

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, JUNE 10, 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, Attorneys Kevin Day and Justin Gunn, Lin Du, Miles Howley, Austin Detmers, and Alicia Woodworth

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and all Trustees were present.

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

No request was made to attend the meeting electronically.

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 May 27, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the May 27, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Vice President Montez 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 Emily Cahill reported that the Park District and City of Peoria would jointly host a Juneteenth press conference on June 11 at the Gateway Building to officially kick off community celebrations. She highlighted the upcoming RiverFront Juneteenth event, which would feature a drone show with fireworks elements and live entertainment.

President Johnson requested an update regarding the Mossville Soccer Complex well project. Becky Fredrickson reported that work on the project continues, including preparation of bid documents and coordination with user groups. Staff indicated that additional meetings would be scheduled as project details are finalized and that further information regarding implementation timelines, operational impacts, and next steps would be presented to the Board as the project progresses. Trustees discussed the importance of maintaining communication with user groups and ensuring adequate planning as the project moves forward.

7.B. Superintendent of Planning, Design & Construction

Becky Fredrickson referenced the monthly report and thanked attendees of the Columbia Park ribbon cutting. Discussion followed regarding completion of the property transfer associated with the remaining Columbia Park parcel. Staff reported agreements had been executed and final transfer steps were pending. Trustees also inquired about possible curb improvements at Trewyn Park and ongoing coordination with the City.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.A. Finance Committee – Approval of Accounts Payable

Trustee and Finance Committee Chair Slover stated that the Finance Committee has examined the bills and MOVES that the President and the Secretary be authorized to issue orders on the Treasurer for the several amounts. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

8.B. Planning Committee – Memorial Bench FPNC

Jennifer Swanson presented a request for a memorial bench in the Detweiller Park/Forest Park Nature Center area. The bench was requested by Cara Johnson in memory of her dog, Jack, and would be funded in accordance with District policy. Trustees discussed the proposed location and the memorial request before approving the recommendation. Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE a Memorial Bench in the Detweiller Park/Forest Park Nature Center Area. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

8.C. Planning Committee – Approved Minutes of April 8, 2026 Meeting

Trustee Harant presented the approved Planning Committee minutes from the April 8, 2026 meeting. She noted that the Planning Committee received an update regarding District sustainability efforts, including work underway to identify opportunities for improved efficiency and environmental stewardship. Staff anticipates presenting draft sustainability goals and measures later in the year for Board consideration.

8.D. Programming Committee - Approved Minutes of February 3, 2026, February 24, 2026 and March 18, 2026 Meetings

Trustee Sierra presented the approved Programming Committee minutes from February 3, February 24, and March 18, 2026. No questions were raised by the Board.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.A. Presentation of 2025 Audit

Brian Mateas, CPA, Signing Director with CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA), presented the District's 2025 audit. He reported that the District received an unmodified (clean) audit opinion. No material audit adjustments, significant deficiencies, internal control findings, or instances of noncompliance were identified. Mr. Mateas reviewed revenue and expense trends, capital investments, grant activity, and debt levels. Discussion included the District's financial stability, grant-funded capital projects, and legal debt margin. President Johnson asked questions regarding workforce diversity and recruiting efforts within the firm and requested additional information regarding recruitment and outreach practices. Trustee Sierra thanked staff and noted the importance of diversity considerations in professional service contracts. Executive Director Cahill recognized Karrie Ross, Lin Du, and the Finance Department for their efforts in producing another clean audit.

Trustee Harant MOVED TO RECEIVE AND FILE the 2025 Audit. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.B. MOU – Jon Buckley Memorial Garden Care and Maintenance

This item is deferred to the June 24 Regular Board meeting.

9.C. Iron Sleek – Contract for Refrigerated Ice Rink at Luthy Botanical Garden Parking Lot

Nick Conrad presented a proposal for a lease-to-own refrigerated outdoor ice rink to be installed adjacent to Luthy Botanical Garden from late November 2026 through early January 2027. Executive Director Cahill explained that the project was intended to expand winter programming opportunities and complement Luthy Lights. Discussion included the rink's size, parking impacts, operating temperatures, skate rental options, visitor amenities, and future expansion possibilities. Staff noted that funding for the initial lease term would be supported through grant funding and that District representatives had visited a similar installation while attending a professional conference. Trustees expressed enthusiasm regarding the recreational opportunity and potential community interest.

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the Iron Sleek Contract. Motion seconded by Vice President Montez and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.D. Police Security Update

Executive Director Cahill presented a joint RiverFront Event Security Screening and Clear-Bag Policy developed collaboratively with the City of Peoria. The policy establishes procedures for event screening, bag inspections, and implementation planning for large-scale events. Trustees discussed implementation timelines, equipment needs, and coordination with the City. Questions were raised regarding the City's approval process and anticipated application of screening procedures at future events. Staff advised that implementation would occur in phases during 2026, with full implementation anticipated in 2027.

Vice President Montez MOVED TO APPROVE the Peoria RiverFront Event Joint Security Screening and Clear-Bag Policy. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.E. Trustee Communication with Attorney

This item was presented for first read. It will be presented at the June 24 Regular Board meeting for approval.

10. CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEMS

10.A. Bid – Bradley Service Building Sanitary Line

10.B. Bid – Robinson Park West Parking Lot

10.C. Bid – Bradley and Detweiller Parks 2026 Chip and Seal

10.D. Proposal – Predesign Engineering – Madison Golf Course Well

10.E. Retainer for Legal Assistance

Item 10.E. was pulled from the agenda.

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE Calendar of Consent items 10.A. thru 10.D. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously by those present on roll call vote.

Note: Trustee Sierra stepped out of the room at the time of voting on Calendar of Consent items and therefore did not participate in the roll call vote.

11. PENDING BUSINESS

No Pending Business was presented.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

12.A. Email Re: Public Input – Rock Island Greenway Trail Extension

Trustees reviewed correspondence concerning the Rock Island Greenway Trail Extension. Discussion focused on public input received during prior Planning Committee discussions and alternative routing suggestions submitted by interested residents. Staff indicated that comments and alternative route information had been forwarded to City representatives for consideration.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

President Johnson recognized Executive Director Emily Cahill on the occasion of her tenth anniversary in her role as Executive Director with the Peoria Park District. He expressed appreciation for her leadership and dedication to the organization, noting the many challenges and competing interests she manages on behalf of the District and community. President Johnson stated that while difficult decisions are sometimes necessary and viewpoints may differ, Executive Director Cahill has consistently demonstrated professionalism, commitment, and a focus on serving the public.

President Johnson further remarked that he regularly hears positive comments from community members, organizations, and business leaders regarding Executive Director Cahill's work and leadership. He commended her contributions to the Park District's success over the past decade and thanked her for her service to the residents of Peoria. Members of the Board joined in recognizing Executive Director Cahill and congratulating her on this milestone anniversary.

14. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

None noted.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:30 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=jZROmCZYGNM>

Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary