

**Hart County Recreation Department
Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
June 16, 2026**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Bob Frye

Present: Steve Wehunt, Lonnie Robinson, Erin Gaines, and Casey Powell

Staff Present: Jim Owens, Recreation Director

Visitor: Rusty Thornton, Canaan Richardson, Warren Herchburger, Zack York, and Vance Foster

Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda with amendments by Mr. Wehunt. A second was given by Mr. Robinson. Vote: 5-0

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Robinson to approve May minutes. A second was given by Mr. Powell. Vote: 5-0.

Chairman's Report: None

Board Member Reports: Mr. Robinson asked for an update on the batting cage project. He also asked about protecting assistant coaches for football. Mr. Powell asked about summer football practices.

Directors Report: Director Owens informed the RAB that registration for Fall Sports is over 360 participants.

Old Business: Batting Cage Project discussion. A motion was made by Mr. Powell to reject the 2 carpet bids and purchase the carpet outright pending the availability of the carpet. A second was given by Mr. Robinson. Vote: 5-0. We will then go and pick up the carpet from Dalton to save on freight. A contractor will install the carpet. Fall Sports coaches discussion: Mr. Robinson asked how assistant coaches can be protected. Mr. Frye said assistant coaches cannot be protected in a draft situation. Mr. Robinson asked that a printed copy of the league rules be given to all coaches and assistant coaches.

New Business: The Board of Commissioners asked that the RAB recommend a clear and consistent plan of action and direction going forward to fix facility issues. A discussion was had about facilities and concerns of the RAB. A motion was made by Mrs. Gaines to "go in a different for the Recreation Director position." A second was given by Mr. Powell. Vote: 3-2. Mr. Wehunt and Mr. Robinson voted against.

Public Comment: A discussion was made regarding facilities and moving forward.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Gaines made a motion to adjourn. A second was given by Mr. Powell.

Minutes by James A. Owens, CPRP
Recreation and Parks Director

Next scheduled meeting: July 21, 2026, at 6:00 pm at the Clay Street Park HYDRA meeting room. Meeting time may be changed due to circumstances. Notification will be given as soon as possible in the event of a change.