

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
Floyd Glass Conference Room
Coquille Parks and Recreation
13505 Highway 1085
Covington, LA 70433

I. Call to Order

Kyle Matthews called to order the regular meeting of the Recreation District No. 14 at 6:00 p.m. on January 12, 2026, at Coquille Parks and Recreation, 13505 Highway 1085 Covington, LA 70433.

II. Roll Call

Richard Bentley-Smith conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Kyle Matthews, David Pittman, Kevin Barnes, Deepa Woods Kyle France, and Joe Prisco. Tim Bounds was absent.

III. Approval of December Meeting Minutes

a). Motion on behalf of Joe Prisco, seconded by Kevin Barnes. Motion passes.
Roll call: Ayes – Kyle Matthews, David Pittman, Kevin Barnes, Deepa Woods, Kyle France and Joe Prisco. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent – Tim Bounds.

IV. Public Comments

- Brad Richoux –
 - there have been situations recently where there were minor injuries at the gyms, blood on the court, it seems that the incident report was most important to the MOD's. Is there a protocol for blood cleanup? From a general first aid standpoint, is there a way to get a first aid kit at each score table for immediate access. There are 4 fire extinguishers in each gym, is it possible to place an AED in each gym? Who is responsible for administering first aid? (coach, parent, MOD?) I would like to collaborate with either the programs committee or just Coquille on what coaches are selected, personally I'm tired of dealing with the same coaches over and over and we love the fact that they volunteer but we have some bad apples that come through our park, they aren't here for the right reasons they are constantly affecting the overall health of the program in my opinion. When people volunteer instead of just selecting those coaches, can we sit down and have a meeting to see how they did in previous coaching seasons. In the gyms is it possible during basketball to have an MOD or person of authority that can either sit at the scores table or sit somewhere that has first eye accounts of what goes on, we get put in situations where

we aren't there and are having to render judgements from disciplinary standpoints and we're not there. We are taking testimonies from people who maybe have an ax to grind or different circumstances that are affecting their testimonies and we are having to be the ones to make a judgement. If we had somebody with authority in each gym during the course of the games to document these accounts.

- Chase Dardar –
 - from a liability standpoint, I would just like to make sure that us as MYB directors are covered for something like that, whether it's an injury or if we are put in situations sometimes that we don't want to be in. If Brad is in the gym and makes a decision that a kid hit his head and he goes back in the game, we need to make sure that MYB is covered from a liability standpoint which is something that a camera could help.

V. Reports

- Chairman Report (Kyle Matthews)
 - Had a really good construction meeting, a lot of stuff is getting started and is on-going at the Park and the timetables will be a lot faster than they have been in the past.
- Executive Director Report (Richard Bentley-Smith)
 - Rugby – season on-going, looking to host an event in February
 - Soccer and volleyball – registration closed, practices beginning later this month
 - Baseball and softball – spring registration open
 - Basketball – playoffs this month, biddy tournament in early February, international Biddy tournament in March
 - Flag football – practices have begun, games start this month
 - Camp Coquille – registration open for Mardi Gras, February 18 – 20, several other camps that week including Forge Basketball
 - Adult Sports – registration on-going for sand volleyball, basketball, soccer, softball
 - Special Events:
 - Christmas Bingo – very successful
 - Triva Night at Coquille Café – January 29 at 6:30pm, Mardi Gras Madness
 - Tchefuncte Gumbo Cookoff – February 28 on Riverfront in Town of Madisonville
 - Bunny Brunch – March 29
 - The River Mill
 - Rentals and events are continuing to pick up
 - Krewe of Tchefuncte and other Mardi Gras balls this month

