



LAGRANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
January 15, 2026 7:00 PM
Maple Wood Nature Center

PRESENT: John Egli, Eric Maginn, Julia Wolheter, Paul Baker, Perry Miller, Michael Holcomb

ALSO PRESENT: Mary Franke, Emily Wolfe, Karen Eagleson

2026 Officers: Paul Baker moved, and Julia Wolheter seconded, a motion to vote John Egli as Board President and Eric Maginn as Board Vice-President. Motion carried. Eric Maginn moved, and Julia Wolheter seconded, a motion to appoint Emily Wolfe as Secretary. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Paul Baker moved, and Julia Wohleter seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from the **December 18, 2025**, meeting. Motion carried.

CLAIMS:

Julia Wolheter moved, and Perry Miller seconded, a motion to approve **January** docket claims. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Event Planner

Jennifer Martin was hired as Events Planner. She will start next Tuesday, January 20, 2026.

B. Ranger Truck

The board discussed the differences between 5 different quotes and availability. Eric Maginn moved, and Perry Miller seconded, a motion to approve a truck purchase up to \$45,376.01 to be based on best availability between top two options.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Board Members

Board discussed and feel it is important to have an Amish presence on the board and that three parties should be observed. Board will remain intact, as is, until commissioners make final decision.

B. Duff Memorial

Discussed future use. Try another year with events and advertising.

C. Surplus items

Mary shared list of items to declare obsolete – broken beyond repair or ready to sell. 5 archery targets, oldest cotton candy machine, old water fountain, 2 old Pine Knob trail signs, 15 old wooden picnic tables, old trailer, oldest JD mower, old small printer, 2 old wood desks. The trailer and mower would be sold. A training gun set to DNR for hunting safety training. Paul Baker moved, and Perry Miller seconded, a motion to approve the list. Motion carried.

D. Pine Knob Floor/Tables

Floor and tables in clubhouse need refinished. Mary Franke is waiting for two more quotes and will present at next board meeting.

E. Mower Purchase

Paul Baker moved, and Eric Maginn seconded, a motion to approve purchase of new lawnmower from County Line Engine for \$15,599.00. Motion carried.

F. Annual Report

Each board member received a printed copy of the 2025 Annual Report to review.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Trail of Lights – will not do Thursdays next year, will be open Fridays and Saturdays for three weekends in December.
- B. Building Truck – Truck received from the building department received service and a few parts and seems to run just fine. Will be used for maintenance and assistant park ranger duties.

ANY AND ALL OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Mary Franke requested approval for budget to purchase archery targets and inserts based on last year's income from archery post. Michael Holcomb moved and Eric Maginn seconded a motion to approve up to \$8800 be spent on archery targets for the year. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Wolfe

Appointed Board Secretary/Parks Administrative Assistant
EW/ew