

**Huron Joint Recreation District  
Regular Board Meeting – Minutes  
Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 6:30 PM  
Huron City Hall | 417 Main Street | Huron, OH**

**Present Members:** Tom Solberg, Ed Wimmer, Roger Blevins, Jonathan Merckens, Julie Spitzley

**Present from HPRD:** Doug Steinwart, Brian Croucher, Rick Reinbolt

**Present from City of Huron:**

**Absent Members:** Mark Claus, Missie-Lowrey-Huntley

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve January 6, 2026, minutes as presented; by Eddie Wimmer and seconded by Jonathan Merckens. Approved unanimously.

**Audience Comments:** None

**1. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **BIG Grant:** Doug brought some visuals of the project and gave an update of where things stand on H & B Pier. H Pier – 32’ docks and B Pier – 40’ docks. He recapped the project and its financials. The project is ready to go out to bid. The electrical side of the project may require an upgrade – need to learn more on this from Ohio Edison (details provided in recording). Doug discussed the pilings and wave action for each pier and how the project will help the situation. ADA accessible, wider and longer access. The HBB has a window for the work to happen. They are hoping the project will happen before Memorial Day – if not, the second opportunity may be between the summer season and before Fall Fishing takes off. This is to maintain revenue as much as possible. The project could take upwards of 2 weeks, providing materials are on site and weather cooperates. There are multiple scenarios being played out to be the least disruptive to the season.
- b. **Budget - Capital:** Doug led the discussion on the 2026 Budgeted Capital – 1. one mower replacement, 2. one pick-up truck replacement (2007 blue truck – sold on Gov deals). City is stopping the Vehicle and Playground replacement schedules. After a couple of years – new revenue sources will be needed. (A lengthy discussion of Gov Deals took place – available on the recording for your listening pleasure.) 3. Lake Front Park Path replacement – permeable pavers are falling apart and need to be replaced. 4. Nickelplate Beach entrance needs to be redone and an overlay of asphalt all the way around the parking circle (City project that effects NPB). 5. Smaller items included – Wall Street Admin Office will get new windows and crack & seal coat the west parking lot of boat basin this spring along with some sidewalk work to be completed around the HBB.
- c. **OPRA Conference:** (Ohio Parks & Recreation Association) Conference took place Feb. 2-4 at Kalahari. The conference brings over 1,000 park professionals from around Ohio together to talk P&R and to network with one another. In attendance - are large metro parks to small city parks. Over 75 educational sessions on all topics P&R, a trade show and keynote speakers. The trade show consumes the major of the conference center with companies selling playground equipment to mowers to mulch to engineers to software people – everything P&R.
- d. **Misc. Parks & Recreation:** Brian presented the update on Indoor Soccer, the Ice Rink, and skate rental program. The Pancake Breakfast with the Lion’s Club at the Presbyterian Church and Easter Egg Hunt at the HBB is on Saturday, March 28. Breakfast is from 8 AM -Noon, Magic Show is at 10 AM, then 1 PM is the egg hunt. Huron Baseball & Softball Program will use Fabens again this year, with a start date of April 1 and have fields 1-7 through July. The department will be hosting 6 tournaments between May, June and July this year. North Coast

Tournaments will host 3 tournaments and will be taking over Dwag Daze. Hosting tournaments create a lot of work in prepping and maintaining the fields, however they are great revenue generators. Doug mentioned the 2026 HBB Amp Event Schedule is wrapping up – hope to have to share in March. Annual Employee Reviews are currently taking place. It is important to have open lines of communication regarding the employee/employer working relations. Performance Objectives are created to move forward into the new year in a unified way. A Coastal Tour will be taking place on March 31 from 9 AM to noon. The tour includes Old Woman’s Creek, Erie Conservation District and Ohio Clean Marina, beginning at the Pier, to Lake Front Park, to the HBB, to discuss what HPRD does for sustainability measures while learning from them as well. An opportunity for everyone to help each other. Bryan Edwards will be attending Ohio Marine Conference at Geneva State Park on Feb. 26, 2026. This is a section of Ohio Clean Marinas. The HBB won an Elite Fleet award from Marinas.com (Marinas.com is an online transient reservation system.) Doug reiterated the Ice Rink usage and how Rick has developed a system to make the ice smoother as needed. Ice and snow removal has been constant this winter. This department does a lot of parking lot maintenance and sidewalk maintenance for all the parks, pathways, and pier.

**CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS**

Tom Solberg: Thanked everyone for attending, and announced the next meeting is Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers. Julie Spitzley thanked the team for all the snow removal and for getting all the teams this year. Ed Wimmer thanked the team for their hard work. No further comments from the board or staff.

For more details and specifics - please feel encouraged to listen to the audio located on the City Website:

[https://cityofhuron.org/government/boards\\_commissions\\_committees/huron\\_joint\\_recreation\\_district\\_board.php#outer-470](https://cityofhuron.org/government/boards_commissions_committees/huron_joint_recreation_district_board.php#outer-470)

**OTHER MATTERS – ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Ed Wimmer; second by Jonathan Merckens