LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 14, 2026

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 in attendance were Don Peasley, Dave Perring, Bob Thomas and Sam White. Gary Nodine was absent. Staff in attendance included Becky Strait, Vern Haseley, William Hutchison and Angie Coombs. None were absent.

MINUTES OF MEETING - Minutes of the meeting in September were presented. Don asked if there were any questions, comments, or suggested amendments. No changes needed to be made. Dave Perring made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Sam White moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous roll-call vote.

VISITORS – N O N E

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

GENERAL	**-**	**$**	**5,607.92**
RECREATION	**-**	**$**	**962.88**
CAPITAL IMP.	**-**	**$**	**177,154.60**

Don asked about the payment listed to Bedrock Materials, which Angie verified to be the supplier of the material used to improve the diamonds. Next, Don inquired about the check issued to G.A. Rich and Sons, which Angie stated that the payment was for the plumbing improvement project. Then, Don questioned the 4 checks issued to Givsco, which Angie explained that separate checks had been requested for the Kitchen, Craft Room, ADA door update, and Management services for the plumbing project. Seeing no further questions, Don asked for a motion. Sam White made the motion to approve Accounts Payable as presented. The motion was seconded by Bob Thomas, and passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

CASH FLOW-

Angie stated that a report detailing the Real Estate and Personal Property Replacement Tax Distributions was included for their review. Typically, the final Real Estate Tax payment and interest accrued will be deposited in November. Angie informed the Board that it was included under “New Business”, which can be discussed then, but she asks that the Board considers a Resolution to allocate the CD interest earned and Revenue Recapture towards the audit expenditures. Becky stated that she would like to discuss how the new State guidelines may impact the District’s requirements for future audits. The new parameters include only requiring an annual AFR report being filed every year for units of government that have revenue below $1.4 million, starting with the Fiscal Year 2027.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - BECKY STRAIT

- A Slideshow presentation was displayed:
  - Becky was happy to report that the facility has been busy with patrons and programs like Ballroom Dancing, Cooking Classes, and planning for the upcoming Halloween Fun Fest. Other upcoming events and programs include tennis clinics, Jr. Railer registrations, and Jen has been working with Becky to plan a member's special for November as a way to "give back" the week of Thanksgiving.
- Parks:
  - Becky mentioned that staff are still busy mowing in the parks.
  - There has been another dumping issue when staff discovered a futon had been added to the burn pile.
  - Becky also informed the Board that a pile of rock had been dropped off by staff to then use around the park, but when staff returned, someone was there shoveling it into buckets in their golf cart.
    - Staff was able to have a conversation with this individual and the gravel was returned.
    - Dave questioned if the pile behind the courts was still piling up.
    - William stated that J.D. Eigenbrod had been the interim groundskeeper at the Elks and he was able to contact the Rural Fire Chief on the matter of burning the pile.
    - They are reportedly in talks with the Elks council and Rural Fire about a fee to have Fire staff do a controlled burn.
  - Both Sam and Dave mentioned that not all that live in the neighborhoods surrounding the Elks who may contribute to the pile are members of the Elks Club.
  - Sam questioned the plans to handle the situation once this matter is resolved.
    - Becky stated that signs had been purchased and recently posted.
    - Maintenance staff are getting trail cams ready to install to monitor the main areas of concern which seem to have the highest incidences of dumping.
    - Bob expressed concern that some neighbors have been doing this for years and stated that it may be hard to get them to stop.
    - William shared that the hope is to get photos and have the police contact the offenders, which will hopefully deter future dumping.
  - The community has been using Lehn & Fink quite a bit for parties.
- Vandalism of LPD grounds:
  - Becky notified the Board that the damage occurred the day after a large event similar to a Renaissance fair was held on the property.
    - Vandals arrived via bikes and tipped over and spread garbage from several of the full trash cans from the field usage, which the group had cleaned up after their large event.
    - The same individuals moved a picnic table by Breezy Concession to then remove the AC cover to climb on the roof.
    - Before leaving, they took golf balls from the range to break every piece of glass on the golf shed and left dents all over.
  - The High School also reported damage to their new track.
  - A police report has been initiated as a result.
  - Becky will be looking into adding more cameras to the facility.
  - Becky stated that the positive outcome is the Maintenance crew suggested enclosing the golf shed porch, which removes several exterior windows, and creates additional storage.
    - The porch needed a facelift before the vandalism, but this would also move the entrance to the west side of the building, which is more easily monitored than the southern door.
    - A positive was created from a negative, which is a good thing.
- Door Update:
  - Becky happily reported that the project is 99% complete, but there is a door that still needs

to be adjusted after staff removed a stop.

- The conduit had been replaced and, wherever possible, buttons were installed in the walls.
- The Fit Zone main entrance had doorstops installed to prevent the door from hitting the exterior, but it caused the door to not open all the way, and the mechanism will prevent the door hitting the exterior.
  - Becky asked staff to remove the now unnecessary stop, which will allow the door to open fully at a 90º angle.
  - There were concerns that the entrance would not meet the ADA requirements if it did not open to 90º, which would defeat the purpose of the project.

➢ Plumbing update:

- Becky reported that the project was nearly done.
  - The water heater needs to be delivered and installed, and the Craft Room lines need to be replaced still.
  - The Craft Room cabinets have been installed, but the fridge needs to be exchanged for one that better fits the space.
  - Don inquired if the fridge could be obtained from McEntire's to keep funds local.
  - Becky informed the Board that she had recommended McEntire's as a local distributor but was unsure if they had checked there yet, but would double check.
  - Both Don and Bob asked if Becky could make sure that they checked, and Bob stated that McEntire's usually matches prices.
- Becky stated that the Craft Room floor is scheduled to be updated next year.

➢ Complex HVAC:

- Becky reported that Entec was able to install the new part, and that she hopes the unit will last until it can be replaced as scheduled next year.
- Regarding the efficiency grant, Becky had a meeting with Ameren.
  - The previous site visit would not be considered an audit, as is required for the application.
  - Becky will research the cost and process of obtaining an energy audit for future grants.
  - She estimates contracting for the audit will cost $5-8,000.
  - Ameren does have incentives available for updates, for which lighting in the gym and weight room might be eligible for.
  - Becky explained that there are still some funds available within the budget for lighting updates that can be done before the end of the year.
  - The Ameren Rep stated that he anticipates next year's Ameren incentives will focus more on HVAC, but the possibility of a grant for lights this year would still be possible.
  - However, an energy audit would help plan for future updates and grant applications.

➢ Program Coordinator position:

- Out of 16 applicants, Becky was able to successfully interview 1 candidate for the position.
- Only 5 were qualified applicants.
  - Two of them were students.
  - One was promising, but unable to start until May.
- Dave questioned the possibility of hiring a student and then they choose to leave once they have completed their coursework/degree.
  - Becky stated that it was a valid concern.
  - The candidate that she interviewed is currently working on his Masters at ISU, with a Bachelor's Degree in Kinesiology & Recreation.
  - This candidate is also a Bloomington native, but he did not share whether he would consider moving to Lincoln at some point if he was hired.
- Becky stated that she is considering advertising via other hiring apps, and pointed out that finding qualified applicants has changed significantly since the colleges have closed.
- Don inquired about the offered starting salary, which Becky explained that it was posted as

$18.25/hour to start with possible raises after a probationary period.

- Becky informed the Board that this candidate did mention a possible stipend from his Master's program, but she did not get many details on the matter.
- Don asked how soon this candidate would be able to start, which Becky replied that he reportedly would be available to start soon.
- Becky stated that this candidate exhibited good communication skills and interest in bringing a fresh perspective and new ideas to the Program Coordinator position.

- Don suggested thoroughly reviewing the position responsibilities with the candidate.
  - Becky did inform the Board that she has considered changing the hours a few days a week, so that it would be easier for the position to be present during some evening events.
  - Becky would also like to coordinate with Valerie about possible need to help administer special events on occasions.

➢ Budget Review:

- Becky explained to the Board that some necessary information was still pending, as Sally Turner was waiting to get information from the Assessor before she could provide what was needed to prepare the Tax Levy Ordinance.
- William and Becky are still researching estimates on proposed projects to provide better numbers for the annual document.
- Angie has prepared a preliminary budget for review, but pointed out some highlighted numbers, such as tax levy amounts, which will likely change.
- Becky explained that the Board has the first few months of a fiscal year to pass the budget, so she recommends officially presenting the ordinances in November, and then the Board can hold the public hearing and vote on the Budget in January.

SUPERVISOR OF OPERATIONS - presented by William Hutchison

- William informed the Board that all the diamonds have been aerated, seeded and have had compost added. We hope to see improvement next spring.
- Vern and Garrett have been working on replacing the lights on Breezy field. Dave inquired if anyone remembered the namesake of the field, Brianna Bacon. He explained how she was an avid softball player who passed at a young age after a courageous fight with cancer.
- William stated that there has been an increase in usage of the archery range of late. The public seems to be happy to have a place where they can bring their targets to practice safely.
- William is working to get the trail cameras ready for installation at Memorial Park. He made sure that the signs have been posted where needed. Sam questioned if the cameras were able to be monitored remotely. William stated that the cameras were connected via cell towers to provide photos from detected movements.
- Wright's Tree Service has deposited some timber, which has been marked and taped off, for their staff to practice with during an upcoming training session.
- William reported that the Sauna is currently in production and is in the drying phase. He will receive a shipping verification to determine when it will be appropriate to start removing the existing unit in preparation for the delivery and installation of the new unit. Part of the contract is that one employee will travel with the unit to help install it.

