

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**MAY 2026**

### **ADMINISTRATION**

The May Board Meeting serves as the Park District's annual organizational meeting and includes numerous actions for Board consideration, including the election of officers and various appointments.

Also on the agenda is the required bi-annual review of closed session minutes and destruction of eligible audio recordings. I am requesting an Executive Session to review all closed session minutes, followed by a return to open session to complete the necessary actions.

In support of LWSRA and the families they serve, I am requesting Board consideration of two sponsorship opportunities totaling \$1,150.

- \$1,000 Dinner Sponsor – LWSRA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sneaker Ball
- \$150 Hole Sponsor – LWSRF Golf Outing

Many thanks to Board Members Frank Florentine and Phil Cherry for representing the Frankfort Square Park District at Lincoln-Way East's Community Scholarship Night on May 7, 2026, and presenting scholarships to seven well-deserving high school seniors. Congratulations to Abigail Baer, Mia Carone, Ava Griffin, Kyrstin Jensen, Rylan Malachinski, Samantha Safarik, and Grant Urban.

Staff are preparing the annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance that will be on the agenda for Board consideration at the June Board Meeting. In accordance with the requirements, the Ordinance will be posted in the Community Center lobby beginning May 18, 2026, 30 days prior to the Budget and Appropriation public hearing.

Annual staff performance reviews were completed, and staff expressed appreciation for the Board's continued support of their professional growth and development.

The annual audit is underway, and staff have already loaded 300+ documents into the portal per auditor request.

A Party in the Park is scheduled for June 10, 2026, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., to celebrate the redevelopment of Hunter Prairie Park. Staff are excited to showcase the park's new amenities, and a variety of family-friendly activities are planned for the community to enjoy.

### **MAINTENANCE**

Biologists from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources conducted fish surveys at the ponds located at Island Prairie, Indian Boundary South, and Community Parks. The surveys were performed using an electrofishing process, which temporarily stuns fish so the biologists can safely collect data on species diversity, population health, and fish size. After being measured and assessed, all fish are returned unharmed to the water.

These surveys help evaluate the overall health of the fish populations and determine whether targeted stocking or other management efforts may be beneficial.

## **RECREATION**

Congratulations to the Braemar Dance Center (BDC) on the success of its annual Showcase performances held at Lincoln-Way East High School on Saturday, May 9. Hundreds of talented dancers delivered outstanding performances and were enthusiastically supported by family and friends throughout the event. Special thanks to Donnette Castle and Kari Jensen, our dance directors, as well as the many staff and volunteers whose dedication and hard work made these Showcases possible.

The Early Childhood Summer Camp Open House is scheduled for May 26 from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. at the Community Center and the Summer Day Camp Open House is May 26 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at The Square. These Open House events provide great opportunities for families to meet the staff, tour the facilities, and ask questions about the programs.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The next phase of the security camera installations is underway at the Community Center and The Square. Also, a new access control system at The Square will provide an additional layer of security at the entrance.

## **SPECIAL RECREATION**

The next LWSRA Board Meeting is scheduled for May 16.

The Lincolnway Special Recreation Foundation is hosting one golf tournament this year on August 14 at Sanctuary Golf Course in New Lenox.

## **GOLF COURSE**

Registration for golf lessons and leagues has dramatically increased this season with the addition of golf professional Suzie Owens joining the team with existing instructor Matt Major. Through their combined efforts, Square Links has expanded offerings for all ages and skill levels.

Ice cream novelties will soon be available in the Clubhouse. Staff are purchasing additional concession items that will be enjoyed by the increasing number of youth golfers.

## **OFFICE**

Resident and non-resident registration for Summer 2026 programming is now underway. Popular offerings include youth camps and golf leagues, with many programs growing in participation over previous years.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

As part of PDRMA's 2026 Risk Management Review program, which helps member agencies strengthen operational best practices, the Park District is constantly identifying and implementing specific and measurable actions to improve the overall safety of its programs and facilities.

Respectfully submitted:  
Audrey Marcquenski  
Executive Director