs, vendor management, cybersecurity, and related safeguards.

Michael J. Schneider submitted Condo Six's resolution opposing the skate park and Boys & Girls Club at the proposed corner location, stating that residents preferred Spanish River 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 June 22, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Sugar Sand Park Security

Executive Director Harms reviewed the proposed agreement with ER Tech Systems Group, Inc. for additional security cameras at Sugar Sand Park. She explained that the cameras are part of the District's ongoing initiative to enhance security throughout District parks, and that existing cameras and license plate readers are integrated with and monitored by the City of Boca Raton Police Department. She stated that the District does not have access to the cameras, that approved Boca Raton Police Department employees handle monitoring and exports, that footage has a 60-day retention period unless retained for an investigation, and that the Boca Raton Police Department and administration review public records requests.

Ms. Harms stated that the additional cameras would provide more coverage around the playground, a high-traffic area. She noted that page 14 of the contract should be corrected to reflect the vendor's name as ER Tech Systems Group, Inc., rather than ER Technicians Group, Inc.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to approve the agreement with ER Tech Systems Group, Inc., in the amount of $65,398.49 for the Sugar Sand Park playground security camera expansion, subject to correction of the vendor's name in the contract.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

2. Media Policy

The Board discussed the proposed Media and Communications Policy. Mr. Jacob Horowitz, District Counsel, advised that the proposed policy was intended to provide a framework for communications with the media, the public, and social media, while preserving each Commissioner's ability to express personal views. He explained that the Board may designate an official spokesperson for District matters, but individual Commissioners may continue to speak in their personal capacity, so long as they do not represent their views as the District's official position unless authorized by the Board.

Discussion ensued regarding the purpose, timing, scope, and tone of the proposed policy, including the distinction between personal opinions and official District positions, the designation of a point of contact for District communications, and the proposed censure provision. Commissioners expressed differing views regarding whether the policy was necessary as drafted or should be revised. By consensus, the Board directed Executive Director Harms and District Counsel to bring back a modified version of the policy for further consideration. No formal action was taken.

3. Tentative Millage Rate- Item was deferred.

4. Set First Public Hearing on Budget & Taxes for FY26-27

Executive Director Harms reviewed the statutory scheduling requirements for the District's public budget and tax hearings, including restrictions on scheduling hearings at the same time as the County Commission or School Board and the impact of Labor Day and religious holidays on the September meeting schedule. Discussion ensued regarding the dates for the first public hearing and the District's September regular meeting schedule.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to hold the first public hearing on Budget and Taxes for FY 2026-2027 on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to amend the District's meeting calendar to move the regular meeting scheduled for September 22, 2026, at 5:15 p.m. to September 28, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.

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 $253,856.51.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Executive Director:

Pro Shop Renovation Layout

A presentation on the proposed pro shop renovation layout is expected at the next Board meeting.

North Park Groundbreaking Ceremony

The Board tentatively identified August 6, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. for the North Park groundbreaking ceremony, subject to confirmation with Butters Construction.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Wright asked whether the City had scheduled the proposed skate park for consideration. Executive Director Harms advised that the project is expected to be presented at the City Council workshop on July 27, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. as an informational item and not for a vote.

Commissioner Vogelgesang requested an update on DeHoernle Phase 2 and the FAU fields. Executive Director Harms advised that City Attorney comments are pending on the DeHoernle agreement and that FAU field improvements have started, although not on the originally anticipated timeline.

Commissioner Ehrnst requested the prior three years of operating expenses and staffing levels by major park in preparation for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget discussions. He also commented on the importance of carefully reviewing major projects, operating costs, and the District's capital improvement plan.

Commissioner Engel commented on golf-related planning for the west side of North Park and stated that any future golf-related plans should depend on the City's plans for Boca Country Club. He emphasized the importance of working with the City and maintaining transparency.

Chair Rollins clarified that he has not discussed District projects with City Council members and that prior conversations with the City Manager were general in nature and for information gathering. He stated that the District is not waiting on the City regarding the west side of North Park.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Robert K. Rollins, Jr. Chair

Docusigned by:
Craig Ehrnst
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Craig F. Ehrnst Secretary-Treasurer

GBRB&PD Minutes: July 6, 2026