

Parks Committee Minutes

Date: Thursday, August 27, 2026

Time: 10:30 am

Jefferson County Courthouse

311 South Center Ave., Room C1021

Jefferson, WI 53549

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/283062482090246?p=6qxIFOqmHL1pNMYL95>

Meeting ID: 283 062 482 090 246

1. Call to Order

Christensen called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

2. Roll Call (establish a quorum)

Members Present: Callan, Christensen, Gulig (10:30 am – 11:30 am), Lund, Turville-Heitz (10:54 am-12:02 pm)

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Wiesmann, Truman, Klement, Luckey, Thompson (remote), Stollar (remote)

Other: James Kuckkan (WDT)

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law

Luckey certified compliance.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Agenda approved as written.

5. Approval of Parks Committee Minutes for July 23, 2026

Gulig/Lund motion to approve the July 23, 2026, minutes. Minutes approved 4/0.

6. Communications

Included in the packet:

- Friends of Korth Park upcoming event(s) announcement
- City of Fort Atkinson e-bike ordinance article from the Daily Jefferson County Union

Wiesmann also noted:

- Friends of Rose Lake meet the week of 8/17, and
- Light Up the Night bicycle ride is scheduled for 9/12/2026 @ 7 pm

7. Public Comment (Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)

No public comment.

8. Update on Jefferson County Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan

Wiesmann – draft materials in review, and the staff continues bi-weekly meetings with Snyder & Associates.

Plan review Open Houses are scheduled for:

Date: 9/19/2026 @ UW-Ex, and

Date: 10/14/2026 @ Greater Watertown Health Foundation

9. Discussion and Possible Action on County Conservation Aid Grant Application Resolution for Crawfish River Park Habitat Improvements

Wiesmann – County Conservation Aids is yearly WIDNR grant request awarding up to \$2,5000.

Jefferson County's request is for:

- Crawfish River County Park
- 50% grant match provided via Jefferson Community Foundation

Callan/Lund motion to approve the grant request. Motion passes 4/0.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Carlin Weld County Park Playground Improvements

Wiesmann – Included in the approved 2026 budget is playground equipment improvements for Carlin Weld County Park. Two designs have been included in the agenda packet. The current playground equipment is 40+ years old. Preferred playground design includes elements with the “natural” look (natural elements – trees, etc.). The equipment source is Burke and has been quoted from Sourcewell.

Gulig/Lund motion to approve selection of equipment at the discretion of the Parks Director. Motion passes 4/0.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Midcontinent Grid Solutions BECI Transmission Line Project

Wiesmann – submitted four concerns on behalf of the Parks Department (get from KW)

Luckey – Executive Committee made two motions at its most recent meeting:

- Thompson/Luckey will submit a resolution in opposition (including items noted about agriculture/environment/etc).
- County Admin will submit compiled comments including Wiesmann’s comments as well as conservation easements, dairy operations, height and lighting, potential road damages and/or closures.
- Opportunities to be an intervener with PSC (early 2027) are being explored.
- Citizen request to amend Finance Co agenda to designate funds for an attorney.
- County is considering hosting a webpage including transmission line information.

No action taken.

12. Discussion on Parks 2026 Budget

Wiesmann – stated that the budget is status quo

13. Field Staff Updates

Klement noted:

- Luckey worked with field staff for a day
- Chipping along Korth Park Shoreline
- Lower Rock Lake Shelter Rehab
- 2 Kayak launch installs
- Summer/seasonal staff departures
- Garman trail realignment
- Parking lot maintenance repairs
- Bike/Ped Trail Counter Install - Interurban

14. Administrative Staff Updates

- Dog Park Calendar
- Bike Trail Wayfinding Signs
- Interurban Ribbon Cutting
- Marsh Lake Ribbon Cutting
- Financial Analysis & Planning
- Dog Park Admin Concerns
- Camping Admin Concerns
- Light Up the Night Ride Planning

15. Historic Sites Council Update

Truman shared the web story map updates.

16. Discussion on agenda items for the next meeting

Drone Policy

Camping

17. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2026 Proposed Meeting Schedule (4th Thursday, Monthly)

- August 27th, 2026 (Brew with a View)
- September 24th, 2026

18. Parks Tour - committee departed the courthouse at 11:30 am and visited the following sites:

- Marsh Lake Access (New Asset)
- Lower Rock (Shelter and restroom Refurbish)
- Cappies Landing (Camping Violations)
- Highway 16 (New Launch Pier)
- Interurban Bike Trail (New Asset)

No action taken

19. Adjourn

Callan/Lund motion to adjourn at 2:41 PM. Motion passes 3/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. Truman

Adv. Program Assistant, Parks