

NISRA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
NISRA Office, Crystal Lake
January 21, 2026

Meeting Minutes

1.00 Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:33 PM by Scott Crowe

Roll Call: Teresa Jennings (Barrington), Dan Jones (Cary), Jason Herbster (Crystal Lake), Dave Peterson (Dundee), Jen Hermonson (Elgin), Laura Schraw (Hampshire), Jo Atkinson (Harvard), Scott Crowe (Huntley), Randy Splitt (Lake in the Hills), Tim Staton (Wauconda)

Staff Present: Jim Wiseman, Executive Director; Heidi Jenkins, Superintendent of Recreation; Patty Panas, Senior Manager of Human Resources and Administration; Tara Mackey, Recording Secretary

2.00 Recognition of Visitors & Matters from the Public:

There were no matters from the public or visitors at this time.

3.00 Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Jenkins reported that Veterans Fitness and Fellowship program is growing and bringing in the Centre of Elgin as a new site. Since the start of 2026 Trisha Seng, Manager of Adult Day and Veteran programs, and Nicole Eisenrich, Veteran program specialist, have been performing between 8-10 new intakes a week. Adult day program numbers are also continuing to grow. Seng is looking to add 5 more participants to the Crystal Lake site 2 days a week. The Leisure Ed program is also reaching out to more special education programs to have them participate in a program at NISRA. NISRA's Inclusion services are continuing to grow and build great relationships with our district's staff. Mia Ross, Manager of Inclusion, and April Bodmer, Inclusion specialist, have been providing trainings to staff along with building a new inclusion website for our member districts with resources, trainings, and efficient communication. Jenkins also mentioned the great success of NISRA's first out of country 5-day cruise since COVID to the Bahamas with 12 participants and 3 staff.

4.00 Director's Report:

Director Wiseman and staff will be meeting with the Association's new IAPD/IPRA Distinguished Accreditation mentor, Alison Niemela executive director of Batavia Park District, January 22nd. The new timeline for NISRA to go through the review process has been reset for fall of 2026. Last November, the NISRA Foundation received an \$8,000 donation from the Rotary Club of Crystal Lake Dawnbreakers. NISRA will be using some of the funds to install a sensory wall and a 43" TV for messaging purposed in its' lobby. Director Wiseman will be attending the Mental Health Resource League's Annual meeting on January 26th and also IAPD/IPRA State conference January 29-31. He thanked Cary Park District for including him at their table for the Annual IAPD/IPRA Awards Luncheon on Friday, January 30th. Wiseman invited board members to attend the Lamp Inc. Casino Night dinner and social at Mortin's Steakhouse that Friday as well.

5.00 Presentation & Acceptance of Consent Agenda Items:

A motion to approve November 19,2025 Meeting Minutes, Acceptance of Strategic Planning Committee Report from November 19,2025, November 30 & December 31,2025 Financial Reports, and Warrant #8 & #9, FY 2025/26

Motion by: Jones 2nd by: Herbster

Roll Call: Jennings, Jones, Herbster, Peterson, Hermonson, Schraw, Atkinson, Crowe, Splitt, Staton

Ayes: 10

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

6.00 Old Business

7.00 New Business

7.10 Resolution Appointing a new IMRF Authorized Agent

Director Wiseman stated that when NISRA changed to contractual accounting a change needed to be made to the authorized agent to the Executive Director, however it is more practical for Patty Panas, Senior Manager of HR and Administration, who works closely payroll and the contracted accountant. Director Wiseman would be removed from this position with the ability to have access if needed.

A motion to approve Patty Panas as the new IMRF authorized agent

Motion by: Hermonson 2nd by: Peterson

Roll Call: Jennings, Jones, Herbster, Peterson, Hermonson, Schraw, Atkinson, Crowe, Splitt, Staton

Ayes: 10

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

7.20 FY 25/26 Mid-Year Strategic Plan Goals update

Superintendent Jenkins and the strategic plan committee updated and reviewed the plan in November. Staff are moving forward with their objectives. The plan is looked at by NISRA staff in the summer at the Annual planning meeting and the committee creates more formalized goals from there. Director Crowe has asked for more context with the updates in the future. The board members discussed whether there should be an updated Board President signature at the bottom of the plan. It was concluded that the Board President who signed off on the initial plan once it was approved by the Board will stay.

There was no motion. The Strategic Plan was reviewed by the board.

7.30 Strategic Plan Review and Approval FY26/27-FY28/29

The plan was created at the Annual planning meeting in August 2025. The strategic plan covers May 1, 2026 – April 30, 2029. Superintendent Jenkins again took the lead. The new initiatives include celebrating NISRA's 50th anniversary, evaluating our services and possibly restructuring/reevaluating programs for financial reasons and seeing what the community needs. Reevaluation of capital expenses will also be performed.

A motion to approve the Strategic Plan FY 26/27-28/29 as presented

Motion by: Hermonson 2nd by: Jones

Ayes: 10

Nays: 0

Motion carried by voice vote.

