

# **EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**APRIL 22, 2025**

**THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON  
MAY 27, 2025**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting held April 22, 2025 at the Excelsior Springs Community Center was called to order by President Jake Simmons at 6:04 p.m.

Roll call was taken with five board members present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President - Jake Simmons; Vice-President - Kyle Uptegrove; Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Zac Wilkins

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Scott Buckman, Mark Bullimore, Brandon Block, Terri Irons

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

**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON:** Absent - Eric Marshall

**VISITORS:** none

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

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Zac Wilkins seconded the motion, motion passed, 5 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 5 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins  
Nays – 0

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2024 Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Zac Wilkins seconded the motion, motion passed, 5 - 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 5 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins  
Nays – 0

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2025 Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Sherri Branson-Hurt seconded the motion, motion passed, 5 - 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 5 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins      Nays – 0

Discussion was held on the Financial Reports dated April 18, 2025. Questions were asked and answered.

A sponsorship packet is being developed for sponsors, donors, corporations, businesses for a one time donation.

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to accept the Financial Reports including the 2025 Balance Sheet dated 4/18/2025 Accounting Period 6/2025, page 1; Detail Budget Report dated 4/18/2025 for Accounting Period 6/2025, pages 1 - 3; Detail Trial Balance dated 4/18/2025 for Accounting Period 6/2025, pages 1-4; Balance Sheet dated 4/18/2025 for Accounting Period 07/2025, page 1; Revenue Report dated 4/18/2025 for Accounting Period 6/2025, pages 1 - 2; and Nate Williams' 2025 Working Budget through 4-17-2025.

Zac Wilkins seconded the motion, passed, 5 – 0. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – 5 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins  
Nays – 0

## **STAFF REPORTS**

AYSO for youth soccer went well the past two weeks.

Teams are being broken down for youth softball/baseball.

Lexi is pleased to be able to offer tennis lessons year round.

April 30, 2025 is the Special Olympics Track Meet. Come cheer the Olympians on to Victory!

Lexi should graduate before the May Board meeting!

Youth Fishing Day is scheduled for May 31.

Egg Hunt had over 500 people attending it.

Working with Austin Hardison, Golf Pro at the Excelsior Springs Golf Course, on golf camps.

Drake Pollard updated the Board on FEAT.

Dry land training went well.

Summer planning has started. Will offer to eight years old and older.

Purple wave training continues.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS - none**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Earth Day Cleanup is this Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 9 am until noon. Planning on at least 70 volunteers.

Westlake is donating gloves, Rotary will supply donuts and AmerenUE will supply bottled water.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Jake Simmons was recognized for his years of service to the Parks and Recreation Board. Mayor Pro Tem Reggie St. John awarded him a plaque from the Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board and Department. Jake is resigning as of April 30, 2025 from the Parks and Recreation Board.

Jake - thank you for your service and support!!

Vice President Kyle Uptegrove will assume the duties of the President of the Excelsior Springs Parks and Rec Board until election of officers.

The Harper's Playground Workshop was discussed. Harper's Playground is "radically inclusive". Harper's Playground is "building a more inclusive world one playground at a time. Driven by a vision of a world in which every one is included. We create playgrounds where people of all abilities connect through play and thrive."

"The Harper's Playground Design Workshop is only hands-on experience of its kind, empowering you to create a playground that is truly inclusive, inviting, and natural. We provide unique insights and proven strategies to help you design play spaces that foster community connection. At the workshop, we can partner with you directly, offering specialized services such as playground design, site assessment and selection, accessibility and inclusion reviews, and more. Join us to lead the way in transforming

public spaces into places of joy and connection for all.” Nate Williams, Chad Clevenger, and Sherri Branson-Hurt are planning to attend a workshop in June in Portland, Oregon.

The Harper’s Playground Workshop has classroom hours and park tours.

They will try to tour “A Place to Play” in Cedar Falls, Iowa.. A Play to Play is based on Harper’s Playground.

Discussion was held on Request for Proposals (RFP”s). Very specific bid information, specific items, etc.

### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to adjourn the April 22, 2025 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Kyle Uptegrove seconded the motion, motion passed 5 - 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 5 – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

The April 22, 2025 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

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**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS  
PARKS AND RECREATION**

**BOARD MEETING**

**APRIL 22, 2025**

**6:00 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL** 5-604

\_\_\_\_\_ BRANDON BLOCK

H\_\_\_\_\_ SHERRI BRANSON-HURT

\_\_\_\_\_ SCOTT BUCKMAN

\_\_\_\_\_ MARK BULLIMORE

H\_\_\_\_\_ PATRICK HALFHILL

\_\_\_\_\_ TERRI IRONS

H\_\_\_\_\_ JAKE SIMMONS

H\_\_\_\_\_ KYLE UPTEGROVE

H\_\_\_\_\_ ZAC WILKINS

yo\_\_\_\_\_ REGGIE ST. JOHN, CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

\_\_\_\_\_ ERIC MARSHALL, ESSD LIAISON

**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
BOARD MEETING**

**APRIL 22, 2025**

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

	<i>FINANCIALS</i>				
	<i>4-22-2025</i>				
BRANDON BLOCK	_____	_____	_____	_____	
SHERRI BRANSON-HURT	<u>  <i>Y</i>  </u>	_____	_____	_____	
SCOTT BUCKMAN	_____	_____	_____	_____	
MARK BULLIMORE	_____	_____	_____	_____	
PATRICK HALFHILL	<u>  <i>Y</i>  </u>	_____	_____	_____	
TERRI IRONS	_____	_____	_____	_____	
JAKE SIMMONS	<u>  <i>Y</i>  </u>	_____	_____	_____	
KYLE UPTEGROVE	<u>  <i>Y</i>  </u>	_____	_____	_____	
ZAC WILKINS	<u>  <i>Y</i>  </u>	_____	_____	_____	