

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, SEPTEMBER 24, 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, Mark Slover, Vice President Reagan Leslie Hill, and President Robert Johnson

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Nick Conrad, Matt Freeman, Becky Fredrickson, Scott Loftus, Karrie Ross, Jennifer Swanson, Mike Eddlemon, Kristi Shoemaker, Spencer Wilson, Attorneys Kevin Day and Justin Gunn, Miles Howley, and Alicia Woodworth

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:40 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 to attend the meeting electronically was received.

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 September 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the Minutes of the September 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover 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 expressed gratitude to Nick Conrad and his team for all their work supporting all the Riverfront festivals and the Fine Art Fair this coming weekend. She also highlighted significant progress at the Golf Learning Center. Multiple departments—including IT, Maintenance & Repair, and the Parks team—have been instrumental in preparing the facility. Work continues daily, and the new website is nearly ready to launch. Executive Director Cahill praised staff for their collaboration, comparing their collective efforts to 'superpowers' coming together around a major project. She concluded by reminding the Board of the upcoming Zootober event, beginning October 9, and welcomed any questions.

7.B. Chief of Police

Interim Chief of Police Mike Eddlemon presented the August 2025 Police Report. Interim Chief of Police Mike Eddlemon presented the August 2025 Police Report and expanded with specific

incidents and department updates. He reported on illegal dumping near the Merkel property, confirming it occurred on Park District land but was quickly resolved with responsible parties cleaning the site after intervention. He also described a Logan Park incident in which a firework was thrown at an officer during a juvenile disturbance; the offender was identified and arrested. A separate fight among juveniles occurred at Franciscan Park. Eddlemon also addressed concerns about homeless encampments in various parks, noting the challenges of monitoring multiple sites, but emphasized strong collaboration with the Peoria Police and Fire Departments, as well as efforts with social service agencies to connect individuals to support resources. He reported that Park Police officers had recently completed Crisis Intervention Training, including modules on responding to mental illness, autism, and CPR/BLS certification. Finally, he described a Robinson Park rescue of an elderly man with a broken leg, coordinated successfully by Park District staff, Peoria Fire, and community assistance, underscoring the value of new UTV equipment for future emergency response. Eddlemon also outlined updated police coverage schedules, now extending officer presence until 11:00 p.m. daily.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.A. Finance Committee – Approval of Accounts Payable

The Finance Committee Presents the Accounts Payable to the Full Board for Approval

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.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.A. Conduct Ordinance Amendment

First Read

The Conduct Ordinance amendments were presented for first read, with approval anticipated at the next Regular Board meeting.

9.B. Junior League of Peoria Lease Agreement Renewal

Scott Loftus stated that the Junior League of Peoria has rented space within Lakeview Recreation Center since 2024. The Junior League of Peoria and the Park District wish to continue this relationship. The new lease increases the rent payment by 2.7%, from last year, which is consistent with the published CPI rate. Other than the rent increase, the proposed lease remains unchanged. The lease term is for one year. As such, staff recommends executing the one-year lease agreement with the Junior League of Peoria for use of a portion of the Lakeview Recreation Center.

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the Junior League of Peoria Lease Agreement Renewal. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

9.C. Intergovernmental Agreement with Peoria Public Schools Re: Property at Peoria High School

This item was pulled from the agenda.

10. CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEMS

10.A. Bid – GLC Loader

10.B. Bid – Glen Oak Park Basketball Courts

10.C. Design Proposal – PlayHouse Porch

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE Calendar of Consent Items 10.A. through 10.C. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

11. PENDING BUSINESS

Trustee Slover raised concerns regarding Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) initiatives. He suggested that ongoing projects should be paused until the Board could further evaluate alignment with City of Peoria programs and explore strategies for workforce development and contractor support. Trustee Sierra noted that many of these topics were already under active discussion within the Strategy Committee and that further deliberation should take place in that forum to avoid confusion. After discussion, consensus was reached to continue the matter within the recessed Strategy Ad Hoc Committee meeting immediately following adjournment of the Regular Board Meeting.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

12.A. HISRA August 2025 Impact Report

The Heart of Illinois Special Recreation Association's August 2025 Impact Report was presented.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time.

14. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

None noted.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:10 pm Trustee Sierra MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Vice President Hill and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

Full discussion can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-fZ9eA4g4QU>

Respectfully Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary