

LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 11, 2025

CALL TO ORDER – At 6:00 PM, Don Peasley called to order the Lincoln Park District Board of Commissioners' monthly business meeting.

ROLL CALL – Commissioners attending were Don Peasley, Dave Perring, Gary Nodine, and Sam White. Bob Thomas was absent. Staff in attendance included Becky Strait, Vern Haseley, Allison Baker, and Angie Coombs. Jennifer Prather was absent.

MINUTES OF MEETING – Minutes of the 3 meetings in May were presented, which includes the two dates when the Interviews for Commissioner position were held on the 12th and 16th, and the regular meeting on the 14th. Don asked if there were any questions, comments, or suggested amendments. Gary Nodine made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dave Perring moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous roll-call vote.

VISITORS – NONE

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – The operating expenses were submitted for approval in the following funds:

GENERAL	-	\$	2,735.38
RECREATION	-	\$	11,385.71
LIABILITY	-	\$	5,324.00
CAPITAL IMP.	-	\$	124,700.17

Don asked if there were any questions regarding the items listed for the Accounts Payable. Gary informed the Board that he had called and spoken with Angie regarding his questions about the power bills. It looks as though LPD is paying the solar company around \$1,800 per month, and he was wondering if that was in line with the proposed 50-80% savings that was promised in the contract. He estimated that all utility expenses, from all sources/invoices, for May was around \$3,800 total, and he noted that Angie stated the MC² was just for the shop's electric. Gary would like a breakdown of utility bills for a comparison. Becky also informed the Board that she has yet to receive the true up from the solar company to be able to provide an accurate comparison. Angie mentioned that Aupperle's most recent invoice was added to Accounts Payable, as it was accidentally omitted from the file sent in advance of the meeting. Gary Nodine made the motion to approve Accounts Payable as presented, which was seconded by Sam White, and passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

CASH FLOW –

Angie informed the Board that program registrations have been at healthy numbers, and reminded everyone that Real Estate Tax payments will be distributed between the end of June and the middle of July. Dave inquired about attendance at the pool, and that related income. Becky explained that the cooler weather at the start of the season had a negative effect, but the recent heat wave was bringing the attendance numbers back up.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – BECKY STRAIT

- A Slideshow presentation was displayed:
- The staff had a busy May, which is continuing into June as the summer is in full swing. The new Yoga in the Park (Memorial) has been well attended, camps are starting with a new one each week, and everyone is gearing up for the July 4th Celebration.
- July 4th Celebration:
 - Becky informed the Board that the contracted company reached out to discuss their concerns with the tariffs and how it has affected their pricing and product availability.
 - The cost of the show did increase approximately \$1,200-\$2,000, but LPD was also given the option to reduce/eliminate a few products to better suit the budget.
 - Dave asked if LPD would receive the same show as the previous year, which Becky verified.
 - Becky explained that the City contributed \$5,000 towards the show, and the balance was within the budgeted amount, including the increase.
 - Donations received would cover the costs of the family fun events, unless otherwise noted at the time of the donation to go towards the direct fireworks expenses.
 - Becky explained briefly the schedule of events, including Lincoln Police volunteering to grill for the Foundation Fundraiser, and vendors registering to bring their food trucks.
- Park Improvement Projects:
 - The summer grounds crew assembled the picnic tables for both parks on rainy days.
 - Becky spoke with Seth who is in the process of installing the basketball hoops at Exchange Club park and will be working on the Sand Volleyball next.
 - Seth's crew is a little behind due to the recent rainy weather.
 - All the Sand Volleyball equipment is accounted for and ready to be installed.
 - The basketball backboards are missing a mounting bracket, which are in route from NuToys to have delivered.
 - Becky opined that the sidewalks look nice.
 - Vern and Becky have discussed the possibility of adding a few small features to the play area such as the old school spring-based animals or the spinning seated discs.
 - Vern explained that it would be nice to mulch a few areas to avoid having awkward areas to mow later.
 - Dave inquired if there was to be any storage areas for supplies like a pickleball net, but that will not be included, and the public will need to bring their own supplies. A few members of the community already own a pop-up pickleball net and most bring their own paddles, etc.
- North Parking Lot Improvement Project:
 - There has been a change order submitted for approval, requiring more drainage near the main entrance off Primm Road. (Becky briefly caught Sam up with a summary of progress)
 - Driveway upgrade/possible change order:
 - Aupperle submitted a schematic/drawing for their proposal.
 - Seth discussed his thoughts and experiences with including an expansion joint and deep rock for the doorway.
 - Per Seth, he has had to do repair work where this system was installed at other locations.
 - He recommends changing the gravel to a more solid footing.
 - Seth also uses a standard ½" rebar grid for commercial projects as opposed to a 6" mesh panel.
 - Aupperle's estimate came in at \$57,846 and Seth's estimate was \$41,000.00.
 - Gary pointed out that the "bids" were not 100% apples to apples, or an equal comparison.
 - Becky stated that the information provided were simply estimates or quotes, not official bids.