- Attending tourism meeting at Maritime Museum this Wednesday
- Training
 - Scheduling CPR/AED/First Aid Training for staff through St. Tammany Hospital partnership
 - All staff training is on January 28
- Facility Director Report (Bill Trepagnier)
 - Water leaks
 - 4-inch domestic waterline from 1085 to the splash pad
 - Repaired with mechanical fittings
 - Several irrigation leaks
 - Replanted live oak tree by memorial bench on field 11
 - Rye grass on fields 11-15 and Great Lawn
 - Growing in well
 - Fields treated with fungicide and have been fertilized
 - All fields are ready to play
- Programs Committee (David Pittman, Kevin Barnes, Kyle Matthews)
 - No reports.
- Personnel Committee (Kevin Barnes, David Pittman, Kyle France)
 - Interviews are ongoing.
- Finance Committee (Joe Prisco, David Pittman)
 - We will be reviewing the quarterly financials at the end of the quarter
- Construction Committee (Kyle Matthews, Joe Prisco)
 - Hwy 1077 Entrance
 - Landscaping and fencing packet has been awarded
 - Notice to proceed on January 5
 - Dog Park
 - Progress slowed by weather
 - Staking out the project for walkways, buildings, water feature
 - Great Lawn and Dog Park Parking
 - Phase 1 of the Great Lawn is completed with striping and wheel stops installed. Opened last Friday, December 5.
 - 2nd asphalt base prepped; ready for asphalt, delayed due to weather last Saturday
 - 3rd part has been brought to grade – concrete curbing is ready for framing following survey inconsistencies, forming concrete curbing at dog park and great lawn
 - River Mill Storage
 - Scheduling bid for early January

- Dwyer pond and drainage improvements
 - Bidding on February 5
 - Notice to proceed on February 23
 - 180-day project
- Madisonville Youth Boosters (Robbie Tyrney)
 - Robbie Tyrney –
 - Biddy did get started, we only charge our parents \$125 for the entire biddy session, our uniforms alone are \$160, MYB subsidized that using the tournament funds we have received in the past, we expect to have another successful 2 tournaments moving forward. We pay for all of the registration fees that we enter. We are hosting 2 softball rec camps, that is also paid through softball funds through MYB. Every player/participant that's signed up to play ball through Coquille is able to come out free of charge to 2 camps from professional trainers. When we look at the biddy international world tournament that was mentioned we are partnering this year with Miracle League.
 - I do have a few questions, the first one I would like to talk about is obviously with the HR side, I know you guys can't talk about it but from a tax payer perspective it has been very suspicious that two female employees have been fired in the last 2 months under suspicious circumstances after they brought allegations of wrong doing and I know you guys can't talk about that but tax payers are asking us questions about it and I think that eventually you guys are going to have to answer to that as well to inform the public exactly what is going on. They are asking us the questions many people think that MYB is the one that's responsible for some of this and they don't understand that it's a partnership and where that comes from. So, we ask that you guys speak out about it, people know that things happen around the park, I think that we need to talk and communicate with them as transparent as we possibly can. It sounds like you guys aren't interested in that but again we receive those questions, we are in the gyms every night, in the fields every night and people are asking us what is happening and I think that they deserve some answers. How do you want us to respond?
 - My next question is the allegations that those individuals have brought up, are those being properly investigated by the board. Because she made allegations at the last meeting, we were all here, and she's terminated a month later I just want to make sure that those things are being properly looked at.
 - The next one I want to talk about is committees, the programs committee which we are the most affiliated with, in the last year,

9 out of 12 meetings there was no report and today there was no report as well, how are we supposed to collaborate as the people that run the programs from a volunteer perspective, I know you guys are volunteers as well, we have asked you guys to come to our meetings, we have asked you guys to come sit down to educate yourselves in the programs here and we have not ever had a chance to sit down with your programs committee, not one time in the last 2 and a half years I've been doing this now. So, I ask you guys if that is acceptable to the board when you have a committee that's not reporting out. When is the last time that the programs committee met?

- Overall policy directions, I know that 3 months ago I was in this room talking about our need for better referees, our need for more compliant coaches, we are having more conduct issues more and more in the basketball season. We probably had 10 of them over the last 2 months. Back in October, I came in here and I told you guys, hey we need help with the referees, everyone was quiet about it, the referees are where it starts to me those are policy decisions that program committee should be making here at this level. They shouldn't just be reporting out whatever you say about registration, you guys are making the policy and determine the policy, that is your judiciary legal responsibility for oversight here at this park. And it's worrisome for us that at the end of the day 9 out of 12 there were no reports. At the end of the day it's your responsibility to run programs here at this park from a policy perspective. I have been coaching here for 6 years at the end of the day, this has been the most amount of games that I have 1 referee, I've had unqualified referees and it causes conduct issues with our parents and our coaches. It's not an isolated incident, all of us have been coaching here long enough to know when it was done right and when it was done wrong. I would say in the last 2 months, basketball has been atrocious as far as we look at our referee training. Most of them are coming on have no training whatsoever, I'm hearing the same thing for flag football but if we just had an assignor and say hey you assign these games, I think we could fix this. At the end of the day we are not having referees come out and represent this park in the way parents expect it. We get more and more complaints; we are the one fielding the complaints as well as Richard. We receive a complaint almost every single day regarding the referees. 3 months ago, when I brought it up as an issue, nobody seemed to really care. We have to fix the problems in this room. If you come to a MYB meeting they last an hour and a half to two hours, we try to shorten it but there's so many challenges in the program

community that we need to fix and all we are doing is asking you guys to be a player in that because that is your responsibility.

- Next thing I want to talk about, we have gotten a lot of questions is the vehicle. The white Explorer parked out there, we know that was an issue, we talk about expenses all the time, I just want to know how that vehicle was purchased using tax payer dollars, not in the budget and not under the awareness of many people on the board. As it sits out there, we've realized that the emblems have been taken off and it's just been stationary. I know that many of the board members did not know that it was being purchased and I look back at the 2025 budget and it was not a budgeted item. Are all board members okay with this purchase?
- Another thing that we have been getting questions on, we have been a supporter of the millage, we supported the last millage vote, we sat down and did the Coquille 2040, we have Pat Descant that sits on the Coquille 2040 board, he shows up to every single one of those meetings. The original master plan, we are missing the amphitheater, the dog park, the ninja playground, what is the timeline on some of those things?
- The last thing I want to talk about, term limits. How long is a board term for recreation district #14?
- The last thing I want to bring up is that at the last meeting there was a little name calling at the end of last meeting, that person was our interim football director. If they are coming in as concerned citizens and being called names by board members, that is unacceptable.

- Miracle League (Tim Bounds)
 - Kickball started
 - Spring baseball has been pushed back a week
 - Cornhole tournament – May 2 or May 9
- Contract Review Committee (Joe Prisco and Kyle France)
 - No reports.
- Coquille 2040 (Kevin Barnes, Joe Prisco, Deepa Woods)
 - Seeking responses from land owners

VI. New Business

a). Spring youth track budget

RESOLUTION 2026-1

MOTION TO APPROVE SPRING YOUTH TRACK BUDGET

YEAS: 7, NAYS: 0, ABSTAINED: 0, ABSENT: 0

Public Comments: None

Motion on behalf of David Pittman, seconded by Kyle France. Motion passes.

Roll call: Ayes – Kyle Matthews, David Pittman, Kevin Barnes, Deepa Woods, Tim Bounds, Kyle France and Joe Prisco. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent –None.

b). Approval of Accounts Payable

RESOLUTION 2026-2

MOTION TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

YEAS: 7, NAYS: 0, ABSTAINED: 0, ABSENT: 0

Public Comments: None

Motion on behalf of Joe Prisco, seconded by Kyle France. Motion passes.

Roll call: Ayes – Kyle Matthews, David Pittman, Kevin Barnes, Deepa Woods, Tim Bounds, Kyle France and Joe Prisco. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent –None.

I). Approval of next Board Meeting: February 9, 2026, at 6:00pm

Roll call: Ayes – Kyle Matthews, David Pittman, Kevin Barnes, Deepa Woods, Tim Bounds, Kyle France and Joe Prisco. Nays – None. Abstain – None. Absent –None.

VII. Entered executive session at 7:20pm

Re-enter board meeting at 8:17pm

VIII. Adjournment

Kyle Matthews adjourned the meeting at 8:17p.m.

Olivia Harper, Executive Secretary
Recreation District No. 14