



SANDYPINES
RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY

FOOTPRINTS

IN THE SAND



FEBRUARY 2026

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 Abby Greenfield.....Ext. 800
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Dave Ingles, Manager
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Golf@golflmgc.com

Laundromat Hours – Open 24 Hours

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Jeff Sweitzer Park President
 Kimberly Williams Finance & Accounting
 Steve Deyarmond Emergency Services
 Ben Fifelski Maintenance
 Dave Ingles Lake Monterey
 Golf Course

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Janele Tomes Camping
 Ian Mitchell Communications
 Chet Ryan..... Park & Garden Manager
 Dale Yoder Food Operations Manager
 Jim Buchanan..... Park Inspector
 Paul Schaaf Security Services
 Abby Greenfield..... Recreation

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance..... Ginny Hager
 Golf Course Joe Zomerlei
 Long Range Planning..... Kevin Hager
 Rules Kelly Johnson
 Safety & Security..... Rick Ives
 Lake Study..... Valerie Troschinetz
 Library..... Patience Pike

OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to providing
 a fun and safe environment
 where families and friends
 create a lifetime of memories.



RETAIL SERVICES

BBlessed316
 Therapeutic Center..... 616-422-7909
www.messagebook.com/biz/blessed316sandypines
 Dairy Dip 616.405.5643
 Park & Garden Store 616.896.9334
 Park & Garden
 Rental Office 616.896.9888

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cory Berens.....(2028)
 Rick Day, Secretary(2026)
 Kolyn Giebel(2028)
 Ginny Hager, Treasurer(2027)
 Kelly Johnson(2028)
 Larry Munger(2027)
 Craig Van Beek, Chairperson(2026)
 Scot Wyman, Vice Chairperson.....(2027)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

The Sandy Pines Board of Directors
 will provide positive leadership and
 management direction so as to ensure
 the long term viability and success of
 Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc.



PARK PRESIDENT NEWS

BY JEFF SWEITZER Jeff@SandyPines.com

Hello Sandy Pines! February is a special month to focus on love and to celebrate the relationships that sustain us. It's also a fresh opportunity to connect, rejoice, and grow together — whether at Sandy Pines or wherever you are this month.

It reminded me of a verse that showed up recently on My Bible App: in 1 Corinthians 1:10, Paul urges us to seek unity of heart and mind — to avoid division and be “perfectly united in mind and thought.” That spirit guides our plans for Sandy Pines, this month, this year, and well beyond. We have many important and challenging decisions to make. While we may not all agree, please know the board, the staff, committees, and I have the best interest in Sandy Pines at the forefront when making decisions.

Safety First!

Although our 2026 Season actually started in October, we are currently in our off-season and there remains much to do at Sandy Pines. We have full-time staff continually maintaining the park, patrolling and protecting our property as well as your investments, and the administration building is fully staffed to take calls processing payments, sales and fielding questions. We work on many projects in preparation for the anticipated arrival of members in April. With that in mind, we have seen an increased level of violations this off-season, speeding and running stop signs to name just a couple. Responses from members have been, “The park is closed. There is no activity. No one is here. Rules don't apply during the off-season.”

This cannot be further from the truth. Although the water is shut off to member sites and overnight stays are discouraged during the park's off-season, there remains activity here at Sandy Pines. Members come in to clean up their sites, remove snow, rake leaves, walk, use the fitness center, etc. Contractors are in the park as well completing or quoting projects. Please keep our staff, contractors and fellow members safe by adhering to our rules during the off-season. Thank you for your attention and understanding in this matter.

Board Meeting

On January 16, 2026, our off-season board meeting was held to focus on reporting our end of fiscal year financial results, October 2024 – September 2025. Under our CFO Kimberly Williams' leadership, the park is in a strong financial position, which is supported by our third-party accounting firm's review this past December 2025. However, as with anything else, we are always looking to improve and build on the good things we are already blessed with. For more information including graphs and highlights from the review, please see Kimberly's article later in this month's Footprints edition. She has done an excellent job gathering and consolidating financial information for members to better understand and review.

The board decided on the open board vacancy left due to the resignation of Pat Doezema. Following the Sandy Pines Bylaws, the board had many viable options to consider. A majority decision was made to appoint Paul Peppel to fulfill the remaining term. We welcome Paul back to the board as a full board is needed this season. We have a lot of work to do and numerous critical decisions to make in 2026. For more information on this decision and the board options, please see our Board Chairperson Craig VanBeek's article later in this month's Footprints edition.

2026 Renewals

Just a friendly reminder 2026 Renewals close at the end of this

month. Currently, we are at 25.2% complete, 545 members completed their renewals. Thank you to all who have logged into the portal to complete your renewals. We are slightly behind from last year's renewal numbers of 31.1% or 672 members completed renewals at this same time last year. Renewals will close on February 28, 2026. If not completed by that date, your 2025 renewals will automatically roll over into this year. If you have any questions regarding your renewals, please contact Member Service. Nichole stands ready to help. Grab a cup of hot coco, sit down someplace warm, login and complete those 2026 Renewals!

Capital Investment Survey

Investment in Sandy Pines is an investment for future generations, kids, grandkids and loved ones. This is your opportunity to let us hear your voice. Last July, many of you took the time to participate in our Long-Range Planning Survey. Your feedback played an important role in helping us better understand what matters most to our members as we plan for the future of Sandy Pines.

We're now following up with a new Community Asset Investment Priorities Survey, designed to build on that input and take the conversation one step further. This survey focuses on how community assets should be prioritized for future investment, helping protect and strengthen your investment at Sandy Pines.

Your responses will be used to help guide planning and community decision-making, alongside park requirements, maintenance needs, regulatory considerations, and available funding. Hearing from members across all phases and usage types helps ensure future priorities reflect the full Sandy Pines community.

The survey takes approximately 10–15 minutes to complete, and we encourage all members to participate if you have not already done so! If you have already completed the survey, Thank You for your input on these critical topics.

Thank you for continuing to share your perspective and helping shape the future of Sandy Pines. Your voice truly matters, and we appreciate you being part of the process.

So, what are the next steps? Stay tuned as we review the results with our cross-functional team of board members, finance and long-range committee members, our operational staff, leadership staff and contracted engineering firm. From there, we will review the results with the board. Additional surveys and communications will be released in preparation for townhall meetings for much of this season. We are blessed with our amazing park! Let's secure its future!

Thank you for allowing our team and me to serve the membership and Sandy Pines.

God Bless!

Ephesians 4:2

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing one another in love.

1 John 4:16

And so, we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY NICHOLE MILBOCKER MemberService@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 8 am to 4 pm
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

Contact Information

Phone: 616-896-8315 x 0
Fax: 616-896-7409
Email: MemberService@SandyPines.com

Important Dates

FEBRUARY 7th	Winterfest
FEBRUARY 14th	Valentine's Day
FEBRUARY 25th	Member Account Balances & Quarterly Electric Due
FEBRUARY 28th	Last Day for Renewal Submissions

Welcome to February members! Even though it is still wintery and cold the start of the season is just around the corner. We are busy with renewals and making the needed preparations for the upcoming season. There aren't too many things to share this month, but here are a few date reminders you may have missed.

Dues

For all choosing to utilize the payment plan, the February maximum balance amount must be at or below \$433.79. You will see this referenced in the body of your email. Make sure to scroll to the bottom of the email for your account balance. All payment options still apply as always.

Billing Portal Access

We have received numerous calls with issues logging into the billing LINK. To access that link, all members must first log into the member portal. Once logged in, scroll across the menu to the LINK tab. Select that tab. If this is your first time in the new billing system, you will need to use the log-in information provided on that page. This login must be the Primary members email address as the username, and use primary members' last name is lowercase as the password. It will then prompt a password reset and ask you some security questions. Both members will need to use the same log-in credentials for billing access.

Renewals

Renewals are open in your portal for review and updating for the 2026 season. This is where you can make any needed changes to pump out plans, remove golf carts, boats, associates etc. and add or remove a water softener. For assistance with your renewal, you may contact Member Service 616-896-8315 ext. 100. All renewals must be completed no later than the 28th, after that all will roll over and stay same as last year.

Members with a boat stake-must have a boat registered on your site to retain your boat stake (Failure to do so could result in loss of stake)

Renewal Billings will be applied to your April statement.

4. Click on LINKS



MY INFO

You can make changes to the fields below.
Please click 'Save Changes' when completed.

5. Click on MAKE A PAYMENT



EXTERNAL LINKS

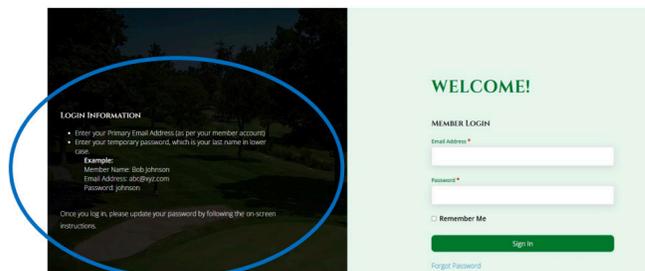
All links will open in a new window.

[Make a Payment](#)

[Make a Reservation](#)

6. Login to new payment system following the instructions on the LEFT

- Primary Email Address = Primary Member or Main email on Sandy Pines Site/Account Profile



hellos are better in
person. that's why
we're local.

simple human sense



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

BY CRAIG VAN BEEK BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com

Welcome to 2026! I am excited to get back to Sandy Pines and to see maintenance turning the water back on in a few short months! I miss seeing our neighbors, riding around in the golf cart, and stopping for ice cream. Those simple moments are part of what makes this place so special.

