

Park Board
June 5, 2025

A regular meeting of the City of Waxahachie Park Board was held on Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. in the Hatchet Conference Room at the Charles Beatty Municipal Services Building, 408 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas.

Members Present: Terry Connor, Chairman
Christopher Davis, Vice Chairman
Justin Burns
Anne Marie Kornman
Dani Cagle
Brad Burns

Others Present: Kyle Cooper, Director of Parks & Recreation
Brad Barnes, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director
Gumaro Martinez, Executive Director of Parks & Leisure Services
Travis Smith, City Council Representative
Morgan Massey, Administrative Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Chairman Terry Connor called the meeting to order.

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Consider approval of minutes of the Park Board meetings of February 6, 2025, March 6, 2025, April 3, 2025, and May 1, 2025

Action:

Christopher Davis moved to approve the minutes of the Park Board meetings of February 6, 2025, March 6, 2025, April 3, 2025, and May 1, 2025 as presented. Motion was seconded by Anne Marie Kornman and carried unanimously (6-0).

4. Introduce new members

Terry Connor introduced Brad Burns and Dani Cagle.

5. Hear update on park activities and events

Kyle Cooper provided an update on current park activities and events. The group discussed various park amenities and usage highlights, including:

- The pool at Lee Penn Park, which recently opened on Memorial Day, and has had over 2,000 visitors to date.
- Recent and upcoming community events such as the Juneteenth Festival, Gingerbread Trail, Crape Myrtle Festival, and Parks and Recreation month.

No action was taken.

6. Hear update on park projects

Kyle Cooper provided an update on several ongoing and upcoming park projects:

- M&M Park: Demolition is scheduled to begin on July 7th, with construction expected to be completed by mid-August.
- Mustang Creek Park Improvements: The construction contract was awarded on the 2nd. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for next month. Planned improvements include a new walking trail, upgraded parking and fencing, and the addition of a pond. The project is anticipated to take approximately 180 days to complete.
- North Grove Project: This project is nearing the bidding phase and is expected to be put out to bid within the next couple of months.
- Lions Park: An engineering firm, Kimley-Horn, has been engaged to begin planning and design.

Anne Marie Kornman inquired about the condition of the trees along the creek at Getzendaner. Kyle Cooper and Gumaro Martinez provided an update on the Creek Stabilization Project, which includes the removal of the Matthews Creek Bridge and related improvements.

No action was taken.

7. Hear Skate Park Presentation

Dominic Lange presented a slideshow on a proposed inclusive skate park, designed for all wheeled users—skateboards, scooters, wheelchairs, BMX, and rollerblades.

{Brad Barnes arrived at 3:21 p.m.}

Highlights included:

- Community Support: Over 2,000 petition signatures, with more than half from local residents.
- Youth & Health Benefits: Emphasis on outdoor activity, mental health, and safe recreation.
- Liability: Typically covered; skate parks shown to be safe and positive community spaces.
- Economic Impact: Seen as a year-round destination that could attract tourism.
- Estimated Cost: Around \$2 million, though variable by design and timeline.
- Site Considerations: Options discussed for size, location, visibility, and integration with city land and amenities.

Plan Alignment:

The skate park was not in the original Lions Park master plan but is now under review for inclusion in the updated five-year plan due to community interest.

Land Use & Coordination:

Discussion covered city-owned land, zoning, coordination with developers, and nearby infrastructure (e.g., wastewater plant).

Potential Partnerships:

The YMCA's upcoming \$4.5M public park was discussed as a possible collaboration site, with shared amenities.

Next Steps:

The group plans to refine proposals, evaluate land and costs, and prepare for board review by July 2025.

No action was taken.

8. Discuss Park Tour dates

Mr. Cooper informed the committee that he will put the tour together and will provide dates at a later date.

9. Adjourn

Mr. Cooper announced the next meeting will be held Thursday, July 17th. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Morgan Massey
Administrative Coordinator