MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NORTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION ON THE 18TH DAY of DECEMBER 2024 AT 10:30 A.M.

Chairman Ferraro called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Administrative Manager Vasalos took roll call. The following members of the Board were present: Carrie Fullerton, Arlington Heights Park District; Kevin Romejko, Bartlett Park District; Erika Strojinc, Buffalo Grove Park District; Ben Curcio, Elk Grove Park District; Steve Bessette, Hanover Park Park District; Craig Talsma, Hoffman Estates Park District; Jim Jarog, Mt. Prospect Park District; Benjamin Rea, Palatine Park District; Christina Ferraro, Prospect Heights Park District; Bret Fahnstrom, River Trails Park District; Nick Troy, Rolling Meadows Park District; Diane Hilgers, Salt Creek Park District; Tony LaFrenere, Schaumburg Park District; Jay Morgan, South Barrington Park District; Jeff Janda, Streamwood Park District; Jan Buchs, Wheeling Park District

Absent: Robert Dowling

Also present: Nicolae Gerea, Superintendent of Finance; Dave Moore, Laner Muchin, and Jessica Vasalos, Administrative Manager as recording secretary

Approval of Agenda
Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve the December 18, 2024 agenda. Director Fullerton made the motion, and Director Rea seconded it. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

Public Comment
None

Correspondence
None

Consent Agenda
Chairman Talsma asked Superintendent Gerea to review the financials with the Board. Superintendent Gerea reviewed the financials with the Board and indicated no issues. Chairman Talsma reported to the Board that he called Superintendent Gerea to ask about the prepaid expenses of the Illinois Department of Revenue. There are transactions for these expenses due to Superintendent Negrillo overpaying the 11/5/24 state payroll tax liabilities. Director Fullerton asked if there was a problem with the W2's based on Superintendent Gerea's report. Administrative Manager Vasalos and Superintendent Gerea explained that it is his first time filing W2's. Admin Manager Vasalos reported to the board that together they will ensure that the W2's will be filed correctly and on time. Superintendent Gerea also indicated that the plan B is to have AccuFund file the W2's. Administrative Manager Vasalos asked the Board about the versions that have been presented to the Bord and which version they would like to have entered into the system to start the year with as of January 1, 2025? Chairman Talsma and Director Janda directed staff to enter either version and it can be adjusted

once the budget is actually approved. Chairman Talsma also directed staff to have the budget added to the January agenda.

Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve the remaining items of the consent agenda as presented in the packet. Director Romejko made the motion and Director Rea seconded the motion to approve the remaining items of the consent agenda. Upon roll being called the vote was as follows:

AYA: Carrie Fullerton, Keving Romejko, Erika Strojinc, Ben Curcio, Steve Bessette, Craig Talsma, Jim Jarog, Ben Rea, Christina Ferraro, Bret Fahnstrom, Nick Troy, Diane Hilgers, Tony LaFrenere, Jay Morgan, Jeff Janda, Jan Buchs

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Staff Reports
None

Old Business
FY2025 Executive Committee
Chairman Talsma informed the Board that he and incoming Chair Jarog discussed not changing the current Executive Committee until the situation has passed. Director Curcio also concurred and said it did not matter to him. Director Fullerton agreed that changing the Committee might not be the best option. Director Hilgers asked if it would be for the whole year? Chairman Talsma indicated that the timeline is not set as they still have to meet during a closed session. Director Buchs asked to delay the vote until we find out the update during the closed session. Attorney Adams advised keeping the current Executive Committee as it stands due to all the information that the Chairman knows. Director Romejko asked to confirm that the entire Board is currently privy and is current on all information regarding the situation that the Chair currently has. Chairman Talsma reported that he has been trying to eliminate the Executive Committee for some time now and has always tried to include the entire Board in information. This included always blindly coping with the entire Board on correspondence. Director Jarog reported that Director Crawford came up with assigning to the committee based on the year they came on the Board. She came up with this process because she had trouble with getting Directors to step to the plate. Director Jarog does think that the Board should keep the committee as it stands for the time being. Director Curcio reminded the Board that Director Buchs asked to delay the vote until after the closed session. Chairman Talsma moved that item until after the closed session.

Old Business
Items B. Paid Leave for All Workers Act, C. Organizational Chart, D. FT Salary Ranges, E. Part Time Salary Ranges, F. FY2025 Increase Pool, G. FY2025 Health Insurance
Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve the New Business items B-G. Director Janda made the motion and Director Curcio seconded the motion to approve items B-G on the agenda. Upon roll being called the vote was as follows:

AYA: Carrie Fullerton, Keving Romejko, Erika Strojinc, Ben Curcio, Steve Bessette, Craig Talsma, Jim Jarog, Ben Rea, Christina Ferraro, Bret Fahnstrom, Nick Troy, Diane Hilgers, Tony LaFrenere, Jay Morgan, Jeff Janda, Jan Buchs

NAY: None

The motion carried.

New Business

Appointment of Legal Counsel

Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton & Taylor, Ltd as legal counsel for one year for NWSRA. Director Janda made the motion and Director Fahnstrom seconded the motion to approve Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton & Taylor, Ltd as legal counsel for one year for NWSRA. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

IT Services Provider Contract

Chairman Talsma requested a motion to approve the SNI Services Provider Contract as presented in the packet. Director Janda made the motion, and Director Fullerton seconded it. Director Janda asked if the hours were bankable. Administrative Manager Vasalos responded that we always use the hours and use more hours than in the contract. Upon roll being called the vote was as follows:

AYA: Carrie Fullerton, Keving Romejko, Erika Strojinc, Ben Curcio, Steve Bessette, Craig Talsma, Jim Jarog, Ben Rea, Christina Ferraro, Bret Fahnstrom, Nick Troy, Diane Hilgers, Tony LaFrenere, Jay Morgan, Jeff Janda, Jan Buchs

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Informational/Action Items

Board Meeting Dates

Chairman Talsma reviewed the Board meeting dates and, after hearing some staff concerns about current dates, made the motion to approve the Board calendar as presented with the changes of making the January meeting the annual meeting and public hearing as well as moving the December meeting to Thursday, December 11, 2025. Director Fullerton made the motion and Director Fahnstrom seconded the motion to approve the Board calendar as amended. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

Closed Session

Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to move into a closed session at 11:00 am. Director Fahnstrom made the motion, and Director Bessette seconded it. Upon roll being called, the vote was as follows:

AYA: Carrie Fullerton, Keving Romejko, Erika Strojinc, Ben Curcio, Steve Bessette, Craig Talsma, Jim Jarog, Ben Rea, Christina Ferraro, Bret Fahnstrom, Nick Troy, Diane Hilgers, Tony LaFrenere, Jay Morgan, Jeff Janda, Jan Buchs

NAY: None

The motion carried

Open Session

Director LaFrenere made a motion to make no changes to the FY2024 Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will remain as follows:
Craig Talsma, Chairman; Jim Jarog, Vice Chairman; Ben Curcio, Personnel Committee Chair; Kevin Romejko, Treasurer; Christina Ferraro, Past Chair; until as the Board outlines. Director Janda seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

Adjournment

After no further business, Chairman Talsma called for a motion to adjourn. Director Fullerton made the motion, and Director LaFrenere seconded the motion to adjourn the December 18, 20243, meeting at 1:00 pm. The motion carried with a voice vote.

