

VILLAGE OF PAWNEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of September 14, 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, Troy Grant, Patrick Murphy, David Skinner
- Trustees Absent: Phillip Thompson, Erika Guess
- Also in attendance: Attorney Don Craven, Village Administrator Brent Wise, Chief Barclay Harris, Travis Simpson, Susan Luke, Jessica Atwood, Michael Craft, Jessica Leach and Lane Alster

Visitor's Recognition/Comments:

- None

Clerk's Report:

- Minutes of August 24, 2026, were presented for review and approval
Motion made by Trustee Murphy to approve the minutes of August 24, 2026, as presented
Second made by Trustee Skinner
Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Trustee Skinner presented the bills payable for the week ending September 14, 2026, in the amount of \$166,184.39
Motion made by Trustee Skinner to approve the bills payable for the week ending September 14, 2026, in the amount of \$166,184.39
Second made by Trustee Walters
Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Walters

- Trustee Walters advised the Board that there were 2 water main breaks over the weekend. The first was at 8th and Jefferson. It collapsed due to corrosion. After it was repaired, there was another leak just north of that. Water was shut down from 6th to 9th during the repair. Trustee Walters advised the breaks were not related to the increased pressure. He also advised they will finish tapping in the new services next week.

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

- Trustee Grant advised that Jeff Schober indicated they have been replacing some street signs, cutting down trees, cleaning the ditch under Michelle Drive, picking up limbs and mowing roadsides again. They also replaced a section of sidewalk north of the food pantry.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Chief Barclay Harris presented the Monthly Police Report
Motion made by Trustee Skinner to approve the Monthly Police Report
 Second made by Trustee Murphy
 Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes
 Motion Carried: (4-0)

Sewers and Parks Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- Travis Simpson advised that Board that they will probably be pouring the concrete pad for the batting cage next week. The netting will be taking down over the winter. President Clarke asked if we should install cameras at North Park. He will go ahead and get prices.
- Travis Simpson asked about the burn pile. The cameras are now up and running. Consensus was that we will open it back up.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Murphy

- Trustee Murphy advised the Board that there was a special zoning board meeting on September 2, 2026, to discuss The Shed. After the information was obtained, the matter was put forth to vote. A building permit was not approved by a 5-1 vote. Prior to a vote to re-affirm or disapprove the zoning boards vote, there are several people here to speak. Susan Luke appeared on behalf of the Pawnee Park. She stated that as a matter of health and safety, they don't support the permit. If there was an issue, the time it would take to trouble shoot and repair, it would keep them from having sewer and water for an extended period of time. Attorney Lane Alster, attorney for The Shed, then spoke. He advised we can't put the genie back in the bottle. The Village asserted that permits were needed for the concrete pad and deck. Based on the letter back in May, Jessica did apply for the permits that she failed to get. She is open to doing whatever is needed regarding the concrete patio and construction of the deck. Trustee Skinner asked what the zoning board specifically voted on. Attorney Craven advised that the building permit she applied for was denied. She then appealed the denial to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a variance and the Zoning Board of appeals denied the variance and building permit for the structure and the concrete pad. Trustee Skinner then asked if both items required a variance or only 1. Trustee Murphy advised the Board that the problem with the pad is that it is over the sewer line that requires a variance. Problem with the deck is that it must comply with the International Building Codes and it does not. The support posts are flush with the concrete and not sunk for support. That does not meet code. The Board asked if she is willing to do whatever it take upon having an issue or if she is going to be proactive in doing it now. She would take a reactive approach. Attorney Alster is asking the Board what they would consider as a satisfactory resolution as they are willing to listen to suggestions. Trustee Murphy advised it is critical that we have access to the sewer line. There may also be an issue with an easement as it is not reflective on a map. This causes it to be more complex as there is not identified easement dimensions. Attorney Alster advised that it was not listed on the title work when she purchased the property and she may have some legal rights since it was not clear on the title work. She did,

however, know there was a sewer line running through her property. Agreed that it does create confusion on width and scope. President Clarke advised the Board that the main problem is the concrete over our sewer line will add 1-2 days of repair time. Then, residents in Pawnee Park will not have water or sewer. Trustee Murphy advised that beyond obvious digging down, there are other things to consider regarding access, and this should be put in writing to make it easy and smooth. Discussed the location of the sewer line and Travis Simpson advised that he would have to use cameras to pinpoint the exact location. Trustee Skinner said if we can locate, and then sawcut the concrete so that we are prepared and then everyone knows where it's located. President Clarke advised that there is a process to be followed. If we don't uphold the process, what keeps someone from getting a building permit for a fence and then building a house. Trustee Murphy advised we should vote to affirm or not affirm the zoning board decision first. Then we should discuss just and fair sanctions. Lastly, we would need to determine what needs to be done to move forward so that everyone is on the same page.

Motion made by Trustee Murphy for re-approval of the action by the Zoning Board of Appeals from September 2, 2026, wherein the variance requested by SMC Copperheads was denied on a 5-1 vote.

Second made by Trustee Walters

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

Motion Carried: (4-0)

- Attorney Cravens suggested that he and Attorney Alster work together on remediation and how to move forward. All parties agreed. Susan Luke from Pawnee Park advised the Board that she is all for doing whatever on your own property until it affects other people. Sanction discussion will be on the next scheduled board meeting agenda. We'll also discuss remediation if the attorneys are able to get together. Trustee Murphy advised the Board that the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting was a professional meeting. It was not a pleasant topic but professionally conducted by all parties and he appreciated it. The sanction is just for the building permit. It has nothing to do with the liquor license.

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:

- Discussed the Donahue property. The taxes are up for sale. Current bid is \$750. It is in a flood plain. Consensus was to offer \$1,010 to buy it outright. The county is taking sealed bids. We will also put in a notice that the Village is planning to demolish so that anyone that wants to bid on it knows the home is not habitable. It is also in a flood plain so it cannot be built on.

Motion to Adjourn:

- **Motion** made by Trustee Murphy to adjourn
Second made by Trustee Grant
Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm on Monday, September 14, 2026. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, September 28, 2026 at the Village Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Devona Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Devona" and last name "Martin" clearly distinguishable.

Devona Martin
Village Clerk