

Wasatch County Parks & Recreation SSD #21
Board Meeting
September 9, 2025
Minutes

Attendance:

Karl McMillan, Vice-Chairman
Colleen Bonner, Board Member
Mark Nelson, Board Member
Spencer Park, Board Member
Erik Rowland, Board Member
Luke Searle, Board Member

Heath Coleman, Director
Jon Provost, Event Center Director
Amaria Scovil, Rec. Center Director
Taylor Baker, Program Director
Laurie Duke, Admin. Assistant
Randy Bates, Finance Director
Wyatt Finnegan, IT Specialist

Excused:

Kendall Crittenden, Chairman

Karl McMillan called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Public Issues for future meetings: None

Governing Board Issues for future meetings: None

Public Comment: None

Minutes: August 12, 2025:

Heath presented the minutes for August 12, 2025. Luke Searle asked that an addition be made to his motion to go into a closed session. He asked that “for personnel” be added, so that it states: “Luke Searle made a motion to go into a closed session for personnel.” Heath asked Laurie to make that addition and she answered that the addition would be made.

Erik Rowland made a motion to approve the minutes for August 12, 2025, with that addition. Luke Searle seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE	Karl McMillan
AYE:	Colleen Bonner
AYE:	Mark Nelson
AYE:	Spencer Park
AYE:	Erik Rowland
AYE:	Luke Searle
ABSENT:	Kendall Crittenden

Warrants:

Heath presented the warrants from August 7, 2025 through September 3, 2025 in the amount of \$243,569.83 and asked if there were any questions. Mark asked if there was anything in the warrants related to the new pump track. Heath answered that there is not, the pump track is being funded by a grant.

Luke Searle made a motion to approve the warrants from August 7, 2025 through September 3, 2025 in the amount of \$243,569.83. Mark Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Karl McMillan
AYE: Colleen Bonner
AYE: Mark Nelson
AYE: Spencer Park
AYE: Erik Rowland
AYE: Luke Searle
ABSENT: Kendall Crittenden

Discussion/Consideration of Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Updated Bylaws

Appointment of Erik Rowland and Mia Yue as Advisory Board Members:

Luke commented that the bylaws state that regular meetings shall be held monthly. Luke is wondering if they need to be held every month, or if they should be bi-monthly, quarterly, or on an as-needed basis. Heath explained that with his new position as director, now adding two members, and all that is going on with the Master Plan, he has asked the Advisory Board to meet monthly at least until the end of the year. Luke suggested that at the first of the year we should adjust the bylaws to state when regular meetings will be held whether that is monthly, quarterly, or on an as-needed basis. Heath agreed with Luke and will put that on the board agenda for January 2026.

Spencer Park made a motion to appoint Erik Rowland and Mia Yue as Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Members. Colleen seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Karl McMillan
AYE: Colleen Bonner
AYE: Mark Nelson
AYE: Spencer Park
AYE: Erik Rowland
AYE: Luke Searle
ABSENT: Kendall Crittenden

LED Retrofit Update:

Heath gave an update to the Board on the LED Retrofit project. The Recreation Center retrofit is complete. The Event Center is currently being retrofitted by our staff, saving a lot of money. The Stall Barn and Outdoor Arena are also completed. Heath reminded the Board that we did not budget for this. A few months ago, Tom asked the Board to open the budget. Heath is fairly confident that the cost will be absorbed within our budget, due to revenues and growth, and believes very little money will have to come out of our fund balance.

Discussion of Event Center Dirt Pile:

Heath explained that on the northeast side of the Event Center, where we store our panels and adjacent to Heber Valley Railroad, there is a significant pile of dirt from various projects. Heath has offered it to MIDA but they did not need it. Heath asked for approval from the Board to RFP this so a company can come on site, filter the dirt, haul it away and sell it. We would sign a contract with them that we would get a certain percentage of what they sell. Randy Bates questioned whether we even needed to do an RFP. He believes we could just reach out to a few companies and get bids. The Board was in agreement with this and so Heath will contact three companies and discuss this with Dustin. Mark asked Heath when he thinks this will be done and Heath responded that the goal is to have it all moved by the first of the year.

Truth in Taxation Notice:

Heath stated he would like to give notice for Truth in Taxation for 2026, as the Treasurer's office mailing deadline is October 15, 2025. He stated that at the last Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting Truth in Taxation was brought up and there were a lot of different options discussed. Both Kendall and Erik were in this discussion and it might be possible that we will not need to do Truth in Taxation.

The purpose of asking for Truth in Taxation is for the LED Retrofit at Southfield Park and Vets Park. Southfield Park is estimated at \$650,000. Vets East Park estimate is \$537,000. and Vets West Park estimate is \$640,000. This is a one-time cost. Heath has also identified four full-time positions we need at an estimate of \$330,000. A discussion followed of possible options, but, at this point in time, it is not certain if those options will work out and that is why Heath would like to proceed with the notice.

Mark commented that the reality of a tax increase and the public perception of a tax increase usually has a negative connotation. A couple of years ago when we posted Truth in Taxation and then the county stepped in so the Truth in Taxation was canceled, it is not known if the public even realized that the Parks & Recreation taxes did not increase. Once the public sees the notice, they assume their taxes are going up. The council's main goal is to not raise taxes. After more discussion, it was decided that we will try to get more concrete numbers and a decision will be made at our next board meeting on Oct. 14th. Heath will have the Truth in Taxation notice ready to go to the Treasurer's Office if it is decided to do Truth in Taxation.

Master Plan Retreat – Site Visits & Planning:

Heath explained that in conversations with Dustin, they would like to invite the County Council to a Master Plan Retreat, where they will tour the Parks & Recreation facilities and meet the staff.

Afterwards, the Council, Advisory Board, and Parks & Recreation Director's will meet to answer questions and each share ideas for the future of Parks & Recreation. We need to plan about a 4-hour block to tour the facilities and meet after. Heath will meet with Dustin to try to coordinate some possible dates.

Master Plan – 1st Draft Discussion:

Heath stated that each of the County Council has been emailed the Master Plan, 1st Draft. Heath explained that this is the Parks & Recreation Staff's concept of what is needed at our current facilities, some future plans, and some outlying properties that the county already owns for the potential of a regional park. It also includes some improvements at Southfield & Vets Parks. Mia Yue, with the Trails Foundation, would like to integrate trails and coordinate with state parks and the cities to have a vision of trails in our master plan.

Heath asked the Board to review this draft. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board have been given this plan to review and Heath will be setting up an interlocal meeting for the Master Plan Committee to also review this draft. He fully expects there to be many, many changes as each group has a chance to delve into this first draft and make their suggestions and recommendations.

Karl asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were none.

Mark Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Spencer Park seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.