

Jennings County Parks and Recreation Board Meeting

Meeting minutes for January 27, 2026. Meeting was held on February 3, 2026 due to inclement weather the week before.

Meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM by Seth Jones.

Present:

Board Members: Emily Thompson, Bill Ertel, Elizabeth Eaken, Kristin Wiley

Staff: Seth Jones

Guests:

Emily nominated Kristin for President, Bill for Vice President, and Elizabeth for secretary. Bill seconded the nominations. All voted in favor.

For 2026 Kristin Wiley will be President. Bill Ertel will be Vice President. Elizabeth Eaken will be secretary.

1. Approve Minutes - Kristin has sent out the minutes for the November meeting and is getting signatures from Sam and Jennifer. She will bring the signature page next month.

2. Old Business

3. New Business

4. Director's Report
 - Seth reminded Emily and Elizabeth to go see Nicci Lucas to set up the HR stuff.
 - Seth also was mentioning the official terms of each person and what the website says vs what Sarah Abel has on her records. Members are paid quarterly \$102.55 per quarter.
 - Seth gave us three quotes for getting our master plan done. HWC didn't give us a monetary amount for their quote. Tricia McClellan gave us three different levels ranging from \$30,000-100,000. Taylor Siefker Williams gave us an amount of \$14,800. Bill suggested that we table it and make a decision for the February meeting. Elizabeth asked what exactly a master plan is. Seth said that to be eligible for LWCF grants we have to have a master plan in place. It tells what amenities our parks have, what the community wants, and what our goals are for the next 5 years.

- Rules and Policies: Seth has the following updates. He wants board approval. The board discussed these and we approved the following:
- Extreme Sports: Removed Rock Climbing and rappelling
- Dining Hall rates: Monday-Thursday \$70.00. Weeked rate of \$125.00 Seth wants to change it to a flat rate for 125 any day. Seth explained It makes it easier for the staff.
- NLT: Seth will reach out to Brad to get those easements taken care of.
- Weekend staffing is changed from 5-8 PM to 4-7 PM.
- Water Usage: It is on the website that they are supposed to pay if they fill water jugs. Seth suggested that we put an amount on the website of \$1 per gallon.
- Littering: Seth wants to ban confetti from the park so that it isn't all over the place.
- Add that bathhouses are for Paid campground for the sole purposes. Also add the limit for pets is two. Also rain checks for cancellation must be rescheduled within 7 days of request.
- Campsite availability: Added ECO Lake Campground is closed each winter from approximately Nov. 1- April 1.
- Long Term Camping: Added: "Only available at Muscatatuck" Also, "Long term campers cannot stay in tents". Also "Long term camping is scheduled in monthly increments." Also, "term limit is 3 months. Afterwards camper must leave JCPR properties for 1 month before returning."
- Rules for Drones: Do we want to incorporate a map for this into our master plan?

Office Visitor Center: Water Leak in Toilet Shut off Valve. Drew repaired this.
Mold inspection on 1/12/26 by Tony Milsap. Need to study and have Tony explain.

Vinegar Mill: No climbing sign has been stolen again so Seth has ordered more signs.
Simeon Stearns is planning to donate a bench down by the river in memory of his dad.

Walnut Grove School House: Mjor leak in the roof causing a lot of interior damage.
JCPR accepted a bid of \$13, 450 from 1st Choice Construction. We are on the spring schedule.

ECO Lake: SR 7 Contruction in the next few yerars. ECO impact, little to none. Just widening the road.

Signs: Shaw Memorial is still working on them. Hopefully completed by March.

Aquatic Control: Approved Proposals for 2026. CurlyLeaf Pondweed \$2250 once per year and Duckweed Watermeal \$1740 once per year. This will be paid from Bond. Seth thinks that we have three years to use that \$10,000.

5. Events:

- None

6. Comments from Guests: None

7. Next Meeting - Feb. 24, 2025 at the government center

8. Adjournment - Elizabeth made a motion to adjourn at 6:25PM. Bill seconded.

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January meeting held on Feb. 3, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Bill Ertel

Emily Thompson

Elizabeth Eaken

Kristin Wiley
