GOLF MAINE PARK DISTRICT VIRTUAL REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Call in Number +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 878 0915 9120 Passcode: 799242

To call into meeting, please dial the call-in number above. When prompted, please enter the meeting ID

-AGENDA-

March 18, 2021 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Remote Attendance - As outlined per guidelines set to public bodies on the open meeting act during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, this meeting is being presented as a "virtual meeting" using ZOOM as the host. This is within compliance of Senate Bill 2135 to allow public bodies, such as village boards, park boards and school boards, to hold meetings via audio or video conference during times when the Governor has issued a public health related disaster proclamation. President Shah has determined that an inperson meeting or a meeting conducted under the Open Meetings Act would not be practical or prudent because of a disaster.

- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Visitors/Visitor Comment
- 4. Changes or Additions to the Agenda
- 5. Approval of the Consent Agenda
 - i. Minutes of the January 27, 2020 Virtual Regular Rescheduled Board Meeting
 - ii. Minutes of the December 15, 2020 Virtual MNASR Board Meeting
 - iii. Treasurers Report September 2020
 - iv. Treasurers Report October 2020
 - v. Treasurers Report November 2020
 - vi. Treasurers Report January 2020
 - vii. Bills Payable February 2021
- 6. Staff Reports
 - i. Director of Special Projects & Administration
 - ii. Executive Director
- 7. Unfinished or Continuing Business
 - i. Legislative Update
- 8. New Business
 - i. Board Member Comments
- 9. Closed Session

I make a motion that the Board go into closed Executive Session to consider information regarding appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of an officer, an employee or employees pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(2) of the Open Meetings Act.

- 10. Action as a result of Closed Session
- 11. Adjournment
- *Indicates information attached

Our Mission - To enhance the quality of life for the residents of the Golf Maine Park District, and to promote a strong sense of community, by providing a broad, diverse, and challenging set of cultural and recreational programs, and clean, beautiful and safe parks.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE GOLF MAINE PARK DISTRICT MAINE TOWNSHIP, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS **HELD ON JANUARY 27, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

a. President Jinal Shah called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

2. APPROVAL OF REMOTE PARTICIPATION

a. As outlined per guidelines set to public bodies on the open meeting act during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, this meeting is being presented as a "Virtual Meeting" using ZOOM as the host.

3. ROLL CALL

a. Roll was called: Present:

Jinal Shah, Jay Shah, Jasmin Zahirovic

Absent:

Nicole Nembhard

Staff Present: Mark Resnick, Executive Director. John Jekot, Director

of Special Projects & Administration

Guest:

Jamal Liddel

4. SWEARING-IN OF NEWLY APPOINTMENT COMMISSIONER

a. John Jekot administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed commissioner, Jamal Liddel

5. VISITORS / VISITOR COMMENTS

a. There were no visitors present.

6. CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

a. None

7. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- a. President Jinal Shah moved to approve the consent agenda.
- b. Seconded by Commissioner Jamal Liddel
- c. Roll was called:

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

8. STAFF REPORTS

- a. Director of Special Projects & Administration
 - i. Update given on 2020 Dee Park OSLAD improvement project.
 - ii. Dee Park athletic field lightening project final payment issued.
 - iii. April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election Reminder
 - iv. ComEd Energy Efficiency Program anticipated reimbursement @ \$15,162.50.

b. Executive Director

- i. COVID-19 update given as preparations in the works to reopen facilities and programming.
- ii. Researching to offer individual base programming, such as golf lessons, as a means to continue to offer these type of programs in times of pandemic when limited to the amount of users allowed in a given space at the same time.
- iii. Negotiations continue with Midwest Cricket Conference regarding use of cricket pitch this coming spring.

