



TUSCALOOSA COUNTY PARK & RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Iron & Ember, Jerry Pate Facility

Tuesday, July 14, 2026, 4:00 pm

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: *Chair Elizabeth Winter, Dr. Craig Fairburn, Curtis Travis, Danny Higdon, Gary Falls, and Hunter Taylor*

PARA STAFF PRESENT: *Chief Executive Officer Brian Davis, Jay Logan, Jennifer LeGrone, Mike Crady, and Mike Shivetts*

PROCEEDINGS

- Mrs. Winter called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
- June 2026 approval of minutes.
**Motioned by Mr. Curtis Travis, seconded by Mr. Gary Falls, the Board unanimously approved the June 2026 Minutes.*

VISITORS/GUESTS – N/A

REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS

Chief Executive Officer

Reported by Brian Davis

- Brian Davis recognized July as National Parks and Recreation Month and highlighted PARA's continued impact throughout the community by sharing several organizational statistics, including employee and volunteer participation, seasonal staffing, membership, golf rounds, fitness programming, and Swim to the Top participation.
Brian reported that the Tuscaloosa Tennis Center expansion is nearing completion, design work continues on the Hughes Ballfield lighting replacement project, and PARA will host a Boat Education and Water Safety Day at Lake Lurleen State Park. He also reported that summer camps continue to operate successfully.

Financial Report

Reported by Mike Crady

- Mike Crady reported that May was another financially positive month for PARA, with accounting-based income totaling \$245,873.80, bringing year-to-date income to \$3,948,075.64. Cash increased by \$3,160,029.33 year-to-date, primarily due to debt repayment affecting cash balances rather than operating expenses.
Mike reported that operating revenues have increased approximately 7% over the previous year, driven primarily by the Tuscaloosa Tennis Center, Iron & Ember, Ol' Colony Golf Complex, and spring youth sports. Although operating expenses have increased by approximately \$500,000 year-to-date due to expanded operations and capital improvements, expenses have otherwise remained stable. Mike also noted that July will include PARA's final three-payroll month of the year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ol' Colony Advisory Committee

Reported by Mike Shivetts

- Mike Shivetts reported that Ol' Colony Golf Complex continues to experience strong participation. The Advisory Committee discussed limiting the number of outside tournaments that require full course closures to balance community events with daily public play. Staff also plans to establish a minimum course-closure fee based on average daily revenue and finalize the 2027 tournament schedule before the end of the year to provide greater consistency for event organizers and golfers.
Brian Davis also reported that Ol' Colony Golf Course is expected to be added to the Golfzon simulator platform in late August, allowing simulator users worldwide to virtually experience the course and helping promote Ol' Colony to potential visitors.

OLD BUSINESS – N/A

NEW BUSINESS

- Retiree Longevity Bonus – Act 2026-608
Brian Davis presented Act 2026-608, which authorizes participating employers in the Retirement Systems of Alabama to provide a one-time longevity bonus to eligible retirees. Staff recommended that PARA participate by paying a lump sum in October 2026, at an estimated cost of \$9,845.
**On a motion by Mr. Gary Falls, seconded by Mr. Curtis Travis, the Board unanimously approved the resolution authorizing PARA's participation in the retiree longevity bonus program pursuant to Act 2026-608.*
- Faucett Brothers Activity Center Chiller Bid
Brian Davis reported that PARA received two bids to replace the chiller at the Faucett Brothers Activity Center. After negotiations with the apparent low bidder, McKelvey Mechanical, staff reduced the project cost to the County's approved \$250,000 budget by reusing selected components from the existing system.
**On a motion by Mr. Danny Higdon, seconded by Mr. Hunter Taylor, the PARA Board unanimously approved the revised bid from McKelvey Mechanical in the amount of \$250,000 for the replacement of the Faucett Brothers Activity Center chiller.*

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- The Board discussed operational concerns at the Northridge Pickleball Courts, including increased use by non-playing groups, litter, minor vandalism, and disruptions to regular court play during the summer months.
Jay Logan reported that staff temporarily adjusted court hours while working with the Tuscaloosa Police Department, PARA Rangers, City officials, and members of the local pickleball community to address the issues. Additional signage has been installed outlining court rules, operating hours, and expected conduct, and staff have increased ranger presence and coordination with law enforcement.
Board members discussed several ideas to improve accountability while maintaining the courts as public community facilities, including voluntary check-in or QR code registration options for court users. Staff will continue to monitor the situation and evaluate additional operational improvements as needed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Danny Higdon, seconded by Mr. Hunter Taylor, the Board unanimously approved, by roll call vote, entering Executive Session to discuss the good name and character of an individual and matters involving real property.

The Board entered Executive Session at approximately 4:38 p.m. No official action was taken during Executive Session.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at approximately 5:04 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Danny Higdon, seconded by Mr. Hunter Taylor, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Elizabeth Winter, *Board Chair*

Brian Davis, *Chief Executive Officer*