

**LAKE BLUFF PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 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: Commissioners: Ehrhard, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, Hart, and President Gronau

Visitors: Dave Peterson (Director of Business and Facility Services), Jill Rosa, Rosellen Marrone, George Russell (Village of Lake Bluff Engineer), Neil Dahlmann

1. CALL TO ORDER:

President Gronau called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

The following Commissioners were present when the roll was called:

Commissioners: Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, President Gronau

Absent with prior notice: Commissioner Douglass

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hart and seconded by Commissioner Meierhoff to approve the agenda of October 19, 2009. By unanimous voice vote, the agenda was approved as presented.

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, President Gronau

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Douglass

4. STATEMENT OF VISITORS:

Rosellen Marrone inquired about the pool status for 2010. President Gronau indicated that this is an agenda item and will be discussed in agenda order.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2009 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Commissioner Hart and seconded by Commissioner Ehrhard to approve the September 21, 2009 minutes as presented.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, Hart, President Gronau

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Douglass

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 5, 2009 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

A motion was made by Commissioner Hart and seconded by Commissioner Meierhoff to approve the October 5, 2009 minutes as presented.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, President Gronau

Nays: None

Abstain: Nickels

Absent: Douglass

7. CONSENT AGENDA / FINANCE

APPROVE INVOICE SCHEDULE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING OCTOBER 5 & 19, 2009:

A motion was made by Commissioner Meierhoff and seconded by Commissioner Hart to approve the bills payable schedules for October 5 and October 19, 2009 in the following amounts.

GENERAL FUND	7,441.03
RECREATION FUND	10,327.00
PADDLE TENNIS FUND	3,681.74
GOLF COURSE FUND	8,369.28
SWIMMING POOL FUND	11,977.15
FITNESS CENTER FUND	7,778.48
MASTER PLAN/CAPITAL FUND	3,190.82
FOR A TOTAL OF:	\$52,765.50

GENERAL FUND	10,913.85
RECREATION FUND	18,254.28
PADDLE TENNIS FUND	3,387.18
GOLF COURSE FUND	18,703.49
FITNESS CENTER FUND	717.86
FOR A TOTAL OF:	\$ 51,976.66

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, President Gronau
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Douglass

8. PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Commissioner Hart and seconded by Commissioner McKendry to open a public hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois to sell \$4,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, President Gronau
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Douglass

Director Peterson indicated the reason for selling the callable loans are related to Paddle tennis, the golf course irrigation system and the Rockland Rd. mortgage and are based on dollar savings. Current interest rates on these loans are 5.25%. New interest rates are 2.75%. No public comments were brought forth.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hart and seconded by Commissioner McKendry to close the public hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois to sell \$4,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, President Gronau
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Douglass

9. MONTHLY BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT/TREASURER'S REPORT

Director Peterson mentioned the Treasurer's report shows the overstatement of the \$250,000 property tax receipt in the 8 taxing funds. These 8 taxing funds combined show \$155,200 more than year to date 2008. This reserve is positive for the Park District to weather the tough economic times ahead.

10. NEW BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS

A. Blair Park Wading Pool

The pool audit presented in October indicated both minor and major repairs are needed to both pools in order to comply with the VGB Act. Based on the estimated expenses, the Park District does not have funds available and would need to borrow a significant amount of money. Repairs estimated to be \$512,000 must be completed in the tot pool for 2010 summer opening. The main pool repair costs for the 2010 season are approximately \$410,000.

Committing to the 2010 main pool repairs would mean expenditures of an additional \$2,000,000 in following years to bring the main pool in compliance with codes.

Commissioner Hart questions whether spending \$512,000 for the tot pool is the correct option when a great opportunity exists for the community to weigh-in on the pool design for the future of Lake Bluff. Executive Director Salski indicated his last option would be to close the pool but the dollars needed for repair are significant and staff would need direction to either borrow money or include repairs in the 2010 budget. A consensus was reached by the Commissioners for Staff to proceed with budgeting but not include funds for the surge tank repairs in the main pool. Commissioner McKendry asked if dialogue has been opened with Lake Forest to build a joint community pool. Executive Director Salski indicated that a conversation has been initiated.

Commissioner Ehrhard requests this topic be held for discussion until the November meeting; President Gronau agreed. Commissioner Nickels had 3 important points: 1) we already have the biggest pool on the North Shore – we don't need a bigger one but the community may want a design change to be more relevant for the times, 2) what does the community want – the survey shows the pool is important and the pool financials shows a profit, and 3) alternate arrangements or a backup plan needs to be in place in order for the community to continue with Park District programs already in place ie: swim lesson progression, swim team, camp.

A recommendation by the Commissioners leans towards closing the tot pool, discussing in further depth at the November meeting, and communicating to the community in December.

B. 2010 Lake Bluff Fourth of July Committee Request

The Lake Bluff Fourth of July Committee has requested the Park District consider financial support specifically towards the fireworks. Commissioners agreed that the fireworks should follow the same procedures as 1995. The golf course would be open for viewing while the fireworks would be ignited on the dump property. Commissioners agreed that options are available for the Park District to capitalize on this event by hosting a tent party or a pool float and view fireworks party. Executive Director Salski was advised to include \$5,000 in the budget of 2010 for this event. Exact amounts of actual cash and in kind donations will be calculated as the Lake Bluff Fourth of July Committee determines the needs from the Park District.

A motion was made by Commissioner Nickels and seconded by Commissioner Hart to support the 2010 Lake Bluff Fourth of July Committee with an in kind and cash donation not to exceed \$5,000.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, President Gronau

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Douglass

C. Tunnel Project

In March of 2008, Lake Bluff School District 65 was notified by the Illinois Department of Transportation that it had been awarded a \$400,000 Safe Routes to School grant. The grant award was for the construction of a pedestrian tunnel under Illinois Route 176 to be located just west of the intersection of Green Bay Road. The pedestrian tunnel, projected to cost approximately \$1.2 million, is intended to create a route by which children could safely cross Illinois State Route 176 on their way to the new Lake Bluff Elementary School without having to rely on motorists to stop. Village Engineer, George Russell indicated that a non-grade pedestrian crossing of Illinois Route 176 has been part of the Village's Comprehensive Plan since the last major update of the Plan in 1997. The concept for a tunnel was developed by the Village in the mid 1990's after the Lake County Department of Transportation announced that they would be constructing a pedestrian tunnel under Green Bay Road as part of several major enhancement projects along the North Shore Bike Path. The plan calls for the Village to actively pursue the expansion, improvement, and accessibility of the bicycle and pedestrian walkway system with the Village and that the motivation for this was an attempt to further pedestrian safety, traffic management, and access to Blair Park. The cost of the tunnel is expected to be divided by the three taxing bodies of Lake Bluff: Village, Park District, and School District 65. School District 65 has written a letter to the state asking if the \$400,000 can be used for other worthy, yet less-expensive projects to ensure safe crossings to school. Commissioners agreed that the tunnel concept is good, however, capital spending from the Park District may be dictated by the Park District's current internal affairs.

D. Park District Foundation Board of Trustees Appointment

Two seats remained vacant on the Foundation Board after the July Regular Board meeting. Commissioner Ehrhard and Trustee Jack Sheppard. interviewed candidates, with the recommendation to appoint Jim Salanty and Mike Clark to the Foundation Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ehrhard and seconded by Commissioner Nickels to appoint Mike Clark and Jim Salanty to the Park District Foundation Board of Trustees beginning October 20, 2009.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, President Gronau

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Douglass

11. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Reports supplied to all Commissioners. No discussion.

12. VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Executive Director

Executive Director Salski indicated that the November 2 Committee of the Whole meeting will be changed to a Special Board Meeting in order to approve the bond ordinance. If the budget books are ready then this may also be an agenda item.

B. Parks, Recreation Programs & Facilities Committee

Commissioner Ehrhard indicated that candidates for the two open seats on the Foundation Board have been interviewed and will be finalized soon.

C. Tri-Advisory and Intergovernmental Committee

None

D. Administration and Finance Committee

None

E. Golf Committee

None

F. President's Report

None

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Meierhoff, and seconded by Commissioner Hart to move into Executive Session for the following reasons:

- A. Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of an employee, pursuant to Section (2) (1) of the Open Meetings Act
- B. Discussion of the meeting lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the District of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06 per ILCS 120/2(c)(21).

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, President Gronau
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Douglass

Executive Session began at 8:25 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hart and seconded by Commissioner Meierhoff to move out of Executive Session.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ehrhard, Hart, McKendry, Meierhoff, Nickels, President Gronau
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Douglass

Executive Session ended at 8:35 p.m.

14. ACTION, IF ANY, ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: None
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Ehrhard and seconded by Commissioner Meierhoff to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

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