**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 5:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2026 HELD AT THE BONNIE NOBLE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA IL**

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

**TRUSTEES ABSENT:** Trustee Reagan Leslie Hill

**STAFF PRESENT:** Executive Director Emily Cahill, Brianna Cobb, Nick Conrad, Matt Freeman, Becky Fredrickson, Scott Loftus, Shalesse Pie, Karrie Ross, Jennifer Swanson, Mike Friberg, Mary Harden, Attorneys Kevin Day and Kyle Tompkins, and Alicia Woodworth

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 5:16 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken.

**3. MOTION TO PERMIT TRUSTEE TO ATTEND MEETING ELECTRONICALLY**

No request to attend meeting electronically was received.

**4. MINUTES**

**4.A. Approval of Minutes of April 8, 2026 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee Meeting**

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of the April 8, 2026 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**5. CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

None at this time.

**6. POLICY/PROCESS UPDATES**

Executive Director Emily Cahill informed the Committee that the Park District had received a request from the Springdale Cemetery Management Authority regarding updates to its bylaws. She explained that under the bylaws, any amendments required approval from the participating municipalities, including the Peoria Park District. Ms. Cahill stated that the item would appear on an upcoming Regular Board Meeting agenda and noted that the request was largely procedural in nature.

Ms. Cahill further explained that the bylaws had recently been reviewed by Courtney Coe from the City of Peoria to ensure consistency with Open Meetings Act requirements and modern governance practices. She stated that the revisions were not being made in response to any issues, but rather to ensure the bylaws accurately reflected current operations and legal requirements.

She also reminded Trustees about the upcoming Board Retreat scheduled for the following week at Camp Wokanda. She stated that planned topics included strategic goals for 2026, committee

calendar discussions, and Board culture conversations. She further advised that the District would separately coordinate required information security and sexual harassment training sessions.

Ms. Cahill then provided an update regarding the Heart of Illinois Special Recreation Association (HISRA). She explained that HISRA had recently experienced a negative cash-on-hand balance in February before receiving grant funds in March that temporarily restored positive cash flow. She stated that HISRA leadership and member districts were now evaluating short-term and long-term financial stabilization strategies, including reviewing service priorities, operational structure, and budget revisions.

President Johnson stated that while the financial challenges were concerning, it was important not to lose sight of the individuals and families served by HISRA programs. He commented on the importance of maintaining compassion and support for participants with disabilities and their caregivers while addressing the organization's financial realities.

Trustee Sierra stated that difficult conversations would likely be necessary moving forward, but emphasized the importance of all member districts working collaboratively and strategically to ensure HISRA's long-term sustainability.

Trustee Slover also referenced the recent DEIA Committee meeting and complimented Brianna Cobb on a presentation regarding microaggressions. He stated that the presentation was thought-provoking and requested that Trustees receive copies of the materials for future reference and continued discussion.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

**7.A. Approval to Convene into Closed Session Pursuant to 2(c)5 The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired; and, 2(c)11 Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent.**

At 5:27 PM, Trustee Silver MOVED TO CONVENE Closed Session Under Illinois Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)5 The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired; and, 2(c)11 Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent.
Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

At 6:17 PM President Johnson reconvened the Strategy Ad Hoc Committee Meeting.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8.A. Capital Funding Needs**

Executive Director Emily Cahill introduced the discussion regarding capital funding needs and explained that staff was requesting Board consensus to move several time-sensitive funding items forward to the Regular Board Meeting later that evening. She stated that the

requests were being brought forward outside of the District's normal reserve review cycle due to the urgency associated with project timelines and seasonal construction considerations.

Executive Director Cahill explained that District policy typically requires staff and the Board to review reserve balances during the annual audit process in June or July; however, due to the importance of several strategic initiatives, staff was requesting authorization to utilize unaudited year-end financials presented earlier at the Finance Committee meeting in order to move projects forward without delay.

She stated that staff was requesting allocation of up to $600,000 in over-reserve funds to support the design and construction of wells at Madison Golf Course and Mossville Soccer Complex. She explained that both projects had been discussed previously by the Board and were tied directly to concerns regarding increasing Illinois American Water costs and ongoing irrigation challenges throughout the District.

She stated that the Madison Golf Course well would connect directly into the existing irrigation system and would significantly reduce operational reliance on Illinois American Water. She explained that the well would need to pump approximately 850 gallons per minute. She further stated that the Mossville Soccer Complex well would operate as a standalone system with an above-ground water cannon and would pump approximately 200 gallons per minute.

Executive Director Cahill noted that the District had applied for a $200,000 grant through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to support the Mossville project, but staff had recently learned that the District was not selected for funding. As a result, staff was requesting reserve allocations in order to maintain the project schedule. Trustee Silver asked about available over-reserve funding balances and whether sufficient reserve dollars existed to support the proposed projects. Emily stated that approximately $1 million in over-reserve funds appeared available based on current unaudited projections and noted that the proposed requests together totaled approximately that amount.

Discussion then shifted to the Owens Ice Center renovation project. Emily explained that staff was requesting allocation of up to $400,000 in over-reserve funds to support the next phase of architectural design work being conducted by Chiodini Architects. She stated that the project had moved beyond the concept phase and that timely continuation into design development was necessary in order to maintain the proposed renovation timeline.

She explained that the design development phase would refine project scope, identify potential cost-saving opportunities, and prepare construction bid documents. She stated that the project would include not only replacement of the aging ice plant system, but also broader facility improvements, including locker room upgrades, gathering spaces, seating enhancements, and parking improvements.

Trustee Silver asked whether the replacement of the ice plant would involve transitioning away from the facility's current ammonia-based cooling system. Emily responded that

engineering discussions were still ongoing and that specific technical recommendations would continue developing as the design process moved forward.

Trustee Silver commented that the Madison well project represented a practical first step in reducing District water costs and stated that removing Madison Golf Course from Illinois American Water service would provide meaningful operational savings. He added that addressing the Madison project now would allow the Board to continue evaluating longer-term water solutions at Kellogg Golf Course separately.

Executive Director Cahill agreed and stated that the Madison and Mossville projects represented "low hanging fruit" that could be addressed immediately while additional discussions continued regarding other District water infrastructure concerns.

After discussion, Trustees expressed general consensus in support of advancing both the well projects and the Owens Ice Center design development funding request to the Regular Board Meeting agenda for formal consideration later that evening.

**9. PENDING BUSINESS**

None noted at this time.

**10. ACTION STEPS REVIEW**

None noted at this time.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:27 PM, Trustee Harant MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously on voice vote.

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Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary