EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
JULY 2025

ADMINISTRATION

A reminder that the July 17, 2025, Board Meeting will be held at the Square Links Clubhouse, as determined during the May organizational meeting. If Board Members have not yet seen the new practice area, please stop by the mat side of the driving range and view it from the far west edge of the range.

The general obligation and refunding bond payments due July 1, 2025, totaling $47,321.88, were paid to Amalgamated Bank.

Work continues on the annual audit and the final report is scheduled to be completed and available for distribution and presentation in August.

The Hunter Prairie Park Redevelopment project is underway, and we are nearing the end of the demolition/removal stage. Layout, excavation, and grading is next. The tennis courts and playground were removed. The next priority will be installing a walkway and the tennis court base to allow the material to cure before coloring.

Staff are working with the FSPD's website contractor to review new ADA Accessibility Rules. The FSPD is committed to digital accessibility and improving the user experience for everyone. We look forward to this opportunity to review the website and make improvements compliant with the new rules in advance of the compliance local government deadline of April 26, 2027.

MAINTENANCE

Recent Park Days were focused at Kiwanis Park in preparation for FSBL's tournament and at Community Park. Crews trimmed trees, added tree rings, and mulched the approximately 105 deciduous trees at Community Park and 31 at Kiwanis. The tree rings are beneficial to the trees, helping to protect them from mowers and the mulch provides a protective layer for the roots.

The Foamstream herbicide-free weed control solution has been very helpful with the maintenance of tree rings. Staff are able to use it in all weather conditions on the day of tree ring work and follow it up with a layer of mulch, making it a more efficient process.

RECREATION

Congratulations to the dancers and the BDC families who competed at Applause Nationals in Charleston, South Carolina. It was a wonderful and memorable week for all, and they returned with a long list of awards and accomplishments. Staff will have a printed copy for review at the Board Meeting. Highlights include the ADCC Studio Excellence Award and Olivia Meister, Senior Photogenic Winner. Kari Jensen, Dance Co-Director, will be at the July Board Meeting to provide a summary and offer their appreciation to the Board for this amazing opportunity.

Both the Summer Concerts in the Park and the Local Community Concerts have been well attended and appreciated this year. The FSPD is welcoming 28 Days on July 15 and local resident band St. Jupiter on July 31 at the Island Prairie Park Bandshell.

Work continues on the Fall 2025 brochure that will go to the printer later this month and is expected to be in residents' mailboxes in August. Fall resident program registration begins August 21, 2025.

SPECIAL RECREATION

As approved at the June 12, 2025, FSPD Board Meeting, staff provided the sponsorship for the LWSR Foundation Golf Outing on July 11. Staff also prepared two raffle baskets with Square Links greens fees and golf items in support of the Foundation's efforts.

The next LWSRA Board Meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2025.

GOLF COURSE

Sponsorship letters were mailed for the annual College Scholarship Golf Classic. This is our big fundraising effort, and we are grateful for the continued support from our community, contractors, and vendors enabling the Park District to award $161,000 in college scholarships to deserving students since introducing the program in 2006.

The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 20, 2025. Last year's Beat the Board Member Challenge was a huge success that enabled the awarding of another scholarship to a deserving student, bringing the total number of scholarships awarded at the May 7 Community Scholarship Night to eight.

Hollembeak Construction did a great job on the Square Links practice area project. FSPD staff and our Reliable Services contractors are carefully watering the new sod and grass seed. We look forward to making this improvement available next year.

OFFICE

Nicolette Jerik prepared a BAS registration summary for the 2024 – 2025 school year. The before-school session had 5,206 registrations and 3,274 registrations for the after-school session. Also, there were 173 registrations for the Day Off Escapades program which features field trips and fun activities on days off of school as well as care during snow and e-learning days.

For the upcoming fall program season, staff are implementing an option for residents to receive text message updates for programs in which they are enrolled. Currently, updates are shared via email and staff have noticed a decrease in the number of emails being opened and read. It is hoped that the texting option will provide a more efficient option for communication.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The FSPD's safety committee is preparing for an onsite visit from PDRMA's Risk Management team of Tim Lenac and Cheryl Morley. They will tour facilities and review the Essentials of Risk Management Form and District documentation as part of this year's Risk Management Review (RMR). RMR is a requirement for all PDRMA member agencies and is designed to focus risk management best practices for the safety of patrons and staff.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Congratulations to the Maddog Strong Foundation on their successful Giving Tree Ceremony and Miles for Maddog 10K Run/5K Run and Walk last month. Next year's events are already scheduled for June 26 – 27, 2026.

Respectfully submitted:
Audrey Marcquenski
Executive Director