

VILLAGE OF COTTAGE GROVE
VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tuesday, February 2, 2026

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

President Kelm-Nelson called the Village Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 pm. This was a hybrid meeting.

2. Determination of quorum and that the agenda was properly posted.

It was determined that there was a quorum of members present, and that the agenda was properly posted. The Village Board members present were Cindi Kelm-Nelson, Heidi Murphy, Chris Stoa, Paula Severson, Pete Doll left the meeting at 7:30 pm and Dr. Rene Buenzow. Staff present were Village Administrator Matt Giese, Assistant Administrator/Finance Director Cameron Sawyer, Assistant Administrator/HR Manager Inga Cushman, Director of Planning & Development Erin Ruth, Director of Parks and Recreation Sean Brusegar, Public Works Director Kyela O'Loughlin, Police Chief Mark Garry, Clerk, Lisa Kalata, EMS Director Eric Lang, and Village Attorney Rick Manthe.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES – Public's opportunity to speak- John Marick, Catherin Marick, Linda Ande

5. Discuss and consider the minutes of the Village Board meeting on January 20, 2026.

Motion by Murphy to approve January 20, 2026, meeting minutes, seconded by Kelm-Nelson. **Motion** carried with a voice vote of 6-0-0.

6. New Business

a. Discuss and consider Resolution 2026-02 Re: TID#5 Termination

Motion by Murphy to approve Resolution 2026-02, seconded by Stoa. **Motion** carried with a voice vote of 6-0-0.

b. Discuss and consider Resolution 2026-03 Re: Black History Month.

Motion by Severson to approve Resolution 2026-03, seconded by Kelm-Nelson. **Motion** carried with a voice vote of 6-0-0.

7. Reports from Village Boards, Commissions & Committees

a. Plan Commission

a.i. Discuss and Consider a request from The Village Board of Trustees for the rezoning parcels #0711-091-9180-9, #0711-091-9187-1, #0711-091-9201-3, #0711-091-9210-2, #0711-091-9221-1, #0711-091-9230-8, #0711-091-9265-7, #0711-091-9275-5, and #0711-091-9194-1 from PB, Planned Business to CB, Central Business.

Motion by Severson to withdraw the request for the rezoning, seconded by Murphy. **Motion** carried with a voice vote of 6-0-0.

b. Emergency Preparedness Committee

Kelm-Nelson reported they appointed a Chair and Vice Chair of the committee. They discussed the plan and potential ordinance changes. The next meeting is February 22, and they will be forwarding a new plan to the Village Board.

c. Cottage Grove Fire District Commission

Buenzow reported that the Fire Chief reported that 20% of calls are false alarms. They discussed the fishbowl chairs, and they tabled until funding is determined. The electric upgrades have been completed. They discussed the on call for the Town and Village Public Works department. They discussed the amendments needed for the false alarm ordinance.

c.i. Discuss and consider direction to staff regarding potential amendments to the false alarm ordinance.

Staff direction was given to Chief Garry and Chief Archibald to work with legal on the amendments based on the staff memo and to exempt medical calls and non-profits.

d. Law Enforcement Committee

Stoa reported they approved the sexting ordinance. Chief gave an overview of the flock cameras. E-bike and scooter usage and the annual report will be on the next agenda.

d.i. Discuss and Consider Ordinance 03-2026 Re: Sexting Ordinance.

Motion by Severson to approve Ordinance 03-2026, seconded by Murphy. **Motion** carried with a voice vote of 5-0-0.

e. Library Board

Kelm-Nelson reported they reviewed the mission, vision and core values. They discussed the programming that is going out in the mailer this week. Updates on two free little libraries. The all community read is February 3 at GDS. The next meeting is February 18.

f. Parks, Recreation & Forestry Committee

Murphy reported there was an update on Miracle League playground and Shady Grove Park. The new Guide will be out on February 18. The next meeting is February 26.

g. Natvig Landfill Monitoring Review Committee

Buenzow reported they approved the bills.

h. Ad Hoc Housing Chapter Update Committee

Severson reported they are working on the housing priorities, strategies, and action items. The next meeting is February 4.

8. Reports From Village Officers

a. Village Attorney

i. Legal briefings/status update- None

b. Village Administrator

Giese reported an anniversary for Sergeant Frutiger of 21 years. Village Staff helped a resident with her car key.

c. Assistant Administrator/Finance Director

i. Update on Impact Fee Study and staff direction regarding proposed impact fee amounts.

Staff was directed to use the numbers from the study for the ordinance.

9. Communications And Miscellaneous Business

a. Consider approval of vouchers

Motion by Murphy to approve the vouchers as presented, seconded by Severson. **Motion** carried with a voice vote of 5-0-0.

b. Correspondence- The kick-off meeting for the Fire and EMS study was on January 29.

c. Upcoming community events- Community Read February 3, Family Fun Night February 13 at Cottage Grove School, Night Hike February 7. Police Department Polar Plunge February 14 for Special Olympics.

d. Future agenda items- 107 Cottage Grove Rd property, Flock Camera system, budget amendment

10. Adjournment

Motion by Severson to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Murphy. **Motion** carried with a voice vote of 5-0-0.

Lisa Kalata, Clerk

Village of Cottage Grove

Approved: February 2, 2026

These minutes represent the general subject discussed in this meeting but do not reflect a verbatim documentation of the subjects and conversations that took place.