FITNESS MANAGER: Report Attached as Addendum#1

CORRESPONDENCE: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Capital Improvements:

1. ADA Entry Upgrade: See Executive Director's Report.
2. Plumbing Improvement & Craft Room Remodel Project: See Executive Director's Report.
3. Sauna: See Operation Supervisor's Report.
4. Sports Complex HVAC issue: See Executive Director's Report.

B. Aquatic Center: None.
C. Memorial Park Property Line/ Lincoln Elks: See Operation Supervisor's Report.
D. Authorization of sale/conveyance of Park District Property: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Tremont Bank Certificate of Deposit.
   1. Roll over at ~3.47% or redeposit into checking?
      a. Sam White moved to roll the $250,000 over into a new 7-month CD.
      b. Bob Thomas moved to second the motion.
      c. Motion passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.
   2. Allocate interest earned to Audit Fund?
      a. Dave Perring moved to allocate the current CD's interest to the Audit Fund.
      b. Sam White moved to second the motion.
      c. Motion passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.
B. Fiscal Year 2025 Audit Report.
C. Capital Project Schedule.
D. Ordinance#371**:** Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy.
E. Ordinance#372: Fiscal Year 2027 Budget & Appropriation.
F. Commissioner Appointment.
   1. Sam White made a motion to approve Jack Yoder for the open position on the Board.
   2. Dave Perring moved to second the motion.
   3. Motion passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote, with Bob Thomas abstaining.

Vern stated that he wished to discuss the Driving Range with the Board. He reminded the Board that when it was not getting used as much, the Board had considered repurposing the land with other options. However, the use has picked up significantly over the past few years. Due to previous lack of use, they opted to not fertilize that area moving forward, but Vern feels that the current use requires it again. Vern reported that about half of the range was burnt by the sun and there are several dead spots. He has managed to keep the weeds down, but the current state makes it difficult to gather balls. Dave inquired about the time frame in mind, which Vern replied it would need to wait until the spring. Also, the tractor will need to be checked for an issue, and Vern warns that it might need to be replaced sooner rather than later.

Executive Session:

A. Dave Perring moved to enter Executive Session to discuss 2027 Wages at 7:07 pm.
   1. Sam White moved to second the motion.
   2. Motion approved after unanimous vote.
B. The Board exited Executive Session at 7:38 pm with no matters to vote on.

Angie notified the Board that 2 companies had submitted estimates for the 2027 Port-a-Pot service at LPD's parks: Nolen, which is currently the provider who recently bought out Little Johnny's, and Midwest Portable Sanitation. Nolen's is based out of town and Midwest is locally owned. Midwest did come in as the low bidder. The consensus is to use Midwest for 2027 as they were the lowest bidder and happen to be local.

ADJOURNMENT: Seeing no further business, Sam White moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Perring moved to second the motion. Motion carried.
Adjournment: 7:41 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 14, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

Fitness Manager Report
Jennifer Prather
October 2026

- Group fitness class attendance for September was **858.** A little less than last year. We do have some out with medical reasons that are regular but will be back soon.
- Free week of classes we had **193** participate in classes the first 7 days of this month.
- Elevate: Barre + Strength. Started this month we have **6** registered
- The Stay Another Day Event went over well. This year we had PATH from Bloomington come and do the presentation. I am already looking for a presenter for next year.
- The Outdoor Spin ride on Sept 19th had **13** participants and they are looking forward to our next session on this Saturday, October 17th.
- We are hosting an Instructor Challenge for the month of October. They are helping pump up the classes for the upcoming fall schedule, challenging them to attend other instructor classes, and leave reviews for us on google and yelp.
- Later on this month we will be hosting a couple instructor training days.
- Our Wellness Walk has 4 participants that are walking the Route 66 miles. It ends at the end of the month.
- The November/December group fitness schedule is out.
- We have some new fitness programs and specials coming this fall and into the new year that the team is pretty excited about.
- We will be replacing the Wellness Expo with a Family Fun Palooza morning event. Spring open house along with booths of other family/kid activity or programs, family games, make and take, along with a fundraiser lunch. April 10th is the scheduled date for the event.
- I have been working on finishing up flyers and programming for the rest of the year as well as the planning of January 2027.
- The theme for 2027 will be Fitness Lab. I am excited about this theme as we have had a lot of great ideas come from the instructors to create some new classes.