

NORTH FORK POOL, PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
July 20, 2026– 6:00PM
Location: District Office at 333 Miner's Way, Hotchkiss CO 81419

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 2026

Call to Order

Becky called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

President's Review of Agenda

- Becky requested to add placing a Trail Map on the website under New Business.
- Michelle asked for information regarding rumors about a steel building.
- Kim requested to add Pickleball updates. Becky suggested placing this under Committee Reports.
- Elsie noted additional financial items to cover.
- Public Appearance was set to follow the approval of the meeting minutes.
- Order of business adjustment: Tanner Wilson's presentation was scheduled immediately after approval of the minutes, and the Treasurer's report was placed right after the presentation.

Roll Call & Excused Absences

- **Present Board Members & Staff:** Kim Burke, Elsie Edstrom, Becky, Michelle, Dan Ihnot, Sven, Scott.
- *Note:* Dan serves as District Administrator, Elsie is the Financial Clerk, and Kaydee serves as the board clerk.

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

No changes or corrections were requested for the previous meeting minutes.

- **Motion:** Sven motioned to approve the minutes as presented.
- **Second:** Michelle seconded the motion.
- **Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously.

Public Appearance (5 minutes per person)

Tanner Wilson – Hotchkiss Skate Park Proposal

- Tanner Wilson presented a proposal to build a skate park in Hotchkiss.
- **Background & Motivation:** Tanner shared that his young sons (ages 6 and 8) have gotten heavily into skating, requiring frequent trips to the Paonia skate park. Having a local park in Hotchkiss—potentially closer to town near the rodeo grounds/old ball fields or near the frisbee golf park—would be far more accessible for local families.
- **Resources & Community Connections:** As part of Wilson and Sons, LLC, Tanner has local connections in concrete, dirt work, and steel/metal fabrication (mentioning Ira House) who may be willing to donate time, labor, or materials.
- **Expertise & Next Steps:** Tanner plans to consult with Jay Canode and Max Hepke regarding their experience with the Paonia skate park, reach out to local concrete contact Phantom Concrete/American Skateparks, meet

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with Hotchkiss town officials, review master plans, gather local signatures/petitions, and explore fundraising and GOCO grant opportunities.

- **Board Feedback:**

- Sven noted that successful community projects require a passionate advocate ("champion") to drive the process, which can take several years.
- The Board expressed openness to collaboration, guidance, and potential space options on district property, but emphasized that Tanner must lead the effort as district staff bandwidth is limited.
- Becky suggested Tanner review town/county master plans and follow up with key contacts who built the Paonia park.

Treasurer's Report & Payment of Bills

- **June 2026 Profit & Loss:** Elsie reviewed the June P&L.
 - Total Income for June was \$80,756
 - Total Expenses were \$66,487, resulting in a net income of \$14,268 for the month.
- **January – June 2026 Cumulative P&L:** Elsie reviewed cumulative figures through June. Capital outlay included the Miners Trail concrete work.
- **Year-over-Year P&L Comparison:** Revenue is overall higher compared to the same period last year.
- **2026 Budget Tracking Packet:** Elsie reviewed the running balance and year-to-date budget figures across operational categories.
- **Insurance Clarification:** Elsie clarified that liability insurance is billed/paid in November/December for the following coverage year, resulting in a journal entry adjustment reflected in January.
- **Balance Sheet (as of June 30, 2026):** Scott read the balance sheet breakdown
- **Presentation of Bills (June 11 – July 14):**
 - Elsie presented the bills list. High payroll expenses reflect full seasonal lifeguard staffing.
 - High Black Hills Energy bills were noted due to heating the pool boilers.
 - An IRS penalty line item was clarified: it pertained to a 1st quarter 2025 tax notice delivered late due to an outdated physical address on file with the IRS (prior to current admin taking over).
- **Individual Club Reports:** Elsie noted that separate month-by-month income/expense breakdown reports are now being generated for each youth sports club.
- **Motion to Pay Bills:**
 - **Motion:** Sven motioned to approve and pay the bills as presented.
 - **Second:** Scott seconded.
 - **Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously.

Presentation of Staff Reports

District Administration – Dan Ihnot & Elsie Edstrom

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- **Pay Band Research:** Admin assistant pay band research is underway comparing regional benchmarks (Montrose, Delta, Delta Libraries, Palisade); 1 of 5 responses received so far.
- **HR & Staffing:** The district managed recent staffing scenarios smoothly. Moving forward, staff will implement a structured multi-hour orientation for new/young guards covering cleaning, safety, and soft skills.
- **Closing & Emergency Protocols (AQI / Lightning):** Protocols for wildfire smoke/air quality and lightning have been distributed to managers. Staff will sign off on an acknowledgment sheet confirming they have read and understand safety and pool closure protocols.
- **Town of Hotchkiss:** Thank-you letters to the Town of Hotchkiss are available for board signatures.

Program Coordinator – Max Hepke (Reported by Dan/Elsie)

- **Swim Lessons:** Max expanded class sizes by 2 slots per section to meet demand.
- **Fall Youth Sports Registration:** Registration for fall sports closes August 1st.

