

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS HELD AT 4:30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026 AT THE BONNIE W. NOBLE CENTER FOR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA, IL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Trustee and Vice Chair Ron Silver and Executive Director Emily Cahill

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Mark Slover

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Joyce Harant and Ron Silver

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Matt Freeman, Becky Fredrickson, Scott Loftus, Shalesse Pie, Karrie Ross, Jennifer Swanson, Mike Friberg, Willie Howe, Attorney Justin Gunn, and Alicia Woodworth

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Silver presided and called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

3. CALL FOR A MOTION TO PERMIT MEMBER TO ATTEND MEETING REMOTELY

No committee member requested remote attendance.

4. MINUTES

4.A. Approval of January 21, 2026 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Due to the absence of a voting quorum, the January 21, 2026 meeting minutes will be presented for approval at the next Finance Committee meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.A. Review of Accounts Payable

The Committee reviewed the Accounts Payable reports and supporting documentation. Several questions and clarifications were raised regarding specific expenditures:

- Golf Operations Expense (Bolts and Maintenance Supplies – \$1,140.78)
A Committee member questioned the cost associated with golf shop maintenance supplies. Staff indicated additional review would be conducted to confirm the specific items purchased and ensure appropriateness.
- Simulator Bay Trash Cans and Organizational Equipment (~\$1,200)
Staff clarified that the expense covered multiple heavy-duty outdoor receptacles and organizational units across numerous simulator bays, explaining the higher total cost due to quantity and durability requirements.
- No further questions were raised regarding credit card expenditures or accounts payable items.

After discussion, Executive Director Cahill MOVED TO REFER the Accounts Payable to the Full Board for approval. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried by unanimous Aye vote of members present.

5.B. Review of Monthly Financials

The Committee conducted a detailed review of the General Ledger and Monthly Financial Reports. Discussion included the following key topics:

A Committee member inquired about the procurement process for the ClearGov budgeting software, specifically questioning the use of a trial period followed by a full subscription.

Staff explained:

- The initial short-term subscription allowed evaluation within budget thresholds.
- The full subscription required Board approval due to exceeding policy thresholds.
- Modern software is subscription-based rather than owned outright.
- The agreement includes annual opt-out provisions if funds are not appropriated.
- Early contract execution allowed the District to lock in pricing and avoid anticipated increases.

The Committee acknowledged that the process aligned with current purchasing practices and policy.

Zoo Capital and Operations Expenses

- Architectural & Engineering Services (~\$60,846)
Staff confirmed this expense relates to design work by Torre Design Consortium for potential Zoo capital campaign projects.
It was noted that the Peoria Zoological Society (PZS) reimburses these costs, as the Park District holds the contract but PZS funds the design work.
- Gift Shop Inventory (~\$24,000)
Staff explained this reflects bulk inventory purchases for resale in the Zoo gift shop.
- Giraffe Feeding Structure (~\$176,000 total)
Significant discussion occurred regarding two expenditures related to a giraffe feeding structure.
Staff explained:
 - The structure includes a large, approximately 27-foot engineered feeding system.
 - It is designed to simulate natural feeding behavior.
 - Funding is sourced from Zoo Memorial Reserves (donor-restricted funds), not operating funds.

Capital Projects and Grants

- Columbia Park Playground (~\$97,132 payment)
Staff confirmed this is a payment toward a larger playground project partially funded by a City grant (~\$450,000), which will reimburse the District.
- Glenn Oak Park Solar Installation (~\$38,245)
Staff noted this payment reflects the grant-funded portion of a Clean Energy project involving solar panel installation on multiple facilities.

Operations and Utilities

- WebTrac Software Maintenance
Identified as the District's recreation registration software system.
- Owens Center Utility Costs
Higher energy costs were attributed to ice rink operations, including ice production and environmental control requirements, compared to other facilities.

Emergency and Insurance-Related Repairs

- Camp Wakonda Electrical Repair (~\$19,620)
Damage caused by a fallen tree was repaired. Staff confirmed the expense has been submitted for insurance reimbursement.
- RiverPlex Whirlpool Replacement and Water Costs (~\$47,000 + \$10,000 water bill)
Staff indicated:
 - Whirlpool replacement was planned maintenance.
 - Water costs may be associated with a pool drain/refill following a break-in incident.
 - Insurance claims have been submitted; confirmation of water cost reimbursement is pending.
 - Staff routinely coordinate with utilities to reduce sewer charges for large water usage events.

Central Park Pool Expenses

A Committee member asked about ongoing expenses. Staff confirmed these are final “run-out” costs and no new expenses are expected.

Solar Energy Agreements

Staff explained the District utilizes Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs):

- Third-party developers own most solar panels.
- The District purchases energy at a discounted rate.
- Some systems (e.g., newer installations) may be District-owned.
- Future buyout options exist but require evaluation.

Accounts Receivable – Blues & Heritage Festival (~\$11,445 Outstanding)

Staff reported an outstanding balance owed by Progressive Innovations (Goldberg entity) for the 2025 festival.

- Partial payment (~\$2,500) is reportedly in process.
- Staff continues collection efforts.
- Legal counsel has been informed but not yet engaged.
- Staff does not recommend write-off at this time.

The Committee discussed monitoring the situation and considering this history in future rental agreements.

6. PENDING BUSINESS

None at this time.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

8. ACTION ITEMS REVIEW

1. Accounts Payable referred to the Full Board for approval.
2. Staff to continue monitoring and pursuing outstanding receivables related to the Blues & Heritage Festival.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:05 pm, Executive Director Cahill MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried on a unanimous aye of members present.

Respectfully Submitted by Alicia Woodworth

