OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT 6:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026 HELD AT THE BONNIE W. NOBLE CENTER FOR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA, IL

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Joyce Harant, Reagan Leslie Hill, Alexander Sierra, Ron Silver, Mark Slover, Vice President Steve Montez, and President Robert Johnson

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Brianna Cobb, Nick Conrad, Matt Freeman, Becky Fredrickson, Scott Loftus, Shalesse Pie, Karrie Ross, Jennifer Swanson, Willie Howe, Chief Aaron Watkins, Mike Friberg, Attorneys Kevin Day and Justin Gunn, Miles Howley, and Alicia Woodworth

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken.

3. CALL FOR MOTION TO PERMIT TRUSTEE TO ATTEND MEETING ELECTRONICALLY

Trustee Hill arrived at the meeting at 6:47 p.m. Prior to the meeting, she had requested authorization to participate electronically in the event she was delayed due to unforeseen childcare responsibilities. Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE Trustee Hill's electronic participation due to unforeseen childcare responsibilities. The motion was seconded by Vice President Montez and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

4. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. MINUTES

5.A. Approval of Minutes of the October 14, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of the October 14, 2026 Regular Board meeting. Motion seconded by Vice President Montez and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

6. CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None at this time.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.A. Executive Director

Executive Director Cahill reported that the final three evenings of Zootober were underway and that preparations were beginning for holiday programming, including Luthy Lights and a mobile outdoor ice rink anticipated to open the day after Thanksgiving. She announced that the Peoria PlayHouse would reopen the following week after approximately two months of renovations, with members-only hours on Tuesday and regular operations resuming Wednesday. She also reminded Trustees that the presentation of the proposed 2027 budget would take place the following Wednesday at noon.

In response to questions, Director Cahill discussed the annual Fill the Fire Truck initiative with the Peoria Fire Department and other community partners, as well as a related laptop distribution event. She stated that outdoor ice skating would cost $15, including skate rental, for a 75-minute session; admission to the Zoo would not be required. The rink would be located near the pickleball courts between the Zoo and Luthy Botanical Garden.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.A. Programming Committee – Approved Minutes of September 16, 2026

The approved September 16, 2026 Programming Committee meeting minutes were presented for Board review. In response to a trustee's question regarding golf-related public input, staff explained that surveys had been distributed ahead of the committee meeting and that the committee reviewed feedback and progress on initiatives stemming from earlier public comments. Staff indicated that several improvements were completed or underway and that updates had been emailed to the golf community, with additional opportunities to provide feedback.

8.B. DEIA Committee – Approved Minutes of the September 16, 2026 Meeting

The approved September 16, 2026 DEIA Committee meeting minutes were presented for Board review.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.A. Policy Modification – Equal Employment and Artificial Intelligence

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

9.B. Pre-Travel Authorization for Trustees to Attend IAPD Legal Symposium in Oak Brook, IL on November 5, 2026

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

9.C. Post-Travel Expenses Approval for Trustee Hill and Revised Post-Travel Expenses Approval for Trustee Harant Attending the Annual NRPA Conference in Philadelphia, PA September 29 - October 1, 2026

During discussion, Trustee Sierra clarified that the supporting materials also included his travel expenses, although his name was not included in the agenda item title.
Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

9.D. 2027 Administrative and Operating Support Agreement between Heart of Illinois Special Recreation Association (HISRA) and The Pleasure Driveway and Park District of Peoria, Illinois

Executive Director Cahill explained that the 2027 HISRA administrative and operating support agreement contained only date updates and no substantive changes to the administrative arrangement. Funding matters had been addressed separately.
Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

9.E. 2027 Administrative and Operational Support Services Agreement Between the Peoria Park District Foundation and the Pleasure Driveway and Park District of Peoria, Illinois

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE. Motion seconded by Trustee Hill and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

9.F. Approve Legal Counsel Action to Consult with Peoria County States Attorney and Illinois Attorney General

Trustee Silver MOVED TO DIRECT and authorize District legal counsel to consult with and submit Board-approved documentation to the Peoria County State's Attorney's Office and the Illinois Attorney General's Office regarding statutory compliance under the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant.

During discussion, Trustee Hill asked why the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act, which had been referenced in the earlier submission to the State's Attorney, was not included in the proposed communication. She stated that she had supported the prior request for outside review and was not opposed to oversight, but questioned the purpose of returning to the State's Attorney and also contacting the Attorney General. She expressed concern that the proposed action could exceed the Park District's appropriate jurisdiction and involve expenditure of public funds without sufficient clarification of the question being presented. She indicated that she would vote against the motion.

Other trustees responded that the current request was intended to focus more directly on the question under the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure and to obtain clarification of an unresolved matter. Discussion included whether the revised question was broader or more specific than the earlier request and whether the ethics issue should remain part of the submission. Trustee Sierra reminded trustees to seek recognition from the chair before speaking and asked legal counsel what could be discussed publicly given prior discussions in executive session.

Attorney Day stated that written and verbal legal advice had already been provided to the Board under attorney-client privilege. He explained that further disclosure of that advice would require Board authorization to waive the privilege. Trustee Slover expressed reluctance to waive attorney-client privilege, and no motion to do so was made. Several trustees expressed a desire to proceed with the vote rather than further delay a request for clarification.

Trustee Sierra then asked whether the reference to "Board-approved documents" meant the materials would return to the Board for approval before submission. Attorney Day clarified that the supporting documents previously approved by the Board would be submitted to both offices without alteration, but the accompanying cover letter and the legal question presented would differ from the earlier submission. Trustee Sierra noted that the original communication had included the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act and stated that, because the new cover letter would not reference both statutes, he would not support the motion. Attorney Day replied that without jeopardizing attorney-client privilege and clarify Trustee Sierra's question, his understanding is that it is just not accurate. We are resubmitting the same proposal in the same letter. What he was referring to is the supporting documentation. The documentation that was approved by this Board is the same documentation that would be submitted to the Attorney General's office and the State's Attorney's office. To clarify, Trustee Sierra stated that we're not submitting holistically the same thing and the materials and supporting documents are the same exact materials that Attorney Day is referencing. Attorney Day stated that the cover letter would change this time but the substantive materials would be the exact same as was pre-approved and directed by the Board. Trustee Sierra stated that clarification is important because the cover letter is changing

which goes to why he won't be supporting this because he thinks that everything should be the same, having both statutes referenced. As such, Trustee Sierra CALLS THE QUESTION. Following this discussion, the question was called and the Board proceeded to a roll call vote.
To restate, Trustee Silver MOVED TO DIRECT and authorize District legal counsel to consult with and submit Board-approved documentation to the Peoria County State's Attorney's Office and the Illinois Attorney General's Office regarding statutory compliance under the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried by roll call vote as follows: Trustee Harant – Aye, Trustee Hill – Nay, Trustee Sierra – Nay, Trustee Silver – Aye, Trustee Slover – Aye, Vice President Montez – Aye, President Johnson – Aye. Results: 5 – Aye; 2 – Nay; 0 – Abstain.

10. CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEMS

10.A. Golf and Groundskeeping Maintenance Supplies

10.B. Renewal of Microsoft Hosted Exchange via Dell Marketing LP

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE Calendar of Consent items 10.A. and 10.B. Motion seconded by Trustee Hill and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

11. PENDING BUSINESS

None.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

14. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:00 PM Trustee Sierra MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Vice President Montez and carried unanimously on voice vote.

Full discussion can be viewed at the following link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mvthYpm83o

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Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary