

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, AUGUST 26, 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, Ron Silver, Mark Slover, Vice President Steve Montez, and President Robert Johnson

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Trustee Alexander Sierra

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, Mike Friberg, Attorneys Kevin Day and Justin Gunn, Austin Detmers, Miles Howley, and Alicia Woodworth

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken.

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

Prior to the meeting, Trustee Sierra requested to attend the meeting electronically due to employment purposes. Vice President Montez MOVED TO APPROVE Trustee Sierra attend the meeting electronically due to employment purposes. Motion seconded by Trustee Hill and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Although Trustee Sierra was authorized to attend the meeting electronically, he was unable to join the meeting via Zoom or otherwise participate electronically. Accordingly, Trustee Sierra remained absent from the meeting and did not participate in or vote on any matters considered by the Board.

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 July 22, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Trustee Hill requested that approval of the July 22, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes be postponed, stating that she had identified several discrepancies and had notes that she wished to provide to the Board Secretary. During discussion, Trustee Slover requested that the Board be provided with the proposed changes. Trustee Hill agreed to distribute the changes, and it was confirmed that the minutes would be brought back for consideration at the next Board meeting.

Trustee Hill then MOVED TO POSTPONE the approval of the July 22, 2026 Regular Board meeting minutes until the next Regular Board meeting on September 9, 2026. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

6. PUBLIC INPUT SESSION REGARDING IDNR OSLAD GRANT APPLICATION FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT BRADLEY PARK

President Johnson introduced the public input session regarding the Park District's proposed application for an Illinois Department of Natural Resources OSLAD grant for improvements at

Bradley Park. He noted that the project had been presented at the previous Programming Committee meeting and that the public input session provided another opportunity for members of the public to offer comments and feedback. President Johnson summarized the proposed improvements as including tennis court improvements, replacement of the playground, improvements to the existing restroom, and related accessibility improvements. Following a brief overview of the project by Mike Friberg, President Johnson invited public comment. No comments were received, and the public input session was closed.

7. CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Shelley Hardman addressed the Board regarding the Sunday music and community gathering near Proctor Recreation Center. She spoke in support of the gathering as a neighborhood and cultural activity and suggested that guidelines be developed to address concerns while allowing the activity to continue.

Ian Munk addressed the Board regarding a FOIA request and concerns about music being played in the RiverPlex fitness center. He stated that he had raised the matter with staff and management, that the music had stopped and later resumed, and asked the Board to address his concerns regarding communication, consistency, and accountability.

Michelle Hubble, Board President of Peoria Grown, addressed the Park District Board regarding what she described as a governance matter involving the Park District Board and Trustee Reagan Leslie Hill, who also serves as Peoria Grown's project designer and manager. She stated that Trustee Hill's involvement with Peoria Grown had been disclosed from the outset to the Park District prior to Peoria Grown entering into an agreement with Trustee Hill, and that Trustee Hill's role had also been known to multiple Trustees through meetings, conversations, and joint events. Ms. Hubble stated that Peoria Grown did not understand why the organization was involved in the matter or why Trustee Hill's work as its project designer and manager was being drawn into it. She said Peoria Grown had sent numerous emails to the Park Board requesting clarification but had not received a written explanation. She further stated that the organization had been told approximately two months earlier that the matter was being referred to the State's Attorney's Office, but had since received no meaningful communication regarding what had been submitted, what was being reviewed, why Peoria Grown was involved, or the status of the matter. Ms. Hubble stated that Peoria Grown is committed to transparency and accountability and requested that the Park District provide written responses explaining why Peoria Grown is involved, the current status of the matter, and what steps will occur next.

Denise Jackson, First District Peoria City Councilmember, addressed the Board regarding concerns from residents near Proctor Recreation Center about the Sunday gathering, including noise, litter, traffic, double parking, and other activity. She requested assistance from the Park District and stated that she would also contact City officials regarding the matter. President Johnson clarified that individuals had not been ordered off public park property, but that certain activities were not permitted there, and indicated that staff would follow up with Councilmember Jackson.

8. STAFF REPORTS

8.A. Executive Director

Executive Director Cahill presented the June and July KPI reports. Trustee Slover complimented a Discover Peoria television feature highlighting Park District amenities. In response to a question by Trustee Silver regarding the unfavorable selected enterprise visits KPI, Director Cahill explained that the measure includes visits to admission-based facilities such as Peoria PlayHouse, Peoria

Zoo, Golf, and RiverPlex, and that the slight decline from 2025 was largely attributable to weather-related impacts on Fridays and Saturdays.

Executive Director Cahill highlighted the District's Parks and Recreation Month celebration and social media outreach conducted during July. As an example of those efforts, a video featuring Proctor Recreation Center was shown to the Board. In the video, Jonelle McCloud showcased the Center's programs and amenities, including its gymnasium and basketball programs, library and computer lab, auditorium, pool and splash pad, STEAM Lab, and game zone, and highlighted Proctor Recreation Center as a place for recreation, learning, and community engagement.