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- She continued to explain that Aupperle could be contracted to do the work as a change order to the current Parking Lot Improvement Project.
 - However, there would be an additional design fee from Farnsworth via that route.
 - There is concern about Seth's advice after reviewing the proposed schematics, and potential issues of door access being affected by Farnsworth's plan.
 - Becky explained that if the Driveway upgrade is not to be added as part of the current construction plan, then it will need to be put out for bid following protocol.
 - Angie clarified the amount threshold to require an official bid process, which was \$35,000.00, and requires public notice of the upcoming projects available for bid.
 - Becky continued by explaining how LPD can use the preferred schematics/plans as the basis to request bids.
 - Dave Perring made a motion to use the provided schematics, with changes recommended by Seth Thomas, to start the official bid project for Upgrading the Driveway and adding a pad for the Dumpster; to be done in the fall of 2025 or spring of 2026. Gary Nodine moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.
 - Becky informed the Board, that the North Parking Lot project would not be completed by the July 4th Celebration, in part due to the recently submitted RFP and change order for drainage.
 - She continued to explain the complication with Comcast and the relocation of their box.
 - The recent rains showed the need for more drainage to be added to the front entrance.
 - There is a section of curb which needs to be removed to add the needed elements.
 - Aupperle is working with the City to get approval for the extra work.
 - The change order to add the extra drainage increases the total cost by \$18,215.00.
 - Gary Nodine made the motion to approve the drainage change order with the additional \$18,215.00 cost. Sam White moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.
 - Becky briefly summarized the LCHS agreement for usage and the planned contract.
- Solar:
- LPD has not yet received the "true up statement".
 - Angie will create a spreadsheet to compare the usage with rates and costs once we have that statement / information available.
- Pool Drain Covers:
- Becky reminded the Board of the law requiring public pools to replace their drain covers every 10 years, and the new permit requirements put in place by the State.
 - Becky contacted both Farnsworth and Burbach Aquatics to request quotes on the engineering schematics required to submit the paperwork for the permit.
 - Farnsworth submitted an estimate for the work, which was \$8,000.00.
 - Burbach Aquatics has yet to respond to the request.
 - Becky explained in further detail what was required of the permit application process and why the schematics/plans were part of the paperwork.
 - Gary expressed his concern about the issue, and complications if the grace period expires before completion of the process or the possibility that the engineering schematics are unfavorable for installation of the covers.
 - Becky provided more explanation about the process and calculations required by the engineering firm to proceed with the permit application.
 - Vern stated that it should be easier for Burbach Aquatics to complete, as they already have LPD's pool schematics prior to the initial installation.

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➤ **Alarm System:**

- Becky informed the Board of her displeasure with George Alarm Company and detailed the issues that she has run into repeatedly with their system.
 - Service calls are scheduled at least 1 month out from the date of call.
 - There are issues obtaining the data from their devices/system to provide to Police when it is a matter for which they request the documentation/evidence.
- Dave questioned if there was a specific company in mind to replace them as the service provider, but Becky stated that she was still researching options available in the area.
 - Becky explained that the current contract ends in 2026, and there is a 60-day notice requirement for termination within the contract.
 - Gary inquired about whether there were issues with just the service or the equipment.
 - Becky detailed how the system is old, and the equipment results in poor quality visual review of data.
 - Sam informed the Board that LCHS uses a company called Hark Technologies and the previous system used was from a company called Synergy.
 - Becky thanked Sam for that information and added to her list of companies to research.
- Angie informed the Board about a billing issue that took her a few hours to resolve, which included a \$100 service fee from Frontier that was not necessary, but George Alarm eventually refunded as a discount from their service invoice.
- Becky added that the most recent service fee was to obtain a video recording and resolve the issue of being able to save the video via her computer.
 - The tech was on site for 5 hours, mostly on the phone with a the camera company, trying to resolve a pathway issue.
 - The bill was for \$400 and resulted in the tech basically downgrading LPD to the previous system that they had been upgraded to within the past year, citing that the equipment was too old to operate on the new system correctly.
- Sam added that the current company that LCHS uses for security allows video replay for up to 30 days, whereas Becky stated that LPD's is limited to only one week.

SUPERVISOR OF OPERATIONS - Vern Haseley

- Vern informed the Board that while mowing, a leak was found in the DX55's diesel pump. A new pump will cost around \$1,200 plus labor for JD to replace the part. Don questioned how old the tractor was, to which Vern replied 20 years, but continued to explain that it was still a good tractor. The repair cost is vastly cheaper than purchasing a newer model.
- The 2 light poles from the front parking island have been removed. Vern and Tony took them down to the shop, as they are still in good condition, and can be used elsewhere.
- The waterslide pump had the motor freeze up previously, but they were able to eventually get it moving. It needs a little refurbishing, but they will keep it as a backup. The motor will need to have the housing replaced. Upon researching the parts needed, they discovered that the pump is about to be discontinued after this year. LPD currently has no viable spare, as it was used in the waterslide components. Vern would like to order another before they change/redesign it. Gary was under the impression that a new one was approved last month, but Vern stated that he wanted to verify the price before doing so. A new pump will be between \$10,000 and \$15,000, but Gary pointed out that if LPD waits, then the design will likely change and then it would cost more to redesign the system to work with the new pump.

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(or vice versa). Sam asked how old the pump was that was replaced, which Vern verified that it was installed in 2015. The Board reached the consensus that Vern should order a new pump.

- The Elks has reached out requesting assistance from LPD, as their current pool manager is not knowledgeable about maintenance procedures and protocol, even regarding chemical levels. Tony has been helpful by giving them a quick run-down of what they need to know.
- Don asked Vern about the status of the sauna, as he has noticed that some infrared panels don't appear to be fully functional. Vern explained the different zones, how they cycle, and how the electrical was set up. Vern and Tony will inspect the situation to see if it is indeed panel malfunctioning or an electrical issue.

PROGRAM REPORT – ALLISON BAKER

- Allison has been busy this summer, with organizing all the camps and leagues.
- The Baseball & Softball season started May 12th and the tournaments are about to start, but the Rec leagues still have a week or two left.
- Camps registrations online have been a hit. Youth Art Camp was the first this summer with 21 participants, and Music camp is this week. Putting on a Play begins in July and so far has 15 participants registered. Camp Invention has 10 scholarships available this year. Nature Camp is later in July and has 18 registered so far. Don asked if Dennis Campbell would be returning, which Allison verified that he was, and he had obtained permission to use Creekside again this year.
- Adult Kickball League started last week, with 5 teams, two of which are new this year.
- Allison has been helping with concessions more this year, by placing inventory orders and helping with the schedule.
- Gary inquired about the matter where police were called during a baseball game and asked for clarification if the issue was with a parent or coach. Becky stated that she had more information on the matter, as she had spoken to the umpire and parent/coach involved in the matter. The umpire reported that after several attempts to handle the issues, he continued to be heckled on his calls beyond what he considered to be reasonable. It resulted in him calling/ending and leaving the game. Gary asked if it was the coaches that were the issue. Becky explained that the 10U coach was disputing a rule, which did turn out to be that the umpire did not have the most recent set of rules. Allison stated that the umpire felt as though the coach would not listen to him. Becky informed the Board that she had gone over protocol with the Umpire and clarified any areas in question. Gary stated that it is a State law that unrest at a kids ball game is an arrestable offense. Gary then questioned the rule issue, and if LPD was at fault. Becky did verify that the coach was using a newer set, which did have a change, but the umpire did not have that copy. The coach's behavior was still deemed unacceptable given the situation. Sam asked if anyone had spoken to the Umpire about not officiating any more games with that coach. Becky stated that the Umpire does understand, and thankfully, the season is ending soon. Allison did state that the 10U age group is the one that usually has issues, most usually it is the parents' behavior more than the kids, which is unfortunate as this is an important age in the learning process.

FITNESS MANAGER: JENNIFER PRATHER – presented by Becky Strait

- Group Fitness Class attendance for April was 713.
- Health & Wellness had 8 in attendance to learn about Physio Therapy from LMH.

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- The last Meet & Mingle had 7 attendees, and the next one is on June 24th at 1pm.
- May's Spin® to Win Event was won by Tim Good, who is new to Spin®.
- The annual 5K has 36 registered so far, including 12 kids.
- Weights 101 is being taught by Liz and has 10 participants, 3 of which are non-members.
- Active Agers has a pot luck lunch coming up with a 60s theme.
- Water Fitness has had a slow start, mostly due to the weather and water temp.
- Yoga in Memorial Park, which is a new free event, had 20 attend the first session.
- The T-Shirt Fundraiser online store will close June 22nd and proceeds will go to the Foundation Fund.
- The Stay Another Day Event, which is an event for 7th graders, will be in September, and is sponsored by the Foundation.
- Jennifer is currently working on a Fall Fitness Open House and the Fall Group Fitness Schedule.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Becky informed the Board that she had received a complaint via email from the Coach/parent regarding the umpire and rule issue previously discussed. Part of the complaint was the position of the umpire, but Sam even verified that if there is only one individual umpire, the best position to stand in is behind the mound, but the coach/parent preferred behind the plate. Gary stated that such issues should not be discussed on the field, but are better left to do after the game.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Capital Improvements:

1. Park Improvement Projects: See Executive Director's Report.
2. North Parking Lot Improvement Project: See Executive Director's Report.
3. Promissory Note:
 - a. Becky explained that she had contacted three banks to request information on their terms for such a promissory note.
 - 1) Tremont First National Bank.
 - 2) Heartland Bank & Trust.
 - 3) Regions.
 - b. Regions stated up front that they would not be able to compete with the other local banks.
 - c. Tremont offered 5.75% with a repayment schedule of 2 years.
 - d. Heartland offered 5% with a repayment schedule of 3 years.
 - e. The Board requested that clarification of terms and conditions include no penalty fee for early repayment prior to the date set at closure.
 - 1) Gary Nodine made the motion to proceed with applying for a \$600,000.00 promissory note with Heartland Bank & Trust at 5% for a 3-year period, only if there is no penalty for early repayment.
 - 2) Dave Perring moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

B. Aquatic Center: See Supervisor of Operations' report.

C. Authorization of sale/conveyance of Park District Property: NONE.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Security System: See Executive Director's Report.

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Executive Session: None.

Sam inquired about the July 4th Celebration, and if local police have been contacted to help with the traffic issue. It was explained that, per City policy, there is an hourly fee to have officers present, which would add an extensive cost to the event. It was mentioned that years ago, the Auxiliary Police used to provide the service. However, they no longer exist locally. Becky expressed her concern about the construction site during the event, but she was assured that the trailers and equipment will be moved to the rear of the site and signage will be prominently displayed.

ADJOURNMENT: Seeing no further business, Dave Perring moved to adjourn the meeting. Gary Nodine moved to second the motion. Motion carried. Adjournment: 7:08 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 6:00 PM.