

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
June 22, 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

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Cil Ciliberti expressed support for the recommended developer for North Park Phase I. He commented favorably on the quality and design of the Boca Paddle facility and stated that he believed the development would serve as an anchor for North Park. He encouraged maintaining significant green space and landscaping, and expressed hope that the project would enhance the area's overall character.

Al Travasos, representing the Via Verde Homeowners Association, addressed the proposed cell service improvements. He questioned why the proposed improvements appeared to focus on Sugar Sand Park rather than on nearby residential communities experiencing poor cellular service, including Paradise Palms, Coach Houses, Wimbledon Villas, and St. Andrews Estates.

Mickey Gomez advised the Board that he had recently been appointed to the City of Boca Raton Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. He stated that he looked forward to working collaboratively to continue improving park and recreation services for residents.

Briana Hanquist addressed previous comments regarding the proposed cellular tower at Sugar Sand Park. She reiterated her concerns regarding impacts to gopher tortoises and protected habitat areas. She also expressed support for exploring alternative methods to improve cellular service and invited the public to follow wildlife-related updates on the Save Sugar Sand Park social media page.

Art Turpel thanked the Board and staff for continuing discussions with the City regarding Phase II of Spanish River Athletic Park. He emphasized the growing demand for athletic fields due to increased participation in soccer, lacrosse, rugby, tackle football, and flag football. He encouraged consideration of artificial-turf fields to accommodate increased usage.

Michael Schneider stated that several condominium associations had adopted resolutions opposing the construction of the Boys & Girls Club and skate park at North Park. He advocated preserving additional green space and suggested alternative locations for those facilities.

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 1, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Swim & Racquet Center -Tennis Lighting Project Award

Staff recommended awarding the Swim & Racquet Center Tennis Lighting Project – Phase II contract to Fast-Dry Courts in the amount of \$431,000. Phase II will complete LED lighting improvements for the remaining six tennis courts. Ms. Harms stated that \$600,000 was included in the current year’s budget for the project. She explained that the Swim & Racquet Center is the busiest tennis facility in the City’s inventory and that lighting the remaining courts will expand evening play availability.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Vogelgesang and seconded by Commissioner Engel to award the contract for the Swim & Racquet Center Tennis Lighting Project – Phase II to Fast-Dry Courts in the amount of \$431,000, as presented.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

2. North Park Phase 1 Award

Executive Director Harms presented the recommendation to award the Phase I development contract for North Park and clarified that the project applies to the east side of North Park, not the west side.

The scope of work includes extensive trails, more than 1,000 trees, restroom buildings, picnic areas, playground improvements, fitness equipment, a dog park, a maintenance building, parking lots, drainage, water, utilities, electrical infrastructure, fencing, signage, improvements to the 67th corridor, green space restoration, and soil mitigation. The project also includes significant underground infrastructure, as the site currently lacks the lighting and utility systems needed to support the park improvements.

To provide context regarding current construction costs and acreage, the proposed cost was compared to other park projects, including Wildflower Park, El Rio South, and DeHoernle Park. Butters Construction & Development submitted the lowest bid, and staff reviewed the bid for responsiveness and responsibility. Staff recommended awarding the project to Butters Construction & Development in the amount of \$19,741,054.81.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to award the North Park Phase 1 construction contract to Butters Construction & Development, Inc. in the amount of \$19,741,054.81 as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

3. Cell Service Improvements at Sugar Sand Park

Staff presented a recommendation to approve cellular service improvements at Sugar Sand Park in response to long-standing concerns regarding poor cellular reception, particularly in the Community Center and Field House. After reviewing alternatives to a traditional telecommunications tower, staff recommended installing a Distributed Antenna System (DAS) and signal amplification equipment. Three proposals were reviewed, and Sinewave ECDL LLC submitted the recommended turnkey proposal in the amount of \$32,000.

The project is expected to improve cellular voice and data service for major carriers and enhance communications for park patrons, staff, vendors, contractors, and emergency responders. Staff advised that newer telecommunications technology may provide alternatives to a traditional tower, including smaller systems mounted on buildings or other infrastructure.

Commissioner Rollins raised concerns regarding the certificate of insurance submitted with the proposal and stated that the District should be named as an additional insured, with waivers of subrogation provided for general liability and workers' compensation coverage. District Counsel advised that the Board could approve the item subject to receipt of insurance documentation acceptable to the District.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Ehrnst to approve the agreement with Sinewave in the amount of \$32,000, subject to receipt of amended insurance documentation acceptable to the District.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Following approval of the alternative cellular service improvement project, Commissioner Ehrnst stated that the Board should defer further negotiations and consideration of the proposed telecommunications tower easement at Sugar Sand Park. He explained that the District should first evaluate whether the newly approved alternative cellular service measures improve service within the park before continuing with the tower easement process.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Wright to defer further negotiations and consideration of the proposed telecommunications tower easement at Sugar Sand Park pending evaluation of alternative cellular service improvement measures.

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 \$ \$2,674,408.80.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Executive Director:

Community Accessibility Programs Launch at Swim Center

The Community Accessibility Programs (CAP) recently launched programming at the Swim Center and will eventually transition operations to the new CAP Center at Patch Reef Park once renovations are complete. The Executive Director volunteered at the first Game Night event and reported a positive experience, with participants and parents expressing excitement and appreciation for the expansion of accessible recreational opportunities in Boca Raton.

CAP Center Renovations Continue at Patch Reef Park

Renovations of the future CAP Center at Patch Reef Park continue to make steady progress. Installation of the loop hearing system previously approved by the Board is scheduled for July, followed by flooring installation. New lighting and painting have been completed, and restroom improvements, including tile work, are underway as the project nears completion.

Fiscal Year Budget Review Underway

Budget books have been distributed, and the annual budget review process has begun. The Executive Director will provide Board members with review notes and schedule individual meetings to discuss the City's budget requests. Additional clarification is being sought on the potential financial impacts of organizational changes, including the transfer of Ocean Rescue services to Fire Rescue and Park Rangers to Police Services, as these transitions may increase overhead costs.

District Counsel:

Mr. Horowitz provided an update regarding the proposed property tax and homestead reform measure scheduled for the November ballot. He advised that a complaint for declaratory relief was filed in Leon County on June 11, 2026, challenging the ballot language as misleading and seeking a determination that the measure is unconstitutional. A copy of the complaint was forwarded to the Board last week, and counsel will continue to monitor the litigation.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Vogelgesang complimented the recent floor improvements at the Swim & Racquet Center and requested an update on the progress of the Patch Reef Park Pro Shop renovation project. Executive Director Harms advised that conceptual design work is underway and that staff hopes to present a layout and cost analysis during July or August.

Commissioner Ehrnst discussed potential impacts associated with proposed property tax reforms and encouraged continued collaboration with the City to maintain affordable access to recreational amenities. He also expressed support for revisiting restrictions regarding dogs in parks.

Commissioner Engel congratulated Commissioner Vogelgesang on her re-election, extended condolences regarding the passing of her father-in-law, and wished Executive Director Harms a happy upcoming birthday.

Chairman Rollins expressed appreciation that the North Park project was moving forward and voiced confidence in the selected contractor's ability to complete the work successfully.

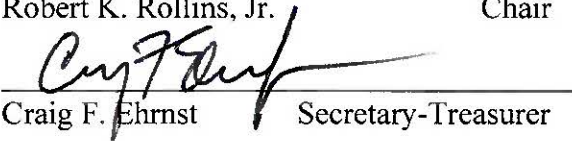
ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED



Robert K. Rollins, Jr. Chair



Craig F. Ehrnst Secretary-Treasurer