I wanted to share a brief update on several items the Board of Directors is currently working on.

First, we continue to explore options for extending some services beyond Labor Day. We have had several good conversations and have heard some thoughtful ideas as we consider what might be possible moving forward.

Second, the Board is continuing to explore the possibility of a FEMA grant to replace CC #1. This is still in the exploratory phase, but it remains an important conversation as we look at long-term infrastructure needs.

The lake continues to be at the forefront of our discussions as well. We know the lake is one of our most valued assets, and it is essential that we make wise decisions to ensure the lake remains at a preferred level and that shoreline erosion is addressed responsibly.

Finally, we are turning our attention to our capital investment. Our current capital assessment will expire after the 2027 season, and it is vital that we continue to care for our facilities and our lake. Please take a moment, if you have not already done so, to complete the survey regarding our next capital investment. Your input is important as we plan for the future of Sandy Pines.

I would also like to take a moment to thank Pat Doezema for her service on the Board of Directors. Pat and her husband experienced some life changes and recently decided to sell, which created a vacancy on the board. According to our bylaws, the board had two options:

1. Leave the position open until the next election
2. Fill the vacancy for the remainder of this year

The board decided to select the option to fill the vacancy for the remainder of this year as this is the best option for our community as we have many important decisions ahead of us this year. Based on that direction the board has the following options to fill the vacant position.

1. Appoint the highest vote-getter from the last election who was not seated
2. Appoint someone of the board's choosing
3. Call a special meeting of the members

At our January meeting, the Board chose to appoint Paul Peppel to fill the open position for the remainder of the term, which expires this year. With the number of projects currently underway at Sandy Pines, the majority of the board felt it was important to have someone with years of Sandy Pines

experience, member, committee, board, etc. who could step in immediately. We are grateful to Paul for his willingness to continue serving our membership.

I would like to close with a prayer.

Gracious and faithful God,
As we stand at the beginning of a new year, we pause to give You thanks. Today, we ask Your blessing upon Sandy Pines, our members and the staff. Thank You for this place, for the memories made here, the relationships formed here, and the countless lives touched within this community. May Sandy Pines continue to be a place of welcome, peace, and belonging. May it be a place where laughter is heard, burdens are lightened, and people experience care, kindness, and community.

We place this new year, our membership, our staff and this beloved place into Your hands, trusting that You go before us and walk beside us.

We pray all of this in Your holy name.
Amen.



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FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAMS

Kim@SandyPines.com

2026 Seasonal Renewal Portal

As of Monday, January 12, 2026, all members should have received a notification indicating that your Member Renewal is now available for review and approval on the Member Portal. Renewal approvals are due by February 28, 2026. All renewal billings will be processed in March and reflected on your April 2026 statements. Renewal stickers will be available for pickup at the Administration office after April 6, 2026.

Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails (Fiscal Year-End 2025)

Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails ended Fiscal Year 2025 in a strong overall financial position, supported by stable reserves, growing assets, and continued investment in the park's property and amenities. While revenues remained solid and finished slightly above budget, higher operating costs—particularly utilities and general expenses—had a direct impact on the year's net results. Even with a net operating loss reported, the organization maintained positive cash flow after non-cash depreciation and continues to protect reserves to support long-term stability. Looking ahead, Sandy Pines remains focused on responsible financial stewardship, proactive planning, and maintaining affordability while preparing for future capital needs.

Financial Outlook

- » Strong overall financial position
- » Continued investment in property and amenities
- » Higher costs had a direct impact on results this year
- » Reserves remain protected, for long-term stability

Financial Highlights (FYE2025)

- » Overall Results
 - » Total Income \$9.32M, (ended \$176.8k over budget)
 - » Total Operational Expense \$9.44M, (ended \$408.9k over budget)
 - » Net Income (Loss) was (\$406.6k), (budget expected a loss of (\$168.2k)
 - » After Non-Cash expenses such as depreciation, there was still a cash flow increase of \$274k
 - » While this is still a cash flow gain it has declined from prior year increases
- » Balance Sheet Snapshot
 - » Total Assets: \$27.44M, up from \$25.85M last year
 - » Total Current Assets: \$7.55M, up from \$6.62M last year
 - » Total Liabilities: \$1.29M, up from \$952k last year
 - » Total Equity: \$26.15M, up from \$24.90M last year
- » Cash & Investments
 - » Operations Cash: \$3.78M, which is up from \$3.37M in the prior year
 - » Asset Replacement Cash: \$498k, which is up from \$123k in the prior year
 - » Charles Schwab Investment: \$1.90M, which is up from \$1.83M in the prior year
- » Key Revenue Performance
 - » Resort Service Income \$5.65M, (ended \$274k over budget)
 - » Sales/Hospitality Income \$1.26M, (ended \$116k over budget)
 - » Retail Center Income \$629k, (ended \$80k under budget)

