

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT 6:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025 HELD AT THE BONNIE W. NOBLE CENTER FOR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA, IL

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

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Trustee Steve Montez

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Nick Conrad, Matt Freeman, Becky Fredrickson, Scott Loftus, Shalesse Pie, Karrie Ross, Jennifer Swanson, Willie Howe, Mike Eddlemon, Attorney Kevin Day, Miles Howley, and Alicia Woodworth

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken. All Trustees were present.

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

No requests were received to attend electronically.

4. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE and ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY (DCEO) ENERGY TRANSITION GRANT

President Johnson stated that he first item on the agenda is a public hearing concerning an Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Energy Transition grant.

Vice President Hill MOVED TO RECESS the regular board meeting into a public hearing. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Harant, Sierra, Silver, Slover, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 ayes; 0 nays).

President Johnson stated that the Peoria Park District is completing a grant application for the Illinois department of commerce and economic opportunity (DCEO) energy transition grant and is requesting public feedback on proposed projects. These projects are aimed at improving energy efficiency across several facilities in the southern part of the city. Our goal is to ensure these public assets operate more sustainably while directly benefiting the energy needs of the community they serve.

This initiative is particularly urgent given the challenges faced by the local power infrastructure, which intensified following the closure of the Edwards Power Plant in 2022. The energy grid serving south Peoria, including the most economically disadvantaged areas of our city, has experienced increased strain. By increasing energy efficiency at key PPD facilities, we intend to alleviate a portion of that demand, contributing to a more stable and resilient energy system for our residents.

Peoria Park District is proposing the following specific energy conservation upgrades:

- Trewyn Park pavilion: installation of a new, energy-efficient air conditioning system to reduce cooling load and operational costs.
- RiverPlex: comprehensive retro-commissioning of the facility, to identify and analyze potential energy efficiencies tied to existing building mechanical and lighting systems.
- Proctor Recreation Center: start the process of replacing existing single pane windows with high efficiency windows to conserve heat in the winter and cooling in the summer.

These projects represent a significant investment in both our physical infrastructure and the long-term well-being of the south Peoria community.

No members of the public were present that wished to make public comments and give feedback concerning the DCEO Energy Transition grant.

There were no written comments and feedback been received.

Trustee Sierra expressed appreciation for the continued investment in South Peoria facilities and sustainability initiatives. Additional discussion followed regarding anticipated energy savings, future reporting, and the Park District's long-term sustainability goals.

All persons have been given an opportunity to make comments and feedback concerning the DCEO Energy Transition Grant.

On conclusion of the Public Hearing, Vice President Hill MOVED to adjourn the Public Hearing and reconvene the Regular Board meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Harant, Sierra, Silver, Slover, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 ayes; 0 nays).

5. MINUTES

5.A. Approval of Minutes of the November 19, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the Minutes of the November 19, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

6. CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None at this time.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.A. Executive Director

Executive Director Cahill highlighted upcoming holiday programming including the Nature Art Show and Candlelight Walk at Forest Park Nature Center and Luthy Botanical Garden's Holiday Lights. Jennifer Swanson presented the 2026 Camps and Sports Guide and reviewed registration timelines.

7.B. Superintendent of Planning, Design & Construction

Becky Fredrickson reviewed the November Monthly Report and provided updates on current construction and repair projects, including RiverPlex repairs.

7.C. Chief of Police

Chief Eddlemon reviewed the November Police Report and presented the newly redesigned Park District Police Department patch. He thanked staff involved in the design process and highlighted ongoing community-focused policing efforts.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.A. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility Committee - DEIA Pillar Revision

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the District's DEIA Pillar Revision. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

8.B. Springdale Cemetery Management Authority - Minutes of September 15, 2025 Meeting

Trustee Harant presented the Springdale Cemetery Management Authority's approved minutes of their September 15, 2025 meeting for review.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.A. Adoption of 2025 Tax Levy Ordinance

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the 2025 Tax Levy Ordinance. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.B. Authorization for Preparation of FY 2026 Combined Budget and Appropriation Ordinance

Vice President Hill MOVED TO AUTHORIZE the Preparation of the FY 2026 Combined Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.C. Authorization to Solicit Proposals for Year 2026 General Obligation Park Bonds

Trustee Slover MOVED TO AUTHORIZE the Solicitation of Proposals for Year 2026 General Obligation Park Bonds. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.D. 2026 Park Board and Committee Meetings Schedule

The 2026 Park Board and Committee Meetings Schedule was received and filed.

9.E. Approval of IAPD Credentials Resolutions

The annual Illinois Parks and Recreation Conference will be held January 29-31, 2026 in Chicago, IL. To ensure eligibility of Peoria Park District delegates to vote on matters presented during the Association's annual conference on January 31, 2026, the credentials certificate naming Trustee Harant as a delegate and Vice President Hill as 1st Alternate must be voted upon by the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the IAPD Credentials Resolutions, naming Trustee Harant as Delegate and Vice President Hill as 1st Alternate. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.F. Approval of Pre-Travel Expenses for Trustees Attendance at 2026 IAPD Conference

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the Pre-Travel Expenses for Trustees to Attend the 2026 IAPD Conference. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.G. ClearGov Software Contract

Karrie Ross stated that for the last twenty years, the District has been utilizing a Microsoft Access database collect program budgets and prepare the public facing operating budget document. Twenty years ago, the District's operating budget was about half of the District's current size, and, over the course of the last 20 years, technology and public expectations for a municipality's public document has evolved. As such, staff researched various software improvement options for the operating budget creation and publication, and determined that the ClearGov software solution would significantly improve both the internal process of budgeting and the publication of a dynamic and ADA accessible public budget document.

In 2025, the District signed a partial year contract for the software, which allowed finance staff to incorporate enhancements in the 2026 operating budget document that align with the GFOA standards for budget document excellence, and publicly post a more user-friendly and accessible electronic document.

As such, staff recommends continuing the ClearGov subscription in 2026 through 2030 (Initial Service Period), at a cost of \$21,240 in year one and 3% increases for the remainder of the Initial Period. Staff has planned for this expense in the 2026 operating budget. The contract does allow for cancelation/termination, if the appropriating body does not appropriate funds for renewal, or annually with at least a 60-day notice.

Trustee Sierra requested clarification regarding the timing and approval of the agreement. Executive Director Cahill explained that the initial contract executed in July 2025 covered a partial year in order to support the FY 2025 budget development process and to allow staff to evaluate the software. She further explained that the contract included an appropriations clause permitting termination should the Board not approve continuation for FY 2026.

Executive Director Cahill noted that bringing the item forward at this time allowed the Park District to lock in favorable pricing for FY 2026 while maintaining the Board's authority to approve or decline continuation. Additional discussion highlighted ClearGov's diverse workforce profile and alignment with the Park District's values.

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the ClearGov Software Contract. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.H. Disposal Ordinance #408

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE Disposal Ordinance #408. Motion seconded by Trustee Sierra and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

10. RESOLUTION 147-2 IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT L. JOHNSON SR.

10.A. Resolution 147-2 In Recognition of Robert L. Johnson Sr.

Executive Director Cahill read Resolution 147-2 into the record, honoring President Robert L. Johnson Sr. for 30 years of distinguished service to the Pleasure Driveway and Park District of Peoria. The resolution recognized President Johnson's appointment to the Board in 1995, his historic election as Board President, and his decades-long commitment to equitable access to parks, sound governance, and community-centered leadership.

Trustees expressed appreciation for President Johnson's leadership, institutional knowledge, and dedication to the Park District and the Peoria community. The resolution was adopted unanimously on roll call vote.

President Johnson thanked the Board, staff, and his family for their support throughout his tenure and briefly addressed the significance of the Park District's mission, history, and reputation statewide and nationally.

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE Resolution 147-2 in Recognition of Robert L. Johnson Sr. Motion seconded by Trustee Sierra and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

11. CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEMS

11.A. Bid: Purchase of Hay and Straw for the Peoria Zoo
11.B. Bid: Range Golf Balls

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE Calendar of Consent Items 11.A and 11.B. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

12. PENDING BUSINESS

None at this time.

13. COMMUNICATIONS

13.A. Thank You

A thank you note from a grateful patron was received.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

None noted at this time.

15. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

None noted at this time.

16. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:48 pm Trustee Slover MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Sierra and carried unanimously on voice vote.

Full discussion can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozEi3Tt7x4Y>

Respectfully Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary