

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 14, 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 Bob Thomas. None were absent. Staff in attendance included Becky Strait, Vern Haseley, Allison Baker, Jennifer Prather, and Angie Coombs. None were absent.

**DISSOLUTION OF BOARD/ELECTION OF NEW BOARD –**

Don Peasley asked the Board for a motion to dissolve the Board to then elect Commissioners to the positions of President, Vice President and Treasurer. Angie reminded the Board that the President, Vice President, and Treasurer all have signature authority on the accounts. Bob Thomas made the motion to dissolve the current Board. Dave Perring moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote. Bob Thomas made a motion to appoint Don Peasley to the position of President. Dave Perring moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote. Bob Thomas made the motion to appoint Gary Nodine to the position of Vice President. Dave Perring moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote. Bob Thomas made the motion to appoint Dave Perring to the position of Treasurer. Gary Nodine moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote. Dave Perring made the motion to appoint Bob Thomas to the position of Freedom of Information Act Officer. Gary Nodine moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

**MINUTES OF MEETING** – Minutes of the April 9, 2025, meeting were presented. 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:

<b>GENERAL</b>	-	\$	<b>2,016.08</b>
<b>RECREATION</b>	-	\$	<b>7,974.82</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMP.</b>	-	\$	<b>85,432.97</b>

Don asked if there were any questions regarding the items listed for the Accounts Payable. Gary Nodine made the motion to approve Accounts Payable as presented, which was seconded by Dave Perring, and passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

**CASH FLOW –**

Angie informed the Board that another PPRT payment had been received, and a spreadsheet was included for their review. The Front Office has been busy with program registrations, and that is expected to increase when the pool opens.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 14, 2025**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – BECKY STRAIT**

- A Slideshow presentation was displayed:
- The staff had a busy April, which is continuing into May as everyone is getting ready for the summer to be in full swing.
- Becky informed the Board that LPD will be participating in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday events downtown. The first event is on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Park Improvement Projects:
  - Becky spoke with Seth who will be installing the basketball hoops at Exchange Club park.
  - Seth's crew finished the sidewalks in both Exchange Club and Lehn & Fink Parks.
    - Vern explained that he and Tony have been working to grade the surrounding land to meet the paths in both parks.
    - Vern informed the Board that he was also working to improve the condition of Lehn & Fink's diamond so that teams can practice there.
    - Seth reported to Vern that he has seen an uptick in Lehn & Fink's usage after the upgrades.
  - Becky explained that the Sand Volleyball court was not part of the original design/contract with Landscape Structures.
    - Seth Thomas provided a quote to complete the tiling and Sand Volleyball feature installation.
    - Dave queried if the payment issues between Landscape Structures and Seth had been solved, which Becky verified that they had been resolved.
    - Becky informed the Board that she will be submitting a final report to both Landscape Structures and Sourcewell about the issues during the project.
  - Becky informed the Board that Seth's quote was broken down into components of the project and the overall total is under the bid threshold and can be done within 2 weeks.
    - The remaining work needed will be to the dirt and grass leveling and adding the picnic tables.
    - Bob asked if the volleyball posts and net are to remain up year-round or taken down in the winter, which Becky verified that the posts would remain while the net will be removed.
    - Dave questioned if the public would then need to bring their own balls to play, which was verified as the norm.
  - Gary Nodine made the motion to accept the bid submitted by Seth Thomas to complete the Sand Volleyball court installation in Exchange Club Park for \$27,750.
    - Dave asked about the budget in respect to the final part of the project.
    - Becky explained that the added concrete work did put the project a little over budget.
    - Bob stated that he would abstain from voting, as the contractor is his son.
    - Dave Perring moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote, with Bob Thomas in abstention.
  - Becky informed the Board that there have been some requests for pickleball lines to be added to the multi-game surface along with basketball lines.
    - Becky added that people are reporting the LCHS courts are full between tennis and pickleball, but the nets are not adjustable nor conducive to higher levels of pickleball play.
    - Bob asked if the Pickleball nets would be added permanently, but Becky stated that the public would bring their own if they choose to play.
    - Bob questioned if the lines should be added later, but Don suggested adding both initially.
    - Gary queried how LPD plans to handle complaints about usage, would there be a reservation system put in place, but Becky recommends first-come-first-serve usage.
    - Dave proposed online registration as a possibility and Gary suggested having designated days if there are usage conflicts.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 14, 2025**

- Becky will get a proposal for the painting and bring to the Board next month.
- North Parking Lot Improvement Project:
  - The culverts are being installed.
  - The crew accidentally hit the poorly marked phone lines.
  - Becky inquired about the Board's thoughts on the proposed intergovernmental agreement with LCHS, and if they had any suggested revisions or amendments.
  - Don requested that everyone receive a copy via email and table the discussion until the next meeting.
- 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.
- Parking Lot Improvement Plan Addition:
  - Becky explained to the Board that the driveway had been mentioned as something to add to the improvement plan, as it is cracking terribly.
    - Part of the issue is the weight of the garbage trucks.
    - The other matter would be the plan to extend the drive to curve in front of the concession entrance, which would alleviate the muddy mess between the drive and the gravel.
  - Two bids were received from Aupperle and Seth Thomas Construction.
    - Aupperle's came in at \$47,716 and Seth's at \$62,010.
    - Don questioned the difference between the two and Gary asked if the quote was "apples to apples", which Vern and Becky were uncertain about.
      - Aupperle's plan mentioned the extension terminating after the overhead pool door, but Seth's plan mentioned more support being added to the main drive section,
      - The Board agreed to table the discussion to make sure that both companies were submitting bids for the same project design.
  - There was further discussion about relocating the dumpster to another area to make it more accessible to both staff and the trash trucks.
  - Becky pointed out that if the project was awarded to Aupperle, it would simply be a change order to the current project's contract.
  - The topic was tabled until next month.
- Lifeguard Training:
  - Becky informed the Board that the second certification course was scheduled for the following weekend, which is the final one before the season starts.
  - Jett Winebrinner will be instructing this course, too.
- Pool Drain Covers:
  - Becky explained to the Board that there is a law requiring public pools to replace their drain covers every 10 years.
  - Staff had removed the old covers and were about to install the new covers when Angie received a phone call from the State Department of Public Health.
    - The phone call was to inform LPD that the State had adopted a new policy requiring all public pool facilities to apply for a permit prior to replacing the drain covers.
    - The permit application process also includes contracting an architect/engineering firm to complete a portion of the permit application, which at best would take the State 12 weeks to approve each submitted application.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 14, 2025**

- The State employee explained that she was calling every facility on her inspection list that fell in the 10-year period to replace covers, such as LPD, to notify the facilities of the change in State pool protocol.
- The direct supervisor's contact information was provided, with the suggestion that the Executive Director contact them directly to discuss the matter.
- Becky called the Supervisor and was given more information about the process.
- It was explained that the architect or engineer needs to review the system setup and do some calculations pertaining to drain size and covers needed.
- Bob inquired about the need to replace the covers every 10 years.
- Becky has heard that some drain cover companies have reportedly reduced their quality, and the State's policy is a safety measure.
- Angie explained that the only reason why the new covers had not already been installed was because Tony had to order longer bolts to do so.
- The original bolts sent with the drains, which were replacing "like for like", were too short to effectively secure the covers to the pool.
- Becky explained that she had already reached out to both Farnsworth and Burbach Aquatics to inquire about getting a quote for the application work.
- In the meantime, the Supervisor that Becky spoke to stated that LPD would be granted an extension if LPD could provide evidence of proceeding with the permit application.
- Pool Patron/Foundation Board Member Inquiry:
  - As an avid swimmer, and regular pool patron, it was proposed that a cover be researched.
  - The patron's reasons included cold water affecting swim lessons, the beginning of each season typically has cooler nights that cool the water, at around \$20,000 cover may be cheaper than the water heater option.
  - Becky did reach out and requested an estimate for the lap pool, which included a reel system and storage.
  - Dave pointed out that in the later part of the season, the water tends to be too warm.
  - Jennifer questioned whether the vacuum would be able to run overnight with a cover.
  - Dave stated that the idea was not viable at this time, which Gary and Bob both agreed with him, citing that storage would be an issue.

**SUPERVISOR OF OPERATIONS - Vern Haseley**

- Vern did state that a pool heater could be considered, but Bob pointed out that a pool heater would not be efficient if it does not have a cover to help retain the heat at night. Angie did point out that a cover might also save some money on pool chemicals.

**PROGRAM REPORT – ALLISON BAKER**

- Allison has been busy planning for the summer, with all the camps and leagues.
- The Baseball & Softball season started May 12<sup>th</sup>. Allison has been reaching out to surrounding towns that also have 12U teams to schedule games. The 14U team is a little more difficult to schedule games for, as most of those teams are advanced travel teams.
- Camps are beginning to see registrations come in online. Youth Art Camp is the first this summer, with 11 registered for the younger group and 3 so far for the older group. Nature Camp, Camp Invention, and Putting on a Play have also had quite a few. A new camp this summer is a Pet 1-on-1 with a local Veterinarian.
- Easter's Egg hunts were successful.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 14, 2025**

- This year, LPD will have a bigger role in planning the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday events downtown. Allison has been busy creating fliers, drafting emails and helping plan/coordinate the events.
- The summer crew's shirts have been made.

**FITNESS MANAGER: JENNIFER PRATHER**

- Group Fitness Class attendance for March was 1,036, which was up when compared to the previous year's 1,029. This year, there were fewer weeks of classes offered for free. Lately, more men are registering for classes than previously.
- Health & Wellness had a few in attendance to learn about MTM Wellness from Mt. Pulaski.
- The last Meet & Mingle had 7 attendees, and the next one is on May 19th from 9-11am.
- Lincoln Memorial Health's Nutrition series was a success. We did see a few attendees purchased memberships for the first time. Jennifer is interested in partnering with LMH to help serve and educate the public about health and nutrition.
- Jennifer has had 9 people register for equipment orientation sessions.
- Jennifer's Self-Care Foot Massage had 2 sessions, of which 3 out of 7 participants in the second session were non-members.
- May's Spin® to Win Event has shown an increase in attendance. The Mystery spin promotion helps with numbers; a random bike gets chosen to win a prize.
- The annual 5K's new kid's run has 8 already registered.
- The Group Fitness schedule for the summer is almost complete.
- June will begin the Water Fitness, and Mark will be teaching Yoga in Memorial Park, which is a new free event.
- Jennifer is working on a June newsletter.
- Jennifer is planning the Stay Another Day Event, which will be in September.
- Jennifer has been focusing on social media for the Foundation.

**CORRESPONDENCE: Will be discussed in Executive Session.**

**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: Waiting for the project to get closer to the start date.

**B. Aquatic Center:**

1. Vern informed the Board that the pools were filled, and the pumps were started.
2. Tony is working on a smaller issue with one of the controllers.
3. The slide's pump froze/seized and was replaced by the spare, but they are trying to troubleshoot the problem.
  - a. Dave inquired about the size of the motor, which Vern verified to be 20hp.
  - b. Vern stated that they were able to replace the motor easily since they had ordered a spare after the last issues they had a few years ago.
  - c. Gary questioned how long the motor had been ordered, which Vern stated was 2015.
  - d. If they are unable to fix the motor, another may need to be ordered to keep as a spare.
  - e. Bob inquired about the price of the motor, which Vern estimated to be \$10,000.
4. Gary asked if there is a winterization process for the pool's pumps/motors.
  - a. Vern verified that they follow the manufacturers' protocol annually.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 14, 2025**

- b. Bob pointed out that the pool and related equipment is 10 years old but is only operational 5 months out of each year, and issues are bound to happen.
- C. Foundation Signs: No new information to update.
- D. Authorization of sale/conveyance of Park District Property: NONE.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Freedom of Information Act – Appoint Officer: See earlier Board appointments.
- B. Intergovernmental Agreement with LCHS: See Executive Director's Report.
- C. Carrol Catholic Funding Request: Playground Equipment
  - 1. Becky explained that the school was interested in partnering with LPD to replace their playground equipment, citing that it is a public play area.
  - 2. Bob questioned if there were any specifics to the submitted request or just open-ended.
  - 3. Becky stated that Carroll Catholic was working with Play Illinois, which is a company that LPD has also used for playground equipment, and it was Play Illinois that suggested inquiring about the possibility of a partnership.
  - 4. The Board was of consensus that if LPD partners with one, it would only be fair to partner with them all, which would unreasonable, as schools receive more tax funds.

**Executive Session:** At 7:00 pm, the Board entered a closed Executive Session to discuss Correspondence, which pertains to a potential legal matter. The Board exited the session at 7:39 pm, with no matters discussed requiring a vote.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Seeing no further business, Gary Nodine moved to adjourn the meeting. Bob Thomas moved to second the motion. Motion carried. Adjournment: 7:40 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 19, 2025 at 3:00 pm for interviews prior to the regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM.