

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, JUNE 11, 2025 HELD AT THE BONNIE W. NOBLE CENTER FOR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA, IL

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

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Mark Slover

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Brianna Cobb, Nick Conrad, Scott Loftus, Becky Fredrickson, Matt Freeman, Mike Friberg, Shalesse Pie, Karrie Ross, Jenny Swanson, Kristi Shoemaker, Nicole Staley, Attorney Justin Gunn, Miles Howley, Interim Police Chief Mike Eddlemon, and Alicia Woodworth

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:19 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

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

No request to attend the meeting electronically was received.

4. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. MINUTES

5.A. Approval of Minutes of the May 28, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the Minutes of the May 28, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Montez and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Harant, Montez, Sierra, Silver, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Abstain; 0 Nays).

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.A. Executive Director

Executive Director Cahill thanked everyone that participated in today's press conference celebrating the 10th birthday of the Children's PlayHouse Museum. Many new and exciting expansions and improvements are planned, utilizing a grant from the Gilmore Foundation.

Executive Director Cahill thanked everyone that participated in last week's Juneteenth Jubilee Day press conference. Staff is very excited for that event and hope everyone is able to attend and participate next Thursday, June 19 at Glen Oak Park.

6.B. Superintendent of Design, Planning and Construction

Becky Fredrickson presented the May 2025 Project Report and stated that currently, there are no projects materially behind schedule. *Please see Attachment A.*

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.A. Finance Committee – Presentation of 2024 Audit

Brian Mateas, CPA Director at CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) presented the Park District's external audit results for year ending December 31, 2024. There were three audit deliverables: the Governance Communication Letter, Audited Financial Statements (ACFR), and the Government Auditing Standards Report.

The Governance Communication Letter included the following information:

Significant audit findings or issues

Qualitative aspects of accounting practices

Accounting policies

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Pleasure Driveway and Park District of Peoria are described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The District implemented GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, in the year ended December 31, 2024.

We noted no transactions entered into by the District during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

- Management's estimates of the total other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability and the related deferred outflows and inflows of resources are based on actuarial valuations which recognize the balances over a period approximating employees' years of service. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the total OPEB liability and the related deferred outflows and inflows of resources in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The Audited Financial Statement (ACFR) (independent auditors' report) was submitted as an unmodified (clean) opinion. The Government Auditing Standards Report (independent auditors' report on internal controls over financial reporting and on compliance) was submitted as an unmodified (clean) opinion.

Trustee Harant MOVED TO RECEIVE AND FILE the 2024 Audit Report. Motion seconded by Trustee Sierra and carried on the following roll call vote: Harant, Montez, Sierra, Silver, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Abstain; 0 Nays).

7.B. Finance Committee – Approval of Accounts Payable

This item is deferred until the July 23, 2025 Regular Board meeting in order to allow the Finance Committee opportunity to fully review and recommend approval to the Full Board.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.A. Post-Travel Expenses Approval for Trustees Attending IAPD's Bootcamp on May 29, 2025 in Plainfield, IL

Vice President Hill MOVED TO APPROVE the post-travel expenses for President Johnson and Trustee Silver who attended IAPD's Bootcamp on May 29, 2025 in Plainfield, IL. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried on the following roll call vote: Harant, Montez, Sierra, Silver, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Abstain; 0 Nays).

8.B. Travel Policy Revision

First Read

Travel Policy Revisions were presented for first read and will be presented at the June 25, 2025 Regular Board meeting for approval.

8.C. ICMG Contractual Service Agreement Extension

Executive Director Cahill stated that since Chief Todd Green's resignation in February 2025, the District has been working to hire his replacement. As the District searches for a new Chief, it was able to secure the services of ICMG to complete a strategic assessment of the Park Police and their operations and to provide onboarding support to a new Chief upon hire. For a monthly flat fee of \$9000, ICMG has agreed to provide the scope of work as listed in the document. These fees are paid for by available funds within the Police Fund. Given what was hoped to be a short-term engagement, Executive Director Cahill authorized the contract for a two-month term in order to provide a bridge to a new Chief of Park Police. Unfortunately, due to the meeting schedule, the last meeting on May 28 was the first opportunity to introduce ICMG and their lead, Michael Eddlemon to the Board.

Mr. Eddlemon has been embedded in our Park Police office since April. In his time here, he is serving as the administrative leader of the department, working directly with Superintendent Matt Freeman and myself to coordinate police and security activities. He has worked to build relationships with officers currently on our force and stabilized our scheduling and staff capacity. He has collected data regarding the types and frequency of police calls and has made recommendations for modification of scheduling to maximize our responsiveness. He is also representing our force in community planning efforts for Juneteenth and the Fourth of July Fireworks. He also participated in a round of interviews for potential chiefs that did not yield a candidate.

As the process of finding the right fit for Chief has continued, I recently added him to our roster with the IL Training and Standards Board and he is in the process of being recertified for field work should he be needed. We continue the search for a full-time Chief and have posted the position on national job search boards. We are also working to assess the best organizational structure for the department in the meantime.

Until we are able to find a long-term fit/structure, staff recommends an extension of Mr. Eddlemon's support for two more months, which will extend his service to the District through August. At that time, we will again assess our position to see if longer term support is needed from Mr. Eddlemon and ICMG.

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the ICMG Contractual Service Agreement Extension. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried on the following roll call vote: Harant, Montez, Sierra, Silver, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Abstain; 0 Nays).

8.D. Golf Learning Center License Agreement with Gopher LLC

Executive Director Cahill stated that in May 2023, the Peoria Park District Board of Trustees authorized staff to work with Matt Rixner and Nick Babcock, local leaders in hospitality and food and beverage service, to build a Letter of Intent for the parties to coordinate around the restaurant to be included in the reimagined Golf Learning Center. An Intent Resolution was subsequently approved by the Board in June 2024 and now the parties, with Rixner and Babcock as the primary parties behind Gopher LLC, bring forth the License Agreement for Board approval. The process to get to this presentation has been a long road and has had some challenges to get to the right legal instrument to reflect the goals of everyone involved. Gratitude is extended to Rixner and Babcock, legal counsel, Superintendents Karrie Ross, Becky Fredrickson, and Matt Freeman for their collective efforts to get to agreement. This agreement is specifically structured to underscore the leadership of the District as operator and the extension of a license to Gopher LLC to provide food and beverage elements within the facility that is focused on recreational golf experiences. As such, staff recommends the approval of the License Agreement with Gopher LLC.

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the Golf Learning Center License Agreement with Gopher LLC. Motion seconded by Trustee Montez and carried on the following roll call vote: Harant, Montez, Sierra, Silver, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Abstain; 0 Nays).

8.E. 22VA Lease Agreement Amendment

Executive Director Cahill state that 22VA began its leased usage of the former Detweiller Golf Course Clubhouse in July 2024 as approved by the Board of Trustees. Since their lease began, they have experienced a change in leadership and with that change, there was a lack of understanding of the seasonal water supply at the facility. After several discussions with board members and staff, Superintendent Matt Freeman and Executive Director Cahill were able to meet with 22VA Vice President Randall Pruitt and member Jill Adcock. As part of the conversation, the parties agreed that investment of \$50,000 to winterize the water supply at the facility was not fiscally responsible without a grant or private donor. Both also agreed that they still saw the value in the relationship and wanted to continue to find ways to collaborate. As such, staff presents an amendment to the current lease that reduces usage and associated rent for the facility to May 1 to October 31. The amended agreement also provides for monthly meetings to ensure no future misunderstandings between the District and 22VA leaders.

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the 22VA Lease Agreement Amendment. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried on the following roll call vote: Harant, Montez, Sierra, Silver, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Abstain; 0 Nays).

8.F. Easement – Grandview Drive

Mike Friberg stated that the Grandview Drive/Civil Defense site hosts several communications towers including a private cell tower, as well as several public safety radio towers. There are several existing fiber optic connections to these towers. Stratus Networks wishes to underground bore a fiber optic connection from their existing cable to a second tower on Grand View Drive. This proposed connection is part of a public safety radio to fiber network serving various police agencies. The proposed routing of the underground cable is a short run along the civil defense driveway. The route does not reach Grandview Drive itself, or proceed though any sensitive bluff areas. No trees will be affected by the work. Legal has reviewed the easement document. Stratus

is offering \$5,500.00 for the easement. As such, staff recommends executing the agreement with Stratus Networks for an easement within Grandview Drive Park.

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the Grandview Drive Easement with Status. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried on the following roll call vote: Harant, Montez, Sierra, Silver, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Abstain; 0 Nays).

8.G. Prospective Land Donation

Executive Director Cahill stated that a local attorney and developer are proposing to donate two adjacent parcels of land to the Park District. The two parcels total 13.39 acres. A portion of the land was once a mobile home park, and it is zoned R6 for multi-family residential. The land is mostly flat and has excellent access to War Memorial Drive. The parcel is bordered by a railroad, War Memorial Drive, and a small residential neighborhood of roughly 400 people. Staff has completed a Phase I Environmental survey as well as an appraisal. The Environmental Survey showed no areas of concern. As such, staff recommends accepting the donation of two parcels of land totaling 13.39 acres at 3400 W. War Memorial Drive.

Trustee Montez asked if there are any improvements (to the parcel) planned in the near future. Mike Friberg replied that that would be addressed/determined in the review of the Park District's bond issue and other large capital needs. There may also be future grant opportunities to fund possible improvements/development.

Trustee Silver asked that if the land wasn't improved upon or developed right away, does it still have value as a green space, as it is right now? Mike Friberg stated yes, he believes with its current flora and fauna, it does.

Trustee Harant stated that for the record, she would like to know whether or not there were any conditions placed on the land donation. Executive Director Cahill stated no. There were no conditions placed on the land donation.

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO ACCEPT the Donation of Land at 3400 W. War Memorial Drive. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried on the following roll call vote: Harant, Montez, Sierra, Silver, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Abstain; 0 Nays).

9. CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEMS

9.A. Quote – Donovan Park Drainage

9.B. Proposal – Golf Learning Center Top Tracer

Item 9.B. was pulled from the calendar, to be submitted at a later time.

Trustee Montez MOVED TO APPROVE Calendar of Consent Item 9.A. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Harant, Montez, Sierra, Silver, Vice President Hill, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Abstain; 0 Nays).

10. PENDING BUSINESS

None at this time.

11. CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

A citizen who lives next to Giant Oak Park addressed the Board, expressing her concerns about ongoing noise, unpleasant behavior, and vandalism she is experiencing in her yard from park visitors.

A citizen addressed the Board about her concerns for zoo animals in Ukraine, asking if the Peoria Zoo could possibly rescue some of their small animals.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

None at this time.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Harant shared that during her visit to the Springdale Cemetery booth at the Riverfront Market, she spoke with a woman who said she and her husband relocated to Peoria from the Chicago area primarily because of the city's robust race and marathon scene. She noted that Peoria offers the highest quality and greatest number of races, as well as excellent training opportunities. Trustee Harant remarked that this was wonderful to hear.

President Johnson stated that this summer is looking to be very busy and that the new playground at Glen Oak Park is enjoyed by many. As such, he has received many calls about children misbehaving and bullying at the playground. This will need to be addressed and would like input and suggestions from Board members on how to tackle this problem.

14. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

None noted at this time.

16. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:21 pm Trustee Harant MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried by unanimous aye of those present.

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

Respectfully Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary

ATTACHMENT A

**PLANNING, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION
MONTHLY PROJECT REPORT
MAY 2025**

[illegible]

PROJECTS IN PLANNING AND/OR DESIGN	PROJECTS OUT TO BID/QUOTE	PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION	PROJECTS MATERIALLY BEHIND SCHEDULE	COMPLETED PROJECTS
<div>Peoria Zoo Path Improvements - Ausi</div> <div>Peoria Zoo Generators (Biocenter & Giraffe)</div> <div>Peoria Zoo Viewing Window Repl - Ph. 2</div> <div>PlayHouse Water Table</div> <div>PlayHouse Porch Exhibit</div> <div>PlayHouse Exhibit Upgrades</div> <div>PlayHouse Sound Dampening</div> <div>Proctor 2nd Floor Restroom Upgrades</div> <div>Proctor Polish Locker Room Floors</div> <div>RiverPlex Whirlpool Replace</div> <div>RiverPlex Arena Curtains & Motors</div> <div>Sommer Farm Living History Utility Improv.</div> <div>Stadium #2 Expand Infield for 80' Bases</div>				