



Meeting Minutes

Parks Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 2, 2025 - 11:45 AM

Cole County Sheriff's Department Training Room

- **Call to Order**
 - Shannon Hawk called the meeting to order at 11:48 am.
- **Introduction of Members & Guests**
 - Members: Jim Aslakson, Hal Dulle, Shannon Hawk, Todd Miller, and Jamie Pearson.
 - Staff: Eric Landwehr, Matt Prenger, Aaron Lock, and Sadie Wolken.
 - Public: Susan Cook
- **Approval of the Agenda as printed and/or amended**
 - Jim Aslakson made a motion to approve the agenda as printed. Todd Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- **Approval of the October 28, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
 - Todd Miller made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Jim Aslakson seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- **Project Status and Maintenance Update**

Kevin Bishop stated that the bathrooms at County Park is closed for the season and should open around April, weather permitting. Aaron Lock suggested to Kevin Bishop that we leave the water on instead of having the water company lock it up. Aaron also mentioned that they will winterize the bathrooms so nothing freezes and turn the water back on if there is a warmer period of time and be able to utilize the bathrooms in the winter.
- **Old Business**
 - **Flagpole Installation**
 - Eric Landwehr informed everyone the flagpole is done and has a light on it.
 - **Discussion on Dog Leash Requirement at all County Parks**
 - Eric Landwehr discussed prior leash requirement requests that came to this committee. He stated that all prior requests were

rejected by the committee and did not go before the county commission. Eric talked to Andrea Putnam with the Sheriff's Department animal control division. She stated there is an old lease requirement for the county but it is outdated and likely not enforceable. She said she would be in favor of a leash requirement specific to the county-maintained parks. Eric stated that he has spoken with Commissioner Jeff Hoelscher and he feels a leash requirement at the parks would be appropriate. Resident Susan Cook explained that her 77-year-old father walks at the county park where dogs run past him. He has had numerous run ins with unleashed dogs and it is intimidating and dangerous. Susan believes a leash law in the parks will make it safer. Jim Aslakson asked how the leash law will be enforced. Eric responded that it would most likely be complaint driven and it would be the Sheriff's department responsibility to enforce. Todd Miller presented his findings regarding a leash requirement and he strongly recommended it. Todd Miller made a motion to recommend that the County Commission adopt a leash ordinance at all county parks. Hal Dulle seconded the motion. The motion carried. The committee recommended new signage at the park with information about the leash requirement.

- **New Business**

- **Long Range Planning for Future Improvements**

- Eric Landwehr reminded everyone about the changes to the priority list, which included moving the circle parking lot improvements to (3), trail connection to (4), and moving the park lighting down. Eric recommends we visit the priority list every meeting or every other meeting to give updates. Eric then informed everyone the circle parking lot overlay and improvements would likely be in the next sales tax cycle. The county commission has decided to do the 10-year sunset rather than the 5-year sunset. Eric informed everyone that the parks department will pursue a grant to build a new playground. Eric suggested that adding a dog park back on the priority list may be warranted with the new leash requirement in place.

- **Public Comment**

- N/A

- **Vote to Adjourn Meeting – No motion was made for adjournment**

- **The next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2026 at 12:00 PM**