OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE STRATEGY AD HOC COMMITTEE/BOARD OF THE WHOLE OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, AT 4:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025 HELD AT THE BONNIE NOBLE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA IL

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Joyce Harant, Steve Montez (v), Alexander Sierra, Ron Silver, Mark Slover, Vice President Reagan Leslie Hill, and President Robert Johnson (in at 4:10 pm)
Note: (v) = Attended Virtually

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Nick Conrad, Becky Fredrickson, Matt Freeman, Tammy Johnson (in at 4:45 pm), Scott Loftus, Shalesse Pie, Karrie Ross, Attorney Kevin Day, and Alicia Woodworth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Mark Bennett

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Hill called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM and presided until the arrival of President Johnson at 4:10 PM, at which time President Johnson assumed presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken.

3. MOTION TO PERMIT TRUSTEE TO ATTEND MEETING ELECTRONICALLY

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO PERMIT Trustee Montez attend the meeting electronically due to personal illness. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

4. MINUTES

4.A. Approval of Minutes of November 19, 2025 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of the November 19, 2025 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

5. POLICY/PROCESS UPDATES

None at this time.

6. NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

7. PENDING BUSINESS

None at this time.

8. CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None at this time.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.A. Approval of Motion to Convene into Closed Session Under Illinois Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)(2) Concerning Collective Negotiating Matters Between the Public Body and its Employees or Their Representatives, or Deliberations Concerning Salary Schedules for One or More Classes of Employees

At 4:12 PM Trustee Silver MOVED TO CONVENE into Closed Session Under Illinois Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)(2) Concerning Collective Negotiating Matters Between the Public Body and its Employees or Their Representatives, or Deliberations Concerning Salary Schedules for One or More Classes of Employees. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

At 4:41 PM, Trustee Silver MOVED TO RECONVENE the Strategy Ad Hoc Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

Park Planner Tammy Johnson explained that recent changes to federal incentives under the Inflation Reduction Act, including upcoming deadlines of December 31, 2025, and July 4, 2026, created an opportunity for the District to "safe harbor" the projects by procuring a portion of the project materials prior to December 31. Doing so would secure eligibility for federal incentives currently estimated at up to thirty percent (30%) of total project costs.

She further explained that Illinois Park District Code was amended effective August 1, 2025, increasing the allowable threshold for procurement of supplies and materials without public bidding from $30,000 to $60,000. While this action would comply with state law, it would exceed the District's current procurement policy, which limits such purchases to $30,000 without public bidding.

Staff proposed purchasing approximately ten percent (10%) of the estimated total project cost—approximately $40,000 in solar panels—to satisfy the federal five percent (5%) safe harbor requirement and provide a buffer in advance of final bid pricing. Staff clarified that this purchase would be limited to materials only, and that all remaining materials and installation would be competitively bid in accordance with District policy, including affirmative action and good faith requirements.

Becky Fredrickson and staff further explained that the early procurement would not obligate the District to a single vendor for the full project and would preserve flexibility should project scope or materials require adjustment. Staff identified General Energy Corporation as a potential supplier, noting that the firm was recommended by another park district, participates in the Illinois Shines program, and had successfully completed similar projects.

Attorney Kevin Day confirmed that the proposed materials purchase would be legally permissible under the amended Park District Code and clarified that affirmative action and good faith provisions apply to contracting rather than the purchase of supplies and materials.

Trustees asked questions regarding public bidding requirements, vendor flexibility, project timelines, and federal compliance standards. Staff explained that procuring materials prior to December 31 would lock the projects into the current incentive framework, which staff noted could become more restrictive in the future.

Following discussion, there was unanimous consensus among the Trustees to proceed with staff's proposed approach. Staff indicated that a formal authorization would be conducted via electronic phone poll vote prior to the December 31 deadline, with ratification to occur at the January 14, 2026, Regular Board meeting.

10. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

None noted at this time.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:58 PM, Trustee Silver MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Sierra and carried unanimously on voice vote.

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Respectfully Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary