

Mandan Park District
Board Meeting Minutes
December 30, 2024

The Board of Park Commissioners duly met on Monday, December 30, 2024, at Starion Sports Complex at 111 Old Red Trail, Mandan, ND.

Attendees:

Park Commissioners: Vice President Miles Mehlhoff, Commissioners, Stan Scott, and Layn Mudder.

Park District Staff present: Cole Higlin, Dave Frueh, and David Dobier.

Vice President Mehlhoff called the meeting to order at approximately 8:00am, CDT.

Item 1: Executive Director Higlin stated in August of 2022 a fan from Fargo attending a football game called Mandan Public Schools for assistance with ADA needs for a wheelchair. While attending the football game this individual spoke with Mandan Public Schools Athletic Director, sharing her concerns for accessibility to the visitor's side bleachers. After the game, this individual filed a federal ADA complaint. I communicated with the Park Board that I received a copy of the complaint on April 25, 2023, and that they would be doing an assessment investigation of the Starion Sports Complex. The ADA investigation started in June 2023 where they did a full assessment of the entire facility even though the complaint was filed from the bleachers from the visitor's side which Mandan Public School were responsible for the installation of the bleachers. The bleachers were relocated from Faris Field after the construction of the Starion Sports Complex was completed and were not part of the architectural design from JLG.

The final assessment was sent to the Executive Director Higlin on December 16, 2024, and we have 30 days to sign off on the findings if we agree. Once we sign off on the findings, we have until August of 2026 to complete each item. If we do not complete each item by the deadline, each finding has a fine associated with it. The Executive Director walked through each item and recommended that we do a tour of the facility discussing each item to visually see each item.

Executive Director Higlin recommended the following motions:

1. Executive Director Higlin recommends that we approve all the findings except for offering mitigation options for the competition rink top loaded bleachers as an option for the nine ADA areas instead of integrating them in the lower level areas of the rink. The other item to mitigate is the practice rink bleachers providing ADA horizontal dispersion in the second or third quartile. Motion by Commissioner Mudder and seconded by Commissioner Scott to approve the ADA settlement as presented with mitigation options on items C-3-b and C-4-b. Motion passes 5-0.
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2. All findings in the ADA settlement relating to the football/track areas and home and visitor's bleachers should be paid from the joint power's agreement funds with Mandan Public Schools. Motion by Commissioner Mudder and seconded by Commissioner Scott to use joint powers agreement funds for all ADA improvements related to the football/track areas for bleachers and concrete improvements for access to visitor's side. Motion passes 3-0.
3. Executive Director Higlin requested \$50,000 budget amendment for addressing any expenses related to the ADA settlement for contractors or materials or design fees. The Executive Director stated that any item exceeding \$15,000 will require board approval to proceed. Motion by Commissioner Scott and seconded by Commissioner Mudder to approve \$50,000 to cover any expenses related to the ADA settlement and any item exceeding \$15,000 would require board approval to proceed. Motion passes 3-0.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was at approximately 8:55am. Motion made by Commissioner Scott and seconded by Commissioner Mudder. Motion passes 3-0.

Cole Higlin

Cole Higlin
Clerk, Mandan Park District

Wade Meschke

Wade Meschke
Park Board President










December 30 2024 special meeting minutes

Final Audit Report

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