

The minutes will be presented for approval at the next Park Board meeting.

## Goodhue County Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Board

Meeting Date: March 25, 2026

Meeting Location: Goodhue County Public Works – Red Wing, MN

Meeting Time: 1:00 PM

### Members

Brad Anderson	Commissioner
Todd Greseth	Commissioner
Darwin Fox	1 <sup>st</sup> District Representative
Bruce Hemmah	2 <sup>nd</sup> District Representative
Bernie Overby	3 <sup>rd</sup> District Representative
Barbara Pratt	4 <sup>th</sup> District Representative
Janie Farrar	5 <sup>th</sup> District Representative
Scott Roepke	Cannon Valley Trail Representative
<i>Vacant</i>	Trail Representative
Jess Greenwood	Staff: Director of Public Works
Jennifer Ziemer	Staff: PW Special Projects Coordinator

Absent: Todd Greseth, Bernie Overby

Other members of the public present: Ken Burns

Commissioner Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

Commissioner Anderson called for nominations for the Park Board Chair. Scott Roepke nominated Commissioner Anderson. Commissioner Anderson called two more times for nominations. Hearing none, nominations were closed. It was moved by Scott Roepke to elect Commissioner Anderson as the 2026 Park Board Chair. The motion was seconded by Bruce Hemmah and carried.

Commissioner Anderson called for nominations for the Park Board Vice-Chair. Janie Farrar nominated Scott Roepke, and Scott Roepke nominated Barbara Pratt. Commissioner Anderson called two more times for nominations. Hearing none, Commissioner Anderson called for a vote. Scott Roepke was voted as the 2026 Park Board Vice-Chair (4-1).

It was requested that Jennifer Ziemer continue to take meeting minutes.

It was moved by Scott Roepke, seconded by Bruce Hemmah, and carried to approve the August 15, 2025, Park Board minutes as presented.

It was moved by Janie Farrar, seconded by Barbara Pratt, and carried to approve the agenda.

Staff discussed proposed revisions to the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory Board By-Laws. The current by-laws have been reviewed by staff, as well as one of the County Commissioners, the 2025 Park Board Chair, and the 2025 Vice-Chair. Their revisions were presented to the Park Board at the 15 Aug 25 Park Board Meeting. Revisions suggested at that meeting were incorporated into the new draft document and presented. There was some discussion as to whether “one representative from a community organization” was too restrictive and should possibly be modified to say “one representative at large.” The representation of two County Commissioners; one citizen from each district, with no required ties to any community groups; and two representatives from community groups (the Cannon Valley Trail and one other group) that could bring input from a larger community base or group of park and trail users was discussed as providing a variety of opportunities for people to serve on the Park Board. It was moved by Janie Farrar to approve the Park Board By-Laws as presented, and recommend approval by the County Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Barbara Pratt and carried.

#### Mission Statement

*The mission of the Goodhue County Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Board is to provide a quality park, trail and recreation system which strive to preserve, protect, maintain, improve and enhance the County's park land, trails, and recreational activities, on behalf of all current and future citizens of the County of Goodhue*

Staff presented information on different models for community engagement, including programming, partnering with existing community organizations, volunteer programs, and park Friends Groups. The Park Board requested a list of 1) proposed interpretive programming and willing partners (Community Ed & Rec, Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, etc.), and 2) potential smaller projects that could be accomplished with a volunteer program, to be presented at the next Park Board meeting. There was a consensus that volunteering and programming could help to engage the community, provide opportunities for environmental education and stewardship, and that leadership for a Friends Group may emerge organically over time from those opportunities.

Staff provided a brief update on other park projects for the season, including: Byllesby park host site design, playground design, summer park operations, Nielsen Memorial Preserve natural resources survey, parks donation plan, park donor recognition monument, park ADA transition plan, and the Kullman remediation project with Land Use Management.

Scott Roepke provided an update on the Cannon Valley Trail. The slope repair project at miles 14 and 16 is expected to wrap up in early June. The paving project (from the Old West Main Street Trailhead in Red Wing to approximately the area behind the Anderson Center) is expected to be completed this summer and may be done as soon as August or September. The Trail received approximately \$4.5 million in grant funding for both projects. The slope repair project may come in under budget and allow for additional replacement of a box culvert.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 16, 1:00 PM at Goodhue County Public Works.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Ziemer  
Goodhue County Public Works Special Projects Coordinator

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