9. UNFINISHED or CONTINUING BUSINESS

- a. Legislative
 - i. Update was submitted in Board pack.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approval of Professional Services (Design Perspectives) for Dee Park OSLAD Project @ \$4,090.25
- Approval of Invoice #2261 (New Light Electric LLC) for Dee Park OSLAD Project @ \$27,850.00
- Approval of Invoice #2262 (New Light Electric LLC) for Dee Park OSLAD Project @ \$900.00.
 - i. President Jinal Shah moved to approve new business items a., b. and c.
 - ii. Seconded by Jay Shah
 - iii. Roll was called: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0
- d. Board Member Comments
 - i. None

11. CLOSED SESSION

- a. President Jinal Shah motioned that the Board go into closed Executive Session to consider information regarding appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of an officer, an employee or employees pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(2) of the Open Meetings Act at 7:33pm.
- b. Seconded by: Commissioner Jay Shah
- c. Roll was called:
- Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

d. Out of Executive Session at 7:34pm.

12. ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION

- i. Approval of Resolution 21-01 Authorizing the Release of Closed Session Minutes and Destruction of Closed Session Audio Recordings
 - a. President Jinal Shah moved to approve
 - b. Seconded by Jamal Liddel
 - c. Roll was called

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

13. ADJOURNMENT

- a. President Jinal Shah moved to adjourn the meeting.
- b. Seconded by Commissioner Jamal Liddel
- c. Roll was called:

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

d. Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm

Minutes Approved

Jinal Shah President

John C. Jekot Secretary

THE MAINE NILES ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL RECREATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

December 15, 2020

Tom Elenz called the December 15, 2020 meeting to order at 10:02 AM. The meeting was held electronically with the zoom platform due to COVID-19. Breitlow was present at the M-NASR office. It was verified all attendees could be heard and hear, upon their entry to the meeting. The following board members were in attendance:

Don Miletic, Des Plaines Park District John Jekot, Golf Maine Park District Jeff Wait, Morton Grove Park District Tom Elenz, Niles Park District Gayle Mountcastle, Park Ridge Park District Michelle Tuft, Skokie Park District

Absent: Melissa Rimdzius, Village of Lincolnwood

Staff in attendance: Peggy Wilson, Jennifer Gebeck, Tom Byczek, Audra Ebling, Sonia Varughese, Lindsey Anderson, Lisa Barerra, Lauren Ruiz, Ali Teichmiller (joined at 10:35), Nicole Derrig (joined at 10:35)

Breitlow noted an error in the date of adjournment in the November Budget workshop meeting agenda minutes. It will be corrected for the minutes to be signed.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Don Miletic and seconded by Jeff Wait. This passed in a roll call vote as follows:

Des Plaines: Yes
Golf Maine: Yes
Morton Grove: Yes
Niles: Yes
Park Ridge: Yes
Skokie: Yes

The consent agenda consisted of: Minutes of the November 10 board meeting; Minutes of the November 10 executive session; Minutes of the November 10 special meeting and budget workshop; Treasurers Report for the month ending November 30, 2020; Voucher list of bills presented for the December 15, 2020 board meeting in the amount of \$32,798.35.

Superintendent Gebeck reviewed the program report. She highlighted the continued outreach of participants for virtual programs during COVID, and the increased participation with youth and teens over winter break.

approve the 2021 budget, seconded by Don Miletic. This passed in a roll call vote as

follows:

Des Plaines: Yes Golf Maine: Yes Morton Grove: Yes Niles: Yes

Park Ridge: abstain (audio issues)

Skokie:

Yes

The 2021 board meeting dates were presented.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed updates to the fund balance policy as presented. The policy will require operating funds maintain a minimum balance of 25% of all expenses less reimbursable inclusion expenses. This is updating the current policy which utilizes capital expenses in the formula, rather than inclusion expenses. The board also discussed that a 50% ceiling may be too high and recommended adjusting the ceiling to 35%. Breitlow will update the policy as suggested to be voted as a resolution at the February board meeting.

A motion was made by Tom Elenz and seconded by Jeff Wait, to nominate Gayle Mountcastle for the 2021 office of President, and representative of the LiPoni Foundation. This passed in a roll call vote as follows:

