

**LAKE BLUFF PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 16, 2009**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois, was held at the Recreation Center, 355 W. Washington Avenue, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

Present: Commissioner: Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff

Visitors: Ron Salski (Executive Director), Dave Peterson (Director of Business and Facility Services), Darryl Stackhouse (Golf Operations Manager), Derek Clarkson (Assistant Golf Operations Manager), and Brian Lesser (Webcam), Gary Gordon (Lake County Director of Finance), Robert Skidmore (Lake County Treasurer), Willard R. Helander (Lake County Clerk), Betty Olson, Betts Cook, Shirley Coppi, Mary Stauffer, Judy Lenzini, Barry Nannini, Terry Voight, Mary Ann McCormick, Gillian McLaughlin.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Meierhoff called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

The following Commissioners were present when the roll was called:

Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff

Commissioner Hart was absent with prior notice.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gronau, seconded by Commissioner Engelhard to approve the agenda of February 16, 2009. By unanimous voice vote, the agenda was approved as presented.

**Ayes:** Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Commissioner Hart

**4. STATEMENT OF VISITORS:**

Shirley Coppey, Lake Bluff resident, asked questions about the changes related to the Couples Membership being dropped. She thanked everyone for listening to other concerns and addressing immediately.

Mary Stauffer is concerned with the Couples Membership as Deer Path has a 15% discount. She wondered why the change.

Golf Operations Manager Stackhouse explained the process and looked line by line with the expenses. The budget was a deficit so the budget needed to be changed. A sprinkler system was added and improved conditions have increased the expenses. The memberships were decreased for ease of use. Mr. Stackhouse mentioned it was good to hear the feedback.

Ms. Stauffer asked why take away the Couples Memberships and understands the costs of the golf course.

Commissioner Gronau mentioned the Platform Tennis is a different operation and has separate expenses. Commissioner Gronau will take it under advisement and mentioned the last five years memberships were not increased. Commissioner Gronau mentioned there will be more golf outings.

Executive Director Salski mentioned the concerns about the dollar per round and evaluated the golf course on a per round basis. It costs the Park District \$37 per round.

A resident expected to the fees to go up but not by \$200. Commissioner Gronau mentioned that the course has been losing \$150,000 per year and the competition is difficult. Courses are raising rates. Commissioner Gronau mentioned if the fees raised only 3% it would impact the course significantly.

Golf Operations Manager Stackhouse mentioned staff will do their best to inform golfers of events and the Club continues the reciprocal course play.

A resident were concerned the services are going to create more expense. Golf Operations Manager Stackhouse mentioned the Club is rearranging the staff to communicate better with the golfers. The goal is to provide the Lake Bluff feel and provide a better experience by being different than other courses.

Golfer was concerned with penalizing the out of district resident and cart fees are going up \$3. She was concerned that rangers are not present or no consideration on weekends with pace of play.

Golf Operations Manager Stackhouse mentioned the course will continue to address the pace of play but believes the rangers are roaming the course.

Commissioner Meierhoff asked what day does the Club have the most rangers. Golf Operations Manager Stackhouse mentioned the weekends.

## **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2009 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Commissioner Ehrhard mentioned there were a few sentences not completed. Executive Director Salski mentioned he will ask Director Peterson find out about whom the person is and report back.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gronau and seconded by Commissioner Ehrhard to approve the January 19, 2009 minutes as presented.

**On the roll call, the vote was as follows:**

**Ayes:** Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Hart

**6. FINANCE**

**APPROVE INVOICE SCHEDULE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 2 & 16, 2009:**

A. A motion was made by Commissioner Ehrhard and seconded by Commissioner Conroy to approve the bills payable schedule period February 2, 2009 in the following amounts:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 9,200.26
RECREATION FUND	\$18,309.62
LIABILITY FUND	\$ 6,705.50
PLATFORM TENNIS FUND	\$ 3,001.01
GOLF FUND	\$21,327.30
SWIM POOL FUND	\$ 4,315.00
FITNESS CENTER	\$ 6,145.16
FOR A TOTAL OF	\$ 69,003.85

Commissioner Hart asked questions about dance checks. Director Peterson mentioned the checks were refunds. Commissioner Conroy asked questions about the Spring/Summer Brochure printing. Commissioner Engelhard asked questions about a \$1,000 expense for office supplies. Director Peterson mentioned staff bought in bulk.

Commissioner Meierhoff asked questions about \$500 for on-line registration. Director Peterson mentioned the Park District was under the budgeted amount. Director Peterson mentioned there was a line item for our Contractual IT Vendor which is separate than the on-line.

Commissioner Meierhoff asked questions about the \$1,000 to the Kiwanis. Director Peterson mentioned it was for the Breakfast with Santa.

**On the roll call, the vote was as follows:**

**Ayes:** Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Hart

B. A motion was made by Commissioner Ehrhard and seconded by Commissioner Gronau to approve the bills payable schedule period February 16, 2009 in the following amounts:

GENERAL FUND	\$13,986.68
RECREATION FUND	\$ 3,493.88
PLATFORM TENNIS FUND	\$73,532.64

GOLF COURSE FUND	\$114,221.82
FITNESS FUND	\$ 6,974.86
MASTER PLAN FUND	\$ 2,219.10
FOR A TOTAL OF	\$214,428.98

Commissioner Engelhard asked questions about the traffic light. Director Peterson mentioned it is payment for the traffic light at Foster and Waukegan. Commissioner Engelhard asked a question why it was split three ways.

**Ayes:** Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Hart

## MONTHLY BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT

Commissioner Engelhard had questions about the Miscellaneous Accounts. Director Peterson mentioned that the Park District is having difficulty collecting payment.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

President Meierhoff mentioned our cash balance is \$945,000 top to bottom. Commissioner Engelhard mentioned when the Paddle Hut expenses will be completed. Director Peterson mentioned that the Park District has \$120,000 left to payout.

## 7. ACTION ITEMS

- A. RESOLUTION authorizing and directing the execution of an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement by and between the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois, and The County of Lake, Illinois, pertaining to the purchase and sale of Tax Anticipation Warrants against Taxes as Levied by the District - Resolution 09-2

Executive Director Salski mentioned Dave Peterson worked very hard with the County. He thanked Lake County as they were quick with getting information.

Director Peterson introduced Lake County officials and worked with them closely. He mentioned the Park District will enter into a Resolution with the Board approval. The County passed it the other night. Once signed, it will get delivered to Chapman Cutler.

Commissioner Meierhoff asked if the Park District will need to do this again. Director Peterson mentioned it will need to be approved again in October and will be expedited. Commissioner Meierhoff asked when the Park District will get the \$250,000. Mr. Gordon mentioned as soon as it signed it will take a few days.

Commissioner Meierhoff asked how this happens with Lake County.

Mr. Gordon mentioned the roles of each official.

Ms. Helander mentioned it had to do with bonds and two were to be abated and one not. Proper calculations were done, certifications were sent to the district and signed off. The employee does not work at the County anymore and changed the numbers. The extensions were incorrect.

Commissioner Meierhoff mentioned if it was human error.

Ms. Helander contacted the former employee and the employee could not recall what happened. She mentioned it is a bit unusual and there is a process within the statute in a normal extension era. Because Park District received the figures and signed off on the correct figures, she felt there was a moral obligation for the office to go above the statutory requirements. She gathered officials and felt there need a remedy with the warrants and not create a hardship for the Park District. It is needed to do this twice due to an annual event. The tax payers who do not pay will pay about \$35 per \$100 of EAV that was not collected in previous tax bill. It will be collected in 2010. The Park District will receive it now and do go through the exercise twice. The county will be made whole.

Commissioner Meierhoff mentioned it is a loan. Commissioner Engelhard asked how this will be explained to the taxpayer. Ms. Helander mentioned Mr. Skidmore will explain later. There is a procedure according to the state law.

Commissioner Meierhoff is concerned on how to undercharge and concerned about errors in over charging. He mentioned it is not good for County operations. He requested Mr. Skidmore to explain.

