



Town Hall - 551 Hot Springs Blvd.
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Combined Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
November 13, 2025 @ 5:30 PM

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Combined Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was called to order on November 13, 2025, at 5:30 PM in the Town Hall - 551 Hot Springs Blvd..

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Larry Lynch, Mike Musgrove, Chantelle Jordan, and Roxanne Rickert

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Council Member deGraaf, Sally High, Jenny Highum, and Kevin Metzler

1. REMOTE PARTICIPATION – A zoom link is made available, however the Town does not and cannot guarantee internet service or online broadcasting. Remote attendance is at the risk of the attendee as the public meeting will continue in person regardless of the Town's broadcast capability.

Join Zoom Meeting By Computer - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85778600489>
Dial by Phone - 1-669-900-6833 US - Meeting ID: 857 7860 0489

- 1 CALL TREE BOARD MEETING TO ORDER – A regular Tree Board meeting was called to order on November 13, 2025, at 5:30 pm in 551 Hot Springs Blvd- Town Hall.
- 2 BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS Darren Lewis – Parks and Rec have applied again to the tree city USA , this is renewed every year and signed off by mayor. Anticipate no problems.

Park trees purchased; 14 new trees planted, 12 additional from Main St project replanted at Yamaguchi Park and athletic field. 90% have survived transplant. Four have been removed that died.

Board Member Larry Lynch commented on the clean up on Res Hill and pointed out that there are still some stacks left that need to be chipped. Parks and Rec Director Darren Lewis explained that parks staff did some mitigation and the SW Conservation Core also assisted with the handwork and that's where the stack came from. This will be chipped.

No further announcements

- 3 PUBLIC COMMENT – There are no public comments.
- 4 ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 5:33 PM
- 5 **NEXT BOARD MEETING MARCH 5, 2026 AT 5:30 PM**
- 6 CALL COMBINED PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING TO ORDER – A regular Combined Park and Recreation Board meeting was called to order on November 13, 2025, at 5:33 pm in the 551 Hot Springs Blvd-Town Hall
- 7 PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comments
- 8 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a) **Approval of the August 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
 - b) Board Member Musgrove informed the board that an amendment to correct the August 7th minutes to

delete Jenna Waite-Gannon to be removed from the absent roll call as she is no longer commissioner.

- 9** DEPARTMENT REPORT – Halloween Hootenanny event success- 23 non-profits participated in passing out candy at their booths.

Festival of Trees is Dec 5th, 20 full tree slots. Auction raises money for their non-profit organizations, successful event in past.

September Geo artwork finished and looks great.

Recreation- Finishing up basketball 7-9, 10-12 boys basketball registration open, ends 3rd week of Dec to start in January.

Games will be 5PM or 5:30PM start time.

No questions at this time.

10 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) 2026 Budget Darren Lewis

2026 Budget approved at last town council meeting.

Some projects having to be rescheduled due to the flood.

1) The Bike park construction is being moved to Spring 2026.

2) Sealing Town Park and River Center paths moved to next year and any funds left over in the budget for sealing of trails will be used at the Walmart area trail.

3) Three outdoor workout equipment pieces left to be installed at Yamaguchi Park.

4) Moving irrigation system at Yamaguchi Park and replacing the system with new system. Existing placement will be flattened to create a pedestrian enjoyment area. No vehicular access directly to river and a gate will be installed to prevent vehicles entering. Parking in area will still available.

Board member Roxanne Rickert questioned what is wrong with the current system. Director Lewis stated that the current system is old and we are teaming up with the school district to remedy irrigation issues and to split 50/50 in total cost and future preventative maintenance. Rickert questioned how the irrigation schedule would work between all of the needed areas. Lewis explained that the school will irrigate more during the day and the town would irrigate during off hours mainly at night.

5) Pedestrian bridges have experienced issues with the floods and have caused river bank erosion. The banks need maintenance to ensure re-stabilization to build back up the washed away areas.

6) Additional maintenance for River Center pond dredging due to flood now both ponds need it. Need to find additional funds to cover the cost of additional pond maintenance.

7) Boat ramp at Yamaguchi South Project pushed to 2026. Contractor will be booked working on other areas of the river prior to the boat ramp installation.

8) More mitigation on Reservoir Hill, east side of hill near Tractor supply. Improving parking and mitigation in 2026. This area still needs ideas on what direction to go with this new area.

Board Member Mike Musgrove questioned the size of this new area. Lewis explained the space behind Tractor Supply and to the base of the hill. Musgrove questioned if the Town is trying to acquire the rest of Reservoir Hill. Lewis stated that the town is but is in the pre-grant phase. With hopes of acquiring over 300 acres with a 25% match campaign in regards to raise a couple million dollars. This is a conservative grant no buildings and solely for park expansion. Musgrove commented that this would be double what we currently have access to. Lewis stated that there is currently 491 acres for sale but the grant covers 75% forestry and a section of 300 acres that qualifies for the grant. Rickert questioned if there is any other interested parties. Lewis stated that this is unknown at this time. The layout of the 300 acres would be parceled from the top across the from current property line down to Mill Creek. Lynch stated that he believes that a good portion of the creek would be included.

9) Pickleball courts; Pickleball users would like windscreen around the courts, west and south fencing. 40k project. Pickleball Club will cover \$25k of that quoted amount. The county and town would split the other 15k. Rickert questioned if there would be any youth pickleball program offered in the future. Lewis stated that there are lessons available but no youth official programs yet.

10) Lynch commented that there is a PARC update meeting open house at the Community Center Dec 11. He mentions to have some of the park planning brought up at this open house to get community involvement. Forest Service for bike trails; Coyote Hill, Chris Mountain areas.

Lewis stated that there is a positive outlook to how PARC can be used in the future. Amanda the Parks and Rec supervisor is very involved in this.

b) Project Update Darren Lewis

Parks and Rec Director Darren Lewis stated that most project updates have been stated in the unfinished business section.

Board member Larry Lynch brought up the successful Skate park fundraiser phase 3. Skaters Collation fundraiser was held at Motel SoCo and they raised \$3k. Ongoing events to raise money for the re-envisioning for changes in the future. Lewis stated that repairs to the existing skate park will be a spring project.

11 NEW BUSINESS

a) Parks Flood Update Darren Lewis

Parks:

River Center, Cottons Hole, Town Park and Centennial parks got hit the hardest during the flood. Lots of debris, landscaping and mulch have been washed away. The park staff have been working hard to get it all back together.

No seasonal help this year but parks now have an additional full time employee. This has helped with the clean up. SW Conservation Core came to help with the clean up for a week. They worked on Apache Trail, Cottons Hole, along the river walk near Tequila's clearing banks and debris.

Apache Trail was completely washed out. Rockridge trail had significant damage on the shoulder of the river. Concrete sidewalk was undamaged, and a contractor will be out to repair the area to original condition. Actively working to clean up and return to preflood conditions areas including but not limited to debris pile clean up and bolder re-placement.

Cost to do these things is also a concern as the process to acquire funds is a process. Claims have been submitted to insurance and FEMA.

Board Member Chantelle Jordan questioned what the loss from semi-permanent fixtures such as tables, benches etc. Lewis stated that many were found that had been relocated by the flood waters but the ones that were not are in the process of replacement. 4 Benches and 1 picnic table have been ordered for now. Some are buried in silt along the banks that need to still be dug out. Professionals will be hired to retrieve in the river and stabilize the banks. Urgency is the key as high waters arise in the spring. All of town staff is working hard to do what needs to be done including but not limited to grant applications.

Member Musgrove commented on the clean up of the silt at the Cottons Hole Park and how well the tethered structures did holding up. Lewis stated that the areas where the structures were lost or uprooted is due to the loss of the entire bank.

Musgrove stated the change in river path behind the Malt Shop being split in two sections with a gravel bar. Lewis stated that this will be corrected in the future to help prevent flooding in the future. Lynch stated that West Fork river has changed and shifted several hundred feet.

Member Ricket questioned if we need to get a study done for dangerous waves created by the movement of boulders. Lewis stated that the contractor that did the wave initially will be coming back in to correct the damage done and make sure everything is stable again. Rickert responded if we have emergency funds for things like this. Lewis stated that we do have reserves but not at the scale of the damaged assessed.

Member Rickert asked if the town has considered changing the lodging tax from 4.9 to 6 % Director Lewis stated that he does not have any comment as it is outside of Parks and Rec. If Parks and Rec is a part of the funds that can be used with the proposed tax raise then he would have future comments on the subject.

Town has 85% of parks in the county. Parks and Rec is doing their best to upkeep the areas and need to figure out how to fund in the future.

Member Musgrove questioned the trails on Reservoir Hill washed out leaving ruts. Lewis stated the Dust2 may be assisting these corrections.

Member Lynch stated that there were some downed trees on Reservoir Hill as well. Lewis stated that one of the trees has since been removed and the other may have been moved outside of the parks staff.

Member Musgrove stated Salida has a modular pump track (for the skate park) and questioned if this would be a good option instead of the permanent concrete option. Lewis will look into this but stated that the cost of upgrades like these would still need to be in a form of a grant for fund assistance.

b) Park Name Darren Lewis

Lewis stated that himself and Kyle Rickert have went in front of town council based off of the feedback, they liked Maiku Park, "Maiku" means hello/welcome in the Southern Ute Language. They looked at "Gateway River Park", although most popular, it was determined that they don't know if that will always be the gateway to Pagosa and that it may expand. They would like to pursue Maiku Park. Kyle is talking with the Southern Ute Tribe for the permission to use the name for the park. As of now there is no name for the new park area. The name does not stop the progress of the completion.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT – No Comments

13 NEXT MEETING March 5, 2026 AT 5:30 PM

14 ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 6:16PM by Musgrove