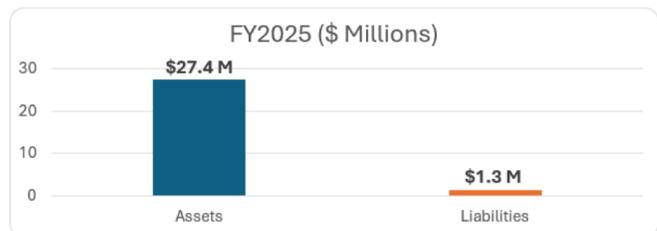
» Main Expense Drivers / Over-Budget Items

- » Utilities Expense \$1.20M, (ended \$248k over budget)
- » General Expense \$730k, (ended \$197k over budget)
 - » Includes: Seminars, Licensing, Postage, Professional Services, General Insurance and Bank/Credit Card Fees
- » Property Tax Expense \$529k, (ended \$54k over budget)
- » Depreciation \$680k, (ended \$60k over budget)
- » Other Operating Expense \$1.61M, (ended \$55k over budget)
 - » Includes: Inspection Expense, Tree Removal Costs, Dock, Prox Card and Sticker Expense, Meals Expense, Prox Card Fees, Social Activities, Cable and WiFi Expense, Gasoline Expense, and Rental and Hospitality Expense
- » Other Income / Interest Earnings
 - » Total Other Income \$173k (ended \$112k over budget)
 - » Includes: Gain/Loss on Assets, Interest Income on Bank Accounts and Investments
 - » Interest Income: \$88.9k, (which is significantly above budget)
 - » Dividend/Interest Income from Investments: \$86.2k, (which is significantly above budget)

» Summary Review of Highlights

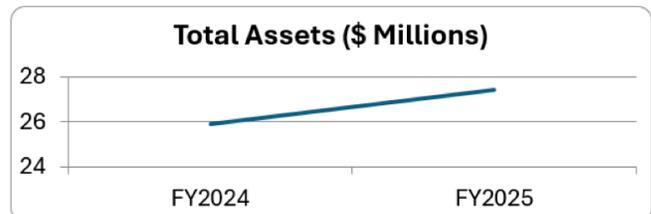
- » Revenues remained strong overall and ended the year slightly above budget
- » The year ended with a net loss, driven primarily by higher operating costs, especially utilities and general expenses
- » Cash and reserves remain stable, and total assets increased year-over year.

Financial Position Snapshot



The financial stability of Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc. is supported by total assets that substantially exceed its liabilities.

Asset Growth Over Time

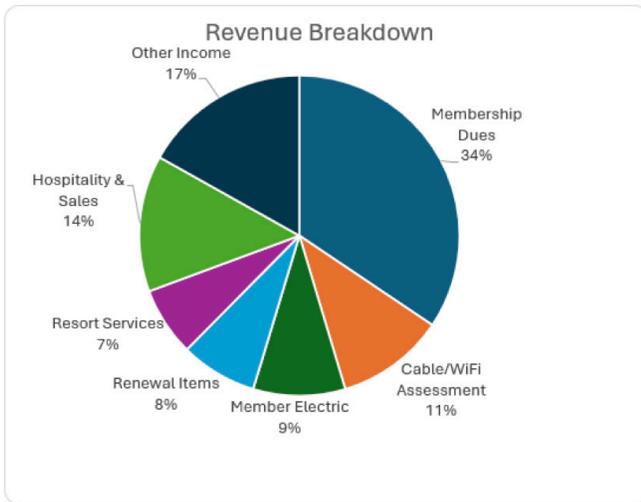


Total assets increased from \$25.9M in FY2024 to \$27.4M in FY2025, demonstrating steady financial growth.

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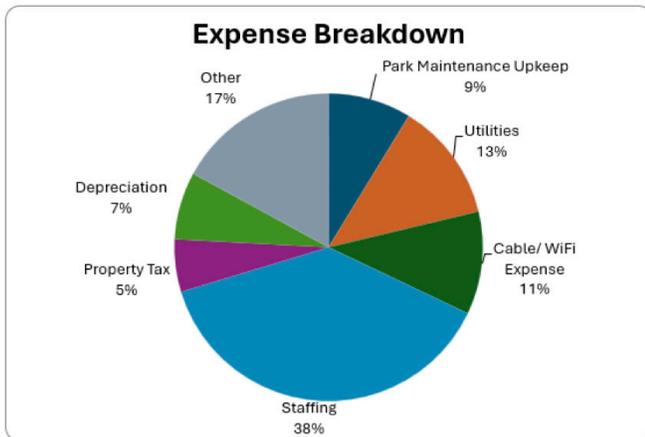
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Where Our Money Comes From



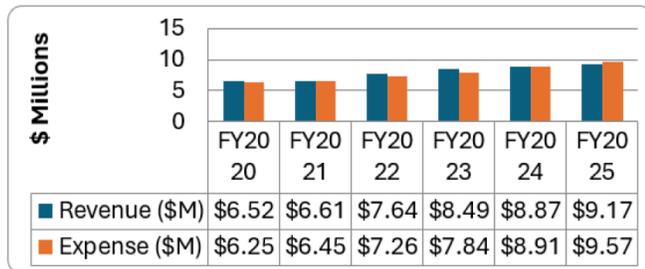
- Membership Dues makes up 34% of Operational Income and covers 35% of Total Operational Expenses (minus Golf Assessment and Depreciation)
- Other Income sources include Administration Income (minus stickers), Maintenance Income, Public Safety, Recreation, Service Charges and Lake Development, Lease Operations, and all Retail Operations.

Where Our Money Is Spent

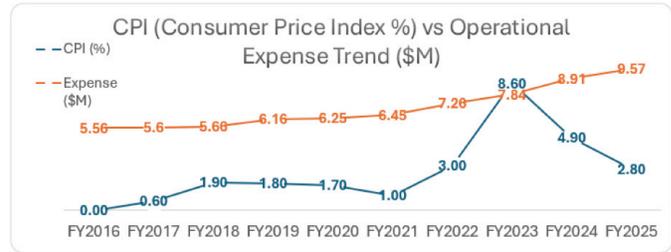


- Total Operational Expenses exclude the Golf Assessment pass through
- Other Expenses include Equipment Expense, Supplies, COGS, Auto Expense, Telephone Expense, Sticker and Newsletter expenses, Postage, Lease Expenses, Social Activity Expense, Professional fees, General Insurance and Licensing and Bank and Credit Card Fees

Revenue vs. Expense Trend (in \$M)



Year-over-year revenue and expense trends demonstrate consistent financial management and are supported by review from the organization's accountants.



Operational costs are rising faster than inflation, highlighting the importance of proactive budgeting and long-term financial planning.

Reserves and Long-Term Stability

- » Maintaining strong cash and investment balances
- » Focus on setting funds aside for future capital updates, maintenance and needs
- » Supports emergency preparedness
- » Protects long-term affordability

Key Financial Stability Metrics

- » Days Cash Reserve at FYE2025: 151 days (daily operations cost \$23,098)
- » Ideal Target for a Not-for-Profit Campground is between 90-180 days
- » More conservative goal is between 180-270 days
- » Membership Dues fund approximately 35% of annual operational expense
- » Ratios exclude non-cash depreciation expense
- » Golf Course Assessment treated as pass-through revenue

Looking Ahead

- » Focus on offsetting increased expenses with revenue opportunities
- » Efforts to improve the efficiency of utilities and services
- » Maintaining essential services
- » Responsible long-term planning through continued Capital Investment

In Summary

- » SPWT continues to remain a financially stable organization
- » We will focus on maintaining and improving assets using available resources
- » We will continue to demonstrate financial stewardship and long-term planning, specifically with the upcoming Capital Investment Review.
- » We will remain committed to member's best interest by providing an affordable, safe environment for lasting memories

Lake Monterey Golf Course (Fiscal Year-End 2025)

Lake Monterey Golf Course, LLC finished fiscal year 2025 in a strong financial position, demonstrating solid operating performance and continued stability supported by both golf activity and annual assessment funding.

Total income for FY2025 was \$865,209, exceeding the annual budget of \$778,750 (111.1% of budget).

This positive performance was primarily driven by strong golf

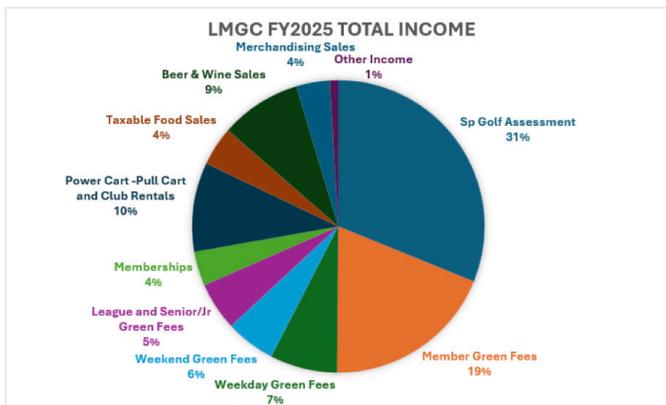
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participation fees and favorable revenue trends in key golf categories, including:

- **Annual Golf Assessment Income:** \$270,375 (100% of budget)
- **Member Green Fees:** \$164,789 (93.1% of budget)
- **Green Fees (Weekday/Weekend/League/Senior):** all performing ahead of budget
- **Cart Rental Income:** \$84,943 (113.3% of budget)
- **Food & Beverage Sales:** Food \$37,557 and Beer/Wine \$77,542 (both exceeding budget 150% and 119%, respectively)

Total operating expenses of \$586,000, was slightly under budget (99.1% of budget). This result reflects a well-managed year of operations, with **Net Income for FY2025** totaling \$207,519, outperforming the annual budget of \$118,000.



The 2025 Fiscal Year-End Financial Statements (as of September 30, 2025), as well as the new 2026 Fiscal Year Financial Statements October 2025 through December 2025, for both Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc. and Lake Monterey Golf Course, LLC can be found on the Sandy Pines website under Finance.

Annual Dues and Assessment Payment Schedule

For members who have selected the monthly installment plan for Annual Dues and Assessments, please note the following schedule. Each monthly payment is \$440.28, due on the 25th of each month from October 2025 through March 2026. This plan applies only to annual dues and assessments.

To remain current, your **balance owed must not exceed** the following amounts by the dates listed:

- October 25: \$2,105.72
- November 25: \$1,697.03

- December 25: \$1,282.20
- January 25: \$861.15
- **February 25: \$433.79**
- March 25: \$0.00 (All dues and assessments paid in full)

How to Calculate Your Monthly Payment

To determine how much to pay each month, subtract the maximum balance allowed for the applicable date from your current balance.

Example: If your December 1 statement shows a balance of **\$1,000.00**, subtract the **February 25 maximum of \$433.79**. Your payment due would be **\$566.21**.

Missed Payments

If a monthly payment is missed, eligibility for the payment plan will be forfeited and the account will be moved into delinquent status. A reactivation fee will be assessed per membership card. If you have concerns about making payments, please contact me or our Park President, Jeff Sweitzer.

Important Reminder

All other member fees and charges billed to your account outside of annual dues and assessments are due by the 25th of the month following the billing date. This includes charges such as services, electricity, state unit tax, and other assessments. These amounts must be added to your monthly installment payment to remain within the balance plan outlined above.

Payment Methods

Payments may be made using any of the following methods:

- In person at Member Service (Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM) or Public Safety (24/7) — live payment posting
- Online bill pay through your bank (use your 4-digit site number and last name as the account number; Sandy Pines is the vendor) — no additional fee (processing time applies)
- USPS mail with a check — no additional fee (processing time applies)
- Online through our website — 3% convenience fee (live payment posting)
- By phone with Member Service or Public Safety — 3% convenience fee (live payment posting)

Please note: A 3% convenience fee applies to credit card payments made online or by phone.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your member statement, we are happy to assist. Please contact us at (896) 8315.

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RECREATION NEWS

BY ABBY GREENFIELD Abby@SandyPines.com

2026 Recreation Hiring

We are looking to hire lifeguards for the 2026 summer season. Applicants must be at least 16 years old and be able to pass a pre-course swimming test that includes swimming 300 yards, treading water for two minutes, and performing rescue saves and first aid. Lifeguard certifications are good for two years. After committing the season to Sandy Pines, we will reimburse for the lifeguard certification. The Recreation Department will have very limited spots for non-lifeguard certified employees. These positions are available to applicants at least 15 years old. Applications are currently available on the website; however, interviews do not start until the spring.

Memorial Service

Every year for Memorial Weekend, we hold a Memorial Service to honor and recognize those who gave the ultimate sacrifice serving and protecting our country. We would love your help in commemorating this day. We are looking for a guest speaker, as well as vocalists for the National Anthem.

Sandy Pines Craft & Vendor Shows

Over the past few years, there has been a decline in attendance at our Holiday Flea Markets. This off season, the team has been hard at work brainstorming ways to revive it. We have decided to rebrand the Flea Markets into Craft and Vendor Shows.

What makes them different? For starters, we are opening vendor applications to the community. We want to bring in new and diverse vendors. Additionally, food trucks and live entertainment will be at these events. To make this more of an event, we also must adjust the timeframe. The Pancake Breakfast, hosted by the Chapel, will be at its normal time 9-11am; however, the Craft and Vendor Show will run from 12-6pm.

There is a new application process that comes with this change. Applicants will submit their application (found on the calendar event) along with descriptions and photos of their products before they are approved. This is to limit the number of duplicate booths.

Additionally, we are opening a limited number of youth booths for our young entrepreneurs. As some of you might have noticed, there is not a Kids Craft show on the schedule this year, that is because we will be hosting 4—one at each of the Craft and Vendor Shows. The kids will have their own section of the show and will need to register. This category is only available to the youth of Sandy Pines, meaning those 17 or younger. The kid's section will not be available to the public. Make sure you look at the information on the calendar for additional details.

Big Weekends of 2026

The communications team is working hard to get all of the 2026 events onto the online calendar. You can already see some of it populating. We have decided to go with themed weeks/weekend next season. The events of each week revolve around a common theme. We are so excited to let our creativity fly with these. Below are the big weekends, their themes, and some of the events happening. A lot more events and details will be found on the online calendar.

Memorial Weekend (May 22nd-25th)

- Tournaments & Memorial Service, Craft & Vendor Show

Pirate Weekend (May 29th-31st)

- Shipwrecked Party & Treasure Hunt

Superhero Weekend (June 5th-7th)

- Cape Making & Movie on the Grass

Decades Weekend (June 12th-14th)

- Amazing Race & Tie Dye

Father's Day Weekend (June 19th-21st)

- Car Show & Poker Run

Garage Sale Weekend – Phases 3, 5, & 6 (June 26th-28th)

- Tie Dye & Drive-In Movie

4th of July Weekend (July 3rd-5th)

- Parade & Fireworks on Saturday, Craft & Vendor Show

Halloween Weekend (July 10th-12th)

- Trunk or Treat & Inflatable Costume Races

Garage Sale Weekend – Phases 1, 2, 4, & Condos (July 17th-19th)

- Tie Dye & Drive-In Movie

Family Weekend (July 24th-29th)

- Family Fun Day

Splash of Color Weekend/Christmas Eve (July 31st-Aug 2nd)

- Color Run & Poker Run

Christmas Weekend (August 7th-9th)

- Lighted Parades & Christmas Cookie Exchange, Craft & Vendor Show

Showcase Weekend (August 14th-16th)

- Sandy Pines Art Gallery & Talent Show

Phase Olympics Weekend (August 21st-23rd)

- Game and Tournaments

Last Splash Weekend (August 28th-30th)

- Water Wars & Water Games

Labor Day Weekend (September 4th-7th)

- Fireworks on Saturday, Craft & Vendor Show

Special Event (September 12th)

- Last Poker Run



DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026
TIME: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
LOCATION: NORTH SHORE CENTER & CHAPEL

FEATURING A BONFIRE, HOT CHOCOLATE AND COFFEE BAR, HOT DOG BAR, COOKIE DECORATING, SNOWMAN BUILDING, A FAMILY FUN GAME, POLAR PLUNGE, DOG SLED DEMONSTRATIONS, AND MORE!

SCAN QR TO VIEW ALL EVENT INFO

SAFETY NEWS

BY STEVE DEYARMOND Steve@SandyPines.com

Membership Cards

Please take the time to review the membership cards associated with your member site in your membership portal. Eligible persons for membership cards include the owners of the membership, your immediate children and their spouses or significant others (associates), your grandchildren; and your parents and grandparents. If you are a single member and have no associate members, you may designate one person as an associate member. Please refer to the Sandy Pines Handbook regarding membership types and regulations.

Lake Ice

The ice on the lake has come and gone several times this year due to cold snaps followed by thawing. Please be cautious and aware of ice conditions before venturing out onto the ice.

Disposal of Trash

Trash disposal at Sandy Pines is intended for trash generated within Sandy Pines. Sandy Pines is not a place where items from home should be brought to the park for disposal.

Throughout the calendar year, staff approach individuals who bring items from home to dispose of at Sandy Pines. Sandy Pines pays for refuse service to remove park-generated waste. Your membership and fees do not support the disposal of trash from home. Please do not bring items from home for disposal.

RAVE Alerts

Sandy Pines utilizes RAVE to communicate urgent messages to the park membership. We have updated the data and information in the RAVE system. If you share phone numbers and email addresses, only the person listed in the membership database will receive notifications.

Please review your membership information to ensure Sandy Pines has your current phone number and email address.

Honoring the Legacy of Lon Arndt – Former Sandy Pines Maintenance Supervisor

Lon retired from Sandy Pines several years ago. He was the Maintenance Supervisor for Sandy Pines from nearly the inception and start of the park. He worked here for over 40 years, dedicating a great deal of time to Sandy Pines.

He was meticulous at keeping records, knowledgeable about the infrastructure of the park, and involved in many projects in building what we now know as Sandy Pines. Members within the park still benefit from the infrastructure improvements he helped implement.

Some of the larger projects included the electrical upgrade of the park, which was necessary because underground wires were burning and fuse panels were blowing due to strain on the system. In addition to overseeing contractors, the maintenance crew installed electric meters on each site during the off-season.

He was involved in and provided oversight for the addition

of Phase 6 (167 sites), the Phase 6 lake, the removal of an earthen dam, and the dredging of Sailboat Cove.

He was also involved in the dredging of the Phase 3 lake, the Phase 2 channel, and the installation of the large culvert under 26th Street. Prior to the installation of the culvert, watercraft from Phase 3 did not have access to the main lake.

He provided oversight for the construction of the Waterpark and pools, as well as the retail center where the Café, Phase 1 laundry, and Park and Garden exist today.

He also oversaw the paving of the roadways in the park. Prior to this, all roads were gravel, full of chuckholes, and dusty.

He had great forethought in preventative maintenance, was highly knowledgeable and skilled in repairs, and kept the facilities operational and clean—something not all campgrounds can say.

His position was not an eight-to-four job. He was here many times after hours, leaving his family to keep the park running by repairing electrical issues and broken waterlines.

Lon, thank you for your service. May you rest in peace.

And to his spouse Dawn, and children Becky and Christy—thank you for sharing him.



Honoring all workers

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SECURITY NEWS

BY PAUL SCHAAF Paul@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

September 2025 Call Stats

In September 2025, Public Safety responded to 84 calls for service. The breakdown of the calls are:

Alarm	2	Power Outage.....	1
Assist.....	12	Suspicious	1
Damage to Property	10	Tree Down	3
Illegal Dumping.....	4	Trespass.....	1
Illegal Entry.....	1	Welfare Check.....	1
Open Door.....	20		

SALES NEWS

BY KENT LIVINGSTON Kent@SandyPines.com

Why Off-Season Buyers Often Become Our Best Long-Term Members

When sales activity slows, it's easy to focus on what's missing — fewer calls, fewer walk-ins, fewer quick wins. But experience shows that some of our best long-term members often start their journey during the off-season.

These buyers may be fewer in number, but they tend to bring something far more valuable: intentionality. Off-season buyers aren't rushed by peak-season energy or impulse decisions. They're thinking carefully. They're comparing options. They're planning ahead. And that mindset often leads to stronger, longer-lasting relationships.

Winter and off-season inquiries usually come from people who are looking ahead. They're considering budgets, timing, and how a purchase fits into their lifestyle. That means conversations tend to be deeper and more meaningful — less about urgency and more about alignment.

For our sales team, this creates an opportunity to truly understand what the buyer is looking for and guide them thoughtfully rather than quickly. Without the pressure of peak-season demand, off-season conversations feel calmer and more personal.

Buyers notice when we take time to answer questions thoroughly, follow up consistently, and provide honest guidance — even if it means waiting. That trust doesn't disappear when the season ramps up. In fact, it often turns into loyalty, referrals, and long-term satisfaction.

While summer may bring volume, the off-season brings clarity. Buyers who commit during this time often do so with confidence and realistic expectations. They know what they're getting, why they're buying, and how it fits their future plans.

These are the members who tend to stay longer, engage more, and appreciate the relationship built from day one.

Off-season sales success isn't about pushing — it's about listening, educating, and being consistent. Every conversation is a chance to show professionalism and care, even if it doesn't result in an immediate sale.

Those efforts often pay off months — or even years — down the road. Slow seasons don't mean unimportant seasons. They're where strong relationships are formed, expectations are set, and some of our best long-term members begin their story with us.

Trash

This is the time of year when we have members coming in to dump trash in the dumpsters at the park. Just a reminder that "No member shall bring trash of any kind into the Park." We do monitor the dumpsters to make sure that our trash compactors aren't being taken advantage of. If you do get caught dumping outside trash at the park, it is a 10-point and \$250 violation.

Snowmobiles

If you are going to be operating snowmobiles in the park, please make sure to follow the rules. Please do not operate snowmobiles in green space or on other members' sites. Please follow the speed limits and traffic signs. Most importantly, be safe.

CAMPING NEWS

BY JANELE TOMES Janele@SandyPines.com

February is here... quiet, cozy, and full of anticipation. The campground may still be resting under the calmness of winter, but our hearts are already counting down to April! The gates will soon be open, and the season we have all been waiting for will begin. Until then, we wait patiently and dream of campfires, morning coffee outside, splashing in the water, and making new memories at our happy place.

Here is what is going on in 2026!

Camping reservations really started to pick up in January. Please spread the word to your family and friends so they reserve their favorite spot.

- Campsites costs are \$80-\$90 per night
- Cabin costs are \$125-\$140 per night
- Trailer costs are \$190-\$275 per night

Sandy Pines offers a variety of accommodations, ensuring that every guest can find the perfect fit for their camping experience. They can easily reserve a campsite, rustic cabin, or park model trailer online through our website. With flexible dates and a range of options, booking your stay is quick and simple.

Sandy Pines offers spacious campsites designed for traditional camping. Whether you're bringing your own tent or RV, these sites provide the perfect base for outdoor adventures and many memories.

If you're looking for a more comfortable camping experience, Sandy Pines rustic cabins provide the ideal blend of outdoor charm and indoor convenience. These cozy cabins feature all the essentials including comfortable sleeping arrangements, lighting, air conditioning, and a mini fridge. The cabins are perfect for those who want to enjoy the camping experience without sacrificing too much comfort.

For those seeking an even more comfortable stay, Sandy Pines park model trailers offer a fantastic option. These fully equipped trailers include modern amenities such as air conditioning, and full kitchen and living area, ensuring that your stay is both comfortable and convenient. Park model trailers are perfect for families who want to enjoy all the benefits of camping with the added comfort of home.

We have a 10% discount for associate members and a 10% military discount for those who are currently serving or have served in the military. Thank you for your service! To apply these discounts, please contact the camping department directly. You can make reservations via our website at www.SandyPines.com, or give me a call at 616-896-8315 ext. 103 - I'd be happy to assist you. See you soon!



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