Mr. Skidmore mentioned the statute is clear and must send a letter before December 1. It will not be sent until 2009. It will have the words, "Administrative Error." He mentioned the majority of homes will average \$70 range. Mr. Skidmore mentioned it shouldn't have happened but owe it to fix it even the statute doesn't require immediately.

Commissioner Meierhoff mentioned it would affect our operations. He mentioned the County is doing as good as it can to rectify the situation. Mr. Skidmore mentioned he will leave the Park District with staff to review. Commissioner Meierhoff would like the Park District to be exonerated and concerned about backlash. He would prefer not to bring up the Park District name. Ms. Helander mentioned the letter states to call the County Clerk's office.

Commissioner Meierhoff thanked the County for handling the situation and addressing the problem

A motion was made by Commissioner Gronau and seconded by Commissioner Engelhard to accept Resolution 09-2 authorizing and directing the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Lake County and the Lake Bluff Park District pertaining to the issuance of Tax Anticipation Warrants.

**On the roll call, the vote was as follows:**

**Ayes:** Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Commissioner Hart

**B. RESOLUTION of Concern regarding the development of a Golf Course at the Fort Sheridan Property By the Lake County Forest Preserve District – Resolution 09-3**

Executive Director Salski mentioned the various meeting with the Forest Preserve and there was a public meeting conducted by the Forest Preserve. Executive Director Salski mentioned it is time to take a stance due to the duplication of services. Executive Director Salski mentioned a 10% reduction can impact revenues significantly. Executive Director

Salski mentioned the resolution includes planning. Executive Director Salski mentioned the Village of Highland Park is still discussing and some confusion from the Forest Preserve Public Hearing.

Commissioner Meierhoff mentioned the wording is well said and did know where it was going. He believed it would be a shame for the shareholders. Commissioner Ehrhard mentioned the website to provide feedback.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gronau and seconded by Commissioner Engelhard to accept the attached RESOLUTION of Concern regarding the development of a Golf Course at the Fort Sheridan Property By the Lake County Forest Preserve District – Resolution 09-3..

**On the roll call, the vote was as follows:**

**Ayes:** Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Commissioner Hart

C. Future Planning Committee

1. Community Wide Survey/Needs Assessment Project – Recommendation

Executive Director Salski recommended Leisure Services and there is an opportunity for GEO Coding. Commissioner Engelhard asked about the timeline. Executive Director Salski mentioned focus groups would begin in April.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ehrhard and seconded by Commissioner Conroy to accept the proposal from Leisure Vision and authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Park District, to enter into an agreement with Leisure Vision for the completion of a Community Wide Survey and Needs Assessment not to exceed \$23,000.

**On the roll call, the vote was as follows:**

**Ayes:** Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Commissioner Hart

D. Golf Committee

1. Lake Bluff Golf Club Concession Agreement – Recommendation

Commissioner Gronau mentioned it was brought up at the Committee of the Whole meeting. There needs to be a few minor changes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Engelhard and seconded by Commissioner Gronau to approve the Concession Agreement between Bluffingtons and the Lake Bluff Park District for the continuation of the Village Grille Concessions at the Lake Bluff Golf Club with the stipulation President Meierhoff and Executive Director make the minor changes.

Commissioner Engelhard recommended to put a clause related to hiring Lake Bluff residents.

**On the roll call, the vote was as follows:**

**Ayes:** Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, President Meierhoff

**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Hart

**8. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Department Board Reports were provided.

Director Peterson mentioned staff is going to meet with other Fitness Center professionals.

**9. VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Executive Director Salski stated the Park District will hold a Bid Opening for the Golf Carts. Brian Lesser is volunteering his time to tape the meeting. Executive Director Salski thanked the Baseball Association for allocating additional funds to support the Park District. Executive Director thanked the Lake County Election staff for assisting with the process. The Platform Tennis project is getting closer to being completed.

**10. ADJOURMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Hart and seconded by Commissioner Conroy to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**On the roll call, the vote was as follows:**

**Ayes:** Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Hart, Engelhard, President Meierhoff

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

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Ron Salski, Recorder

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John Meierhoff, President

Approved this 16 day of March 2009  
Board of Commissioners  
Lake Bluff Park District