Aquatics – Ashley (Reported by Dan)

- **Programming Updates:**
 - Reinstated Friday night Family Swim (attracting up to 65 patrons).
 - Added a Junior Lifeguard class on Tuesday afternoons in July.
 - Extended evening lap swimming hours on Tuesdays/Thursdays. (Board noted public feedback that lane lines should be set up promptly prior to lap swim sessions).
 - Added a second water aerobics section on Tuesdays/Wednesdays to handle high attendance (up to 50 participants in a single morning across two sessions).
- **Lifeguard Staffing & Training:**
 - Completed a 2nd lifeguard training session (June 24–27), adding 5 new guards.
 - Conducted In-Service #2 featuring de-escalation training with local law enforcement officers and focused facility deep-cleaning.
 - Exploring a late-season training for 15-year-olds (to prep for next year) and recruiting adult guards for morning/school-hour lap swim availability.

Facilities Manager – Chris Straub (Reported by Dan)

- **Pool Repairs & Maintenance:** Spa filter has been repaired and pool boiler maintenance was performed.
- **Field & Grounds Upkeep:**
 - General seasonal work (weeds, prairie dogs, fertilizing) is ongoing.
 - **Chemical Spraying Notification:** In response to Sven's question regarding weed spraying, sandwich/laminated notice boards will be posted at entry points (pump track, ball fields, trails) specifying the application date, time, and product used.

Committee Reports

- **Pickleball:**

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- The group has conducted strong community outreach (float and booth at Pioneer Days and Cherry Days) and gathered over 530 petition signatures.
- A large promotional sign is being installed at the future court site ahead of the county fair.
- Kim inquired about a \$350 district sponsorship for the sign. Michelle and Scott supported the idea; Dan will check the district's donation threshold and budget placement.
- **Landscaping / Trails:** Sven reported that contacts (Chris and Win) were made regarding trail consulting/maintenance; field visits and planning are moving forward.

Old Business

Mission Statement

- The Board reviewed draft options from the February retreat aimed at updating the mission statement to emphasize community, inclusion/accessibility, and land stewardship.
- Following discussion regarding phrasing (removing "Equitable", replacing "natural resources" with "our land", and refining tone), the board settled on Option 1 with adjustments.
- **Motion:** Sven motioned to adopt the updated mission statement to read:

"To enrich rural life by providing fun recreational opportunities that strengthen community, support families and individuals by promoting accessibility, and stewarding our land for future generations."

- **Second:** Kim seconded.
- **Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously.

Pool Maintenance – Short & Mid-Term Needs

- **Boilers:** Boilers are running but require thorough preventative maintenance. A local plumber has been scheduled to inspect and service the system after the pool closes for the season prior to winterization.
- **Pool Resurfacing:** Chris and Dan are evaluating options for the main pool, spa, and kiddie pool (re-scrapping/repainting vs. full sandblasting/resurfacing) once the pool is drained at the end of the season.

Baseball Field Improvements

- Brookstone installed new sprinkler heads on the main field and Fender Field to optimize watering coverage.
- Hydroseeding is scheduled for the first week of August.
- Approximately 60–63 cubic yards of topsoil will be delivered to level and re-establish crisp baselines.

New Business

Prairie Dog Mitigation – Equipment Purchase

- External contractors have proven costly and inefficient.
- Chris identified a carbon monoxide mitigation machine (combustion-engine powered with smoke tracer) that allows staff to handle burrow treatment directly in-house.
- **Motion:** Sven motioned to purchase the carbon monoxide sprayer for facility use by Chris Straub.
- **Second:** Michelle seconded.

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- **Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Assistant – Duties & Job Description Update

- Tabled for the next meeting as Dan and Elsie require additional time to finalize details.

Trail Maps & Website Integration

- Local trails are mapped on COTREX (Colorado Trail Explorer).
- Dan is confirming usage permissions/links for the district website.
- The board discussed placing temporary QR codes on trail signage so patrons can scan and view current digital maps on COTREX.

Steel Building Rumors & Land Clarification

- Michelle asked about rumors regarding a potential steel sports/agriculture building initiated by private individuals (Wendell Adam et al.). No formal plans or proposals have come to the board.
- Sven clarified that the property section on H Hill Trail previously owned by Carpenter was acquired by the county and transferred to the school district, facilitating easier trail access/maintenance.

Signing Schedule & Administrative Details

- Check-signing schedules were coordinated; board members requested text notifications when checks are ready for signature.
- Thank-you cards for the Town of Hotchkiss were circulated for signatures following the meeting.

Attendance Summary (Last Two Months)

- **June Pool Attendance:** 4,360 total visits.
- **July Pool Attendance (July 1 – July 20):** 2,190 visits.

Next Meeting

- **Date & Time:** Monday, August 17, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment

- Becky adjourned the meeting at 7:51 PM.

Approved



Date:

8/17/26

Request for Program or Facility Aid

Name: Ryan Stutzman Delta County Raptors MTB Coach	Phone: 970-275-3832
Address: 14705 G Road Delta, CO 81416	Email: ryno-co@yahoo.com
Secondary contact Sven Edstrom Delta County Raptors MTB Coach	Phone/email 970-270-6435

Brief Summary of Request:
 The Delta County Raptors mountain bike team based out of North Fork High School is requesting a donation of \$500 to help pay for racing jerseys this season. This is our first

year representing Delta County in the Colorado Mountain Biking League and all of our kids are so excited about it! They would be grateful for a contribution and sponsorship from the North Fork Park & Recreation District! P.S. DMTH & Camp & Skanska LLC have also donated \$500 and will have their names on the new Jersey. Thank you!

P.S. We would love to put your logo on our cool new Jerseys. Ordering them tomorrow.