

**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**MARCH 24, 2026**

**THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON  
APRIL 28, 2026**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting held March 24, 2026 at the Excelsior Springs Community Center was called to order by President Patrick Halfhill at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken with seven board members present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President - Patrick Halfhill, Secretary - Kyle Uptegrove; Brandon Block; Sherri Branson-Hurt; Greg Broadbent; Terri Irons, Cindy Spellman

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mark Bullimore, Zac Wilkins

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:** Reggie St. John

**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON:**

**VISITORS:** none

**STAFF PRESENT:** Nate Williams – Director; Drake Pollard – Assistant Director - Recreation/Programs; Taran Svoboda – Assistant Director - Administration; Chad Clevenger – Manager - Parks and Open Spaces; Janet Morehead – Administrative Assistant; Alexis Blankenship – Recreation Coordinator

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Terri Irons seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Terri Irons, Cindy Spellman, Kyle Uptegrove        Nays – 0

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2026 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Kyle Uptegrove seconded the motion, 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Terri Irons, Cindy Spellman, Kyle Uptegrove        Nays – 0

Discussion was held on the Financial Reports dated March 18, 2026. Questions were asked and answered.

Cindy Spellman made the motion to accept the Financial Reports including the 2026 Balance Sheet dated 3/18/2026 Accounting Period 5/2026, page 1; Detail Budget Report dated 3/18/2026 for Accounting Period 5/2026, pages 1 - 3; Revenue Report dated 3/18/2026 for Accounting Period 5/2026, pages 1 - 2; and Nate Williams' 2026 Working Budget through March 18, 2026 as presented.

Greg Broadbent seconded the motion, motion passed, 7 – 0. A roll call vote was taken:  
Ayes – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Terri Irons, Cindy Spellman, Kyle Uptegrove      Nays – 0

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Patrick Halfhill asked what is the CPSI class? It is the Certified Playground Safety Inspector Course and Exam. This is a course and test that certifies and qualifies individuals to inspect playgrounds. The 100 question exam covers all areas from spacing to fall areas to correct tools to be used. The certification is good for three years. Then the course and exam has to be taken again for recertification.

Excelsior Springs Parks-Recreation-Community Center does a monthly inspection of the playgrounds. An inspection form is completed, areas of concerns are noted and areas of concerns are addressed. There are two CPSI certified inspectors on staff - Chad Clevenger and Scott Sapp. At the City's Code's Department's request, Scott Sapp was able to inspect the playgrounds when the Excelsior Springs School District was having new playground equipment installed at the two new schools.

Alexis Blankenship updated the youth volleyball numbers to 111 participants, 48 more than last season. There are teams from Lawson, Richmond, and Excelsior Springs - third to seventh grade.

Soccer numbers are consistent.

The Easter Egg Hunt is this Saturday, April 28, 2026 at 9:30 on the fields at the corner of Wornall and Crown Hill Roads.

The Special Olympics Track Meet will be April 29th and will partner with the High School.

Drake Pollard explained more about the swim stroke clinic and conditioning program.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nate Williams will schedule a Parks Committee meeting before the next board meeting to review the bid proposals for the playground at Boundless Backyard.

May 1, 2027 is the scheduled completion date of the playground at Boundless Backyard.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The concept plan for the playground at Boundless Backyard is in the Board packet. Nineteen requests for proposals were sent. It has also been posted in the newspaper and on the website. Bids are due Monday, March 30, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

Piccadilly is April 18, 2026!

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Parks, Recreation and Community Center is applying for a Non-Playground Scrap Tire Grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to purchase picnic tables for the gazebo at Boundless Backyard Park. There will be twelve tables with four being wheelchair accessible. The grant requires an approved bid to be included in the grant application.

Kyle Uptegrove made the motion to approve the bid from Champlin Tire Recycling, Inc for \$13,846.00 for 12 picnic tables made of at least 40% Missouri generated scrap tires and reground polymer with four of these tables being wheelchair accessible.

Greg Broadbent seconded the motion, motion passed 7 - 0. A roll call vote was taken: :  
Ayes – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Terri Irons, Cindy Spellman, Kyle Uptegrove      Nays – 0

Earth Day Cleanup is Saturday, April 25, 2026 from 9-11 am. Meet at Carolyn Schutte Park on Broadway in downtown Excelsior Springs. Please email Nate Williams if you have groups wanting to volunteer. Quality Plumbing is sponsoring the Earth Day Clean Up t-shirts. Thank you!!

Individual notes from those attending the Missouri Parks and Recreation Association Conference are included in the minutes.

Alexis Blankenship was sworn in as Missouri Parks and Recreation Region 1 Director. She will start her reign June 1. She also taught a class at Missouri Western this week.

Alexandria Arnold presented at the State Conference on Parks and Rec Month.

Nate Williams has been challenged to get the Department CAPRA accredited. It is a program through the National Recreation and Parks Association Commission for Accreditation for Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA).

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

The City's Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is April 23, 2026 at the Hall of Waters. Please RSVP by April 3, 2026.

The Annual Report will be presented at the City Council at their first meeting in June.

The Parks, Recreation and Community Center Strategic Plan survey closed yesterday. Nate Williams will start creating documents for the 5 year plan. He plans to get it to the Board by the April meeting.

The Marketing and Event Coordinator position is open and will be open until it is filled.

The next Parks and Recreation Board meeting will be April 28, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Terri Irons made the motion to adjourn the March 24, 2026 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion, passed 7 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – Brandon Block, Sherri Branson-Hurt, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Terri Irons, Cindy Spellman, Kyle Uptegrove Nays – 0

The March 24, 2026 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.