

VILLAGE OF PAWNEE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Minutes of May 11, 2026

**Call to Order:**

- President Clarke called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

**Roll Call:**

- Village Clerk, Devona Martin called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Dale Walters, Phillip Thompson, Troy Grant, Patrick Murphy, David Skinner
- Trustees Absent: Erika Guess
- Also in attendance: Attorney Don Craven, Village Administrator Brent Wise, Chief Barclay Harris, Travis Simpson, Gregg and Andrea Bandy, Jay and Trisha Smith w/Locals, and Brian and Lori Spellman.

**Visitor's Recognition/Comments:**

- Jay Smith and friends appeared before the Board. They had their Spring Side by Side run. They are donating \$500 to the Village of Pawnee for fireworks; \$1,000 to the food pantry; and \$1,000 for James Project. President Clarke thanked them on behalf of the Village.

**Clerk's Report:**

- Minutes of April 27, 2026 were presented for review and approval  
**Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to approve the minutes of April 27, 2026 as presented  
Second made by Trustee Murphy  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters=yes, Thompson=present, Grant=yes, Murphy=yes, Skinner=yes  
Motion Carried: (5-0)

**Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner**

- Trustee Skinner presented the bills payable for the week ending May 11, 2026 in the amount of \$96,785.03  
**Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to approve the bills payable for the week ending May 11, 2026 in the amount of \$96,785.03  
Second made by Trustee Murphy  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters=yes, Thompson=yes, Grant=yes, Murphy=yes, Skinner=yes  
Motion Carried: (5-0)

**Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Walters**

- Trustee Walters advised that the ICC completed the audit with no issues or violations. They did state we would be required to go through another audit for public awareness.
- Trustee Walters advised the guys finished the other main valve installs and that they will be meeting with our CPA firm for inventory of office for finance audit.

**Streets, Alley and Sidewalk Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Grant**

- Trustee Grant advised that they are getting ready for Pawnee Prairie Days. They are cleaning ditches, weed eating and patching roads.

### Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Chief Barclay Harris presented the Monthly Police Report. Chief also talked to Kelly Thein. We are still waiting on the grant. The grant is given out quarterly so we should know by June. The bid we received is good until June 19. We'll lose \$500 saving on each radio after June 19. The grant is not a reimbursement. They will tell us what we are getting and from who. The grant is approximately \$39K. He checked on leasing. There is a program. We'll pay more through the lease. He also had someone tell him we can borrow radios from ILEAS during Pawnee Prairie Days. He is still confirming that. He'll know more Wednesday.

**Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to approve the Monthly Police Report

Second made by Trustee Murphy

Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes

Motion Carried: (5-0)

### Sewers and Parks Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- Travis Simpson advised they've been mowing, spraying and weed eating. They'll be ready for Pawnee Prairie Days. He advised the electrician came and all the outlets are good except 2 and those are going to be replaced. He also advised there is a problem with a 220 plug on the NE corner.
- Discussed the construction at the Shed. Trustee Murphy advised a permit should have been required. Travis Simpson advised on Thursday, he went by and there was plumber there putting in a water line. Travis advised that he stopped and asked why he was putting in a water line without a Julie. The plumber told Travis he knows where the lines are. Travis advised him that a Julie is still required and told him he needed to stop digging. The plumber did not stop. Travis advised that he ran the water line above the sewer main which creates an issue on multiple levels. First, if they ever have to dig up the sewer line, their water line will be in the way. Another issue would be if both the sewer line and water line had cracks. Contaminated sewer water could seep into the water line. This is a commercial building with a kitchen. Travis went onto say that he was there Friday night for a Sports Booster Fundraiser. He found another trench dug with sewer pipe laying in it. The trench is now filled in and they backfilled over the manhole. Travis thinks that they tapped into the manhole but will confirm that tomorrow. The tap fee is \$1,000. Discussed her patio/deck and Travis advised she poured concrete over the sewer lines. Trustee Murphy advised that if she had obtained a building permit, a variance would have been needed. We would have likely approved the variance but in doing so, we would have made it very known that if we needed to access our sewer line, we would dig up the concrete at her expense. Travis advised that when he told the plumber to stop digging, the plumber told him to go talk to the owner. Travis told him no, he needs to talk to him because he is the one digging without a Julie and digging above our main sewer line. Travis advised that since he filled it in, he doesn't know if the line was laid 18" above the sewer line which is code. He really needs the plumber to dig it up so that he can inspect it and make sure it is to code. Travis also advised that they try to prevent people from tapping into manholes. They would rather they tap into the main sewer line. Currently, there are multiple violations including no permit, no tap fee, no inspection.
  - Travis also advised that today, he also saw yellow pipe which is a gas line. Several years back, USDI advised we had to adopt the Federal Code to the residential side. All gas lines are required to have a tracer wire or it's a federal violation. If it has a tracer wire, it will be visible. ICC would get involved with the gas tracer wire. If there is no tracer wire, Travis recommended gas shut off until it's corrected.

- The water and gas both run to the trailer. It is not known what is happening within the trailer.
- President Clarke read minutes from April 11, 2022 where we discussed the sewer line and Jessica advised she would get with Steve Haney.
- All other businesses and residents are required to abide by ordinances. Discussed resolutions including revoke or suspend liquor license or fine per violation. Per our ordinances, the fine would be \$1,000 per day per violation. As of right now, we only have the building permit violation. Tomorrow, Travis will know if there is a sewer line violation. There could be 2-3 more violations. A liquor control hearing requires a 3 day notice. After the hearing, she would have 7 days to appeal to the County.
- President Clarke also advised that in the May 2022 minutes with the trailer park residents, Jessica advised the music stops at 10pm. A recent advertisement shows beer garden music until 11pm.
- We also discussed the construction work completed. This is for commercial usage without Village review/involvement. It is unknown if this was built to code.
- Consensus was to have a hearing per recommendation from counsel.
- Hearing will be set for Monday or Tuesday of next week. This is a public hearing.

**Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Murphy**

- Trustee Murphy advised we've had approximately 7 permits for fences and garages. We've not had any new home builds for several years.

**Bargaining Committee Report: Committee Chair, President Clarke**

- No report

**Energy Committee Report: Committee Chair, President Clarke**

- No report

**Infrastructure Committee Report: Committee Chair, President Clarke**

- No report

**Unfinished Business:**

- No report

**New Business:**

- Attorney Don Cravens advised that a zoning petition has been filed around New Berlin to change from Ag Zoning to R1 and along with definition changes. The County has limited authority on Solar Farms. The Villages have no authority. This would allow the County or Village to have a say. It's an incentive to sign an annexation agreement. There are no real estate implications as the usage stays the same. Does the Village Board want to encourage our County Board member to vote yes to support the petition. Consensus was that we would want our County Board member to vote yes for this.
- President Clarke discussed the Santa House. It is ready to be sold or donated. Consensus was to sell it. Agreed to sell it through I-bid.
- President Clarke advised that the Memorial Day event is at 10am on Monday, May 25.
- President Clarke advised that the next scheduled Board Meeting is Tuesday, May 26.
- There are storm drains behind the houses behind Pawnee Assembly that we are investigating.

- President Clarke advised they interviewed 5 kids for summer help. They are ready to hire 2-3. Jeff Schober advised he could use 3.

**Motion** made by Trustee Thompson to hire 3 summer help at \$15/hr. Cole Wangen, Blake Sherff and Randy Schutt

Second made by Trustee Walters

Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes

Motion Carried: (5-0)

**Motion to Adjourn:**

- **Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to adjourn

Second made by Trustee Grant

Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes

Motion Carried: (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm on Monday, May 11, 2026. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at the Village Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Devona Martin  
Village Clerk