

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE FARGO PARK DISTRICT OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Park District of the City of Fargo was held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the Fargo Park District office at 701 Main Avenue, Fargo, North Dakota and via Restream. Present at the meeting were Commissioners Dawn Morgan, Aaron Hill, Joe Deutsch, Jerry Rostad and Vicki Dawson. Also present were: Dave Bietz, Susan Faus, Carolyn Boutain, Broc Lietz, and Jeffrey Gunkelman.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Aaron Hill moved and Commissioner Vicki Dawson seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Commissioner Jerry Rostad moved and Commissioner Vicki Dawson seconded a motion to approve the following actions on the consent agenda:

- (a) The minutes from August 8, 2023 meeting;
- (b) The August 2023 bills;

Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Members of the public were afforded the opportunity to discuss issues with the Board.

Director's Report

Dave Bietz and Susan Faus presented this matter and provided an informational update to the Board on the respective departments. No action was taken on this matter.

Approval of Updated Valley Senior Services Transit Title VI Plan

Cindy Girdner presented this matter. It was noted that the North Dakota Department of Transportation requires Valley Senior Services to update the Transit Title VI Plan every three years. It was noted that the changes were mostly procedural in manner.

Commissioner Vicki Dawson moved and Commissioner Aaron Hill seconded the motion to approve the updated Valley Senior Services Transit Title VI Plan as presented. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on Timeline and Establish Next Steps for the Executive Director Position

Joe Deutsch led the discussion on this matter. It was noted that on June 30, 2023 Dave Bietz and Susan Faus were appointed as co-executive directors. It was noted that the Board needs to discuss the timeline and process for filling the executive director position on a permanent basis.

Dave Bietz noted that he and Susan Faus had individual meetings with each commissioner. Dave Bietz noted that the co-executive directors has brought challenges and inefficiencies. Dave Bietz stated his recommendation is to appoint Susan Faus as the sole interim director to assist the Park District and ensure that matters are moving forward at the recommended pace.

Susan Faus noted that during the interim period she can handle both the duties of executive director and deputy director of administration. Susan Faus noted that she is willing to accept the role and that she is appreciative of the dedicated and loyal staff that has come to work every day during this interim period.

Commissioner Hill applauded Dave Bietz and Susan Faus for the job that they have done and for presenting this option to the Board. Commissioner Morgan noted that she appreciates Dave Bietz and Susan Faus for sorting through their responsibilities and that she believes Susan Faus is up to the task as the sole interim executive director. Commissioner Rostad noted that he applauds Dave Bietz and Susan Faus for adjusting to the changes that were made and that the entire staff is doing a great job. Commissioner Dawson noted that is has been a pleasure watching Dave Bietz and Susan Faus work together and they have been a great team. Commissioner Deutsch noted that it has been fun working with both Dave Bietz and Susan Faus.

Commissioner Vicki Dawson moved and Commissioner Jerry Rostad seconded a motion to appoint Susan Faus as interim executive director until such time as a permanent executive director is appointed and that the deputy director of administration shall remain vacant until such time as the executive director is filled on a non-interim basis. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Aaron Hill moved and Commissioner Vicki Dawson seconded a motion to increase Susan Faus's base pay by \$1,000.00 per month effective immediately. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the above agenda items, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded, and upon unanimous consent the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:00 p.m.

BUDGET HEARING

The regular meeting was closed at 6:00 p.m. and the Budget hearing was opened. It was noted that the preliminary budget was approved at the August board meeting. It was noted that this was the time and place for public input regarding the budget. Multiple members of the public spoke during the hearing.

No action was taken on this matter. The Budget Hearing was closed at 6:12 p.m.

Jeff Gunkelman, Kennelly Business Law, Clerk