

The Parks and Recreation District 3 met in a regular meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the North Park Multipurpose Recreation Facility located at 30372 Eden Church Road in Denham Springs, La.

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman, Julie Dyason-Norris, noting that any public may comment on any agenda item or resolution during discussion period for that item.

Present- J.Dyason-Norris, S.Elliott, Ray Riley Jr., R.Juneau, K.Anderson, T.Ferris

Absent-Andrea Bell

Management Employees of the District

Public- none

Daniel Landry, L M Lockhart Advisory Committee

Prayer was led by Administrative Secretary and the pledge was given.

There were no public comments.

Motion to adopt the minutes of the 4-14-24 meeting with wording changes on page 3 as presented with no public comment by S. Elliott seconded by T. Ferris Vote passed Yeas- J.Dyason-Norris, S.Elliott, K. Anderson, R. Juneau. T.Ferris Nays-none Absent-Andrea Bell Not voting- Ray Riley Jr.

Ray Riley Jr. arrived at the meeting.

A financial report was presented for the April period of operations and budget line item comparisons for the year were noted by the Administrative Treasurer.

Motion to approve the financial report as presented with no public comment by S. Elliott seconded by K.Anderson Vote passed Yeas- J.Dyason-Norris, S.Elliott, R. Riley Jr., R.Juneau, K.Anderson, T. Ferris Nays-none Absent-Andrea Bell

Superintendent shared an update on improvement projects performed.

- *He reported that the tree removal project is about 75% complete.

- *He noted that the security camera has not arrived for the South Park installation.

- *He reported that the Lighting Project installation at North Park will begin in about three or four weeks.

- *He stated that 4 Air units have been installed at L M Lockhart with three operational and the final unit to be operational very soon.

- *He stated that the playground project will begin at North Park soon.

- *He reported that the older shed structure was removed near the lighting project site with the assistance of Gravity Drainage District 1 and that they assisted with the culvert replacement at the South Park entrance.

- *He noted that a slide has been replaced successfully at South Park.

- *He reported on the receipt of the final check from the Act 277 grant in May and that approximately \$13,000 remains (for final retainage when project is completed).

- *Superintendent reported on comments from a vendor regarding potential costs for the tack overlay project being considered. Official quotes will be received.

- *He noted that securing quotes for the surface overlay on 8 of the tennis courts for potential outdoor pickle ball court play was estimated at \$199,962.

Superintendent presented an overall sports program cost analysis for 2024 for board's knowledge on operations. Board discussed the details of each sport and board members commented that participation at the District reveals a value pricing for play by the public. Tom Ferris made comments on the public participation in leagues and expressed his hope that improvement on rules and communication with parents. Chairman explained comments from recent surveys from parents and participants in various sports. Board discussed at length the communication potential by using current software in the near future for timely responses on questions, etc.

Superintendent presented an expense analysis on the L M Lockhart park for 2024. Board discussed the results.

He also noted that a town hall meeting will be held at 1pm at North Park center for public questions or comments. He invited board members to attend and stated that another meeting will be scheduled on 6-10-25 at 7 pm. These discussion sessions will help to educate the public and establish time line of actions for 2025.

He also stated that the Cajun Country Jam event will be held at the end of May at North Park and that he will be out one week in May for his vacation.

Director, John Arbor, reported that registration for flag football has opened and that the 2025 baseball season began.

*He stated that the spring adult soccer is in progress.

*He reported that the Pards Soccer Club issued more invitations to participants and so far the club will have 13 younger age teams, with the older ages to follow for this fall (tryouts will be held at the end of May for the fall season. He also noted that the PSC boys and girls have played in various open tournaments this year and have established a top program image as seen by other area competitive groups.

*He made comments on the lighting project that begins in a few weeks.

Superintendent gave an Aquatics Director report noting that preparation has been made for the opening of the water park for the 2025 season.

Paige Frederick gave a Fitness report stating that a recent promotion resulted in 50 newcomers visiting the facility. She also noted that a free member pickle ball tournament was held and well attended (60 participants). She also stated that a member social event was well attended by over 50 members recently. She noted that a public open pickle ball tournament is being planned for in September.

Board discussed the potential of eventually hosting an outdoor pickle ball tournament in the future when the tennis courts are refurbished.

Stephanie Morris gave The Pines report noting activity on the course is strong. She stated that scramble events have been well attended (530 logged thus far) and that 82 participated in the glow ball play. She stated that registrations for various events are full for glow ball and scramble events. She noted that maintenance is working hard and that all greens are in great shape.

Rod Vulgamore reported on fantastic disc golf public participation this past month. He also noted that pickle ball interest on the refurbished court remains busy, and that various trees that were planted are growing and looking good.

Under the L M Lockhart Advisory Committee report, Daniel Landry stated the committee is well pleased with the air unit installations and stated that preparation for the 2025 Camp Empowerment sessions at the L M Lockhart Park is underway.

He requested that Camp Empowerment have full use of the gym in order to not be forced to move all supplies each Friday afternoon for the weekend. This would protect the food and regular supplies from public access. Superintendent responded on the current policy at all park sites whereby District programs must move their material at the end of each day due to potential use by the public for these spaces. Board discussed the policy reasoning and rental use.

Daniel Landry requested to reserve the L M Lockhart area a year in advance for Camp Empowerment use only as a first right benefit before others can rent the area.

Board discussed use by the public and how various other parties do wish to use facilities. Superintendent noted that these rentals are growing in number which allows funds to be raised to support L M Lockhart Park maintenance.

Daniel Landry requested board to vote on rescinding the current policy of allowing renters to use the facility during Camp Empowerment reservation. Board took no action.

Chairman recommended to meet with Camp Empowerment representatives to coordinate needs regarding security of supplies (locked areas available). Board members noted the need to work through the policy that currently is being followed on all campuses.

Ray Riley Jr. stated that Camp Empowerment routinely reserves space during the summer from Monday through Thursday, but also needs access on Friday during the reserved session weeks.

There were no further committee reports.

There was no further Chairman comments.

Under old business, a copy of the 2010 Master Plan was presented to all board members and the Chairman covered the historical items for board information.

Motion to adjourn the meeting with no public comment by K.Anderson seconded by R.Juneau Vote passed Yeas- J.Dyason-Norris, R.Juneau, S.Elliott, R.Riley Jr., K.Anderson, T. Ferris Nays -none Absent-Andrea Bell



Randall Smith Administrative Treasurer

Next meeting will be held at 5:30 PM on Monday, June 9, 2025