8.B. Superintendent of Planning, Design and Construction

Becky Fredrickson presented the monthly Planning, Design and Construction report and offered to answer questions. No questions were raised.

8.C. Chief of Police

Chief Watkins reported that two traffic citations, six ordinance violations, and nine parking tickets had been issued. He noted that most parking tickets were issued at the RiverPlex for vehicles parked in reserved OSF rehabilitation spaces, with additional tickets for overnight parking and no-parking/fire-lane violations at District parks. The Board also discussed opportunities for joint neighborhood outreach with City police near District parks and clarified that multiple reports associated with 100 Morton Street related to the same riverfront incident and follow-up activity.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.A. Finance Committee – Approval of Accounts Payable

Finance Committee Chair Trustee Slover reported that the Finance Committee had examined the bills submitted for payment and, on behalf of the committee, MOVED that the President and Secretary be authorized to issue orders on the Treasurer for payment of the accounts payable in the amounts presented. Motion was seconded by Trustee Silver. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

9.B. Planning Committee – Approval of Merkel Ford Property License Agreement

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the Merkel Ford Property License Agreement. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

9.C. Planning Committee – Approved Minutes of July 1, 2026 Meeting

Planning Committee Chair Harant submitted to the full Board for review the approved minutes of the July 1, 2026 meeting.

Trustee Harant noted that residents of the Sheridan/War Memorial area had requested consideration of a dog park on vacant property previously evaluated by staff. Discussion of that request and concerns regarding behavior at existing dog parks led to development of a community survey. Staff reported that the survey format had been finalized and would be shared with Trustee Harant before distribution to the public.

9.D. HISRA Annual Impact Report

The HISRA Annual Impact Report was shared with the Board for informational purposes.

9.E. Springdale Cemetery Management Authority – Approved 2026 Meeting Minutes to Date

The approved 2026 Springdale Cemetery Management Authority meeting minutes to date were presented for Board review. Staff noted that the materials brought the Board current for 2026 and that approved minutes would be provided monthly going forward.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.A. Central States Media Six-Month Workforce Profile Submission

Jennifer Swanson presented Central State Media's six-month Workforce Profile submission.

10.B. OSLAD Grant Application – Acquisition History Certification

Mike Friberg explained that the Acquisition History Certification is required as part of the OSLAD grant application and certifies the District's ownership of the project property.

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the OSLAD Grant Application Acquisition History Certification. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

10.C. OSLAD Grant Application – Resolution Authorization

Mike Friberg explained that the Resolution of Authorization confirms the Board's knowledge of and authorization for staff to submit the grant application. During discussion, Trustee Slover expressed disappointment that additional pickleball resources were not included for the northern portion of the District and encouraged consideration of that need in future grant opportunities.

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the OSLAD Grant Application Resolution Authorization. Motion seconded by Trustee Hill and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

10.D. Peoria Zoo Improvements – Construction Document Phase Design Services

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the Peoria Zoo Improvements – Construction Document Phase Design Services. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

10.E. Lease Renewal – Peoria Area Performing Arts School at Lakeview Recreation Center

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the Lease Renewal for the Peoria Area Performing Arts School at Lakeview Recreation Center. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

10.F. HISRA Articles of Agreement

During discussion, the Board reviewed the proposed change associated with an increase from two cents to two-and-one-half cents and its potential effect on the District's tax levy and future budget process. Executive Director Cahill explained that the precise 2027 budget impact had not yet been determined and that an increase could affect the levy process, including possible additional public hearing requirements. Executive Director Cahill also explained that approval of the revised language was one of the governance conditions, along with additional reporting requirements, associated with a future increase in the District's HISRA levy contribution.

Trustee Slover MOVED TO APPROVE the HISRA Articles of Agreement. Motion seconded by Vice President Montez and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

10.G. Proposal for Fiscal Year 2026 External Audit Services

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the Proposal from CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP for Fiscal Year 2026 External Audit Services. Motion seconded by Trustee Hill and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

11. CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEMS

11.A. Ratification of Phone Polls Conducted August 17, 2026

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE Calendar of Consent Item 11.A. Motion seconded by Vice President Montez and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

12. PENDING BUSINESS

None at this time.

13. COMMUNICATIONS

13.A. Kroger Rewards

13.B. Peoria Public Library Thank You

13.C. Memorial Bench Thank You

13.D. RiverPlex Member Testimonial

14. OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time.

15. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

Staff will share the dog park survey with Trustee Harant and publish the survey for community feedback.

16. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:16 PM Vice President Montez MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Silver and carried unanimously on voice vote.

Full discussion can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWwwFPZ0D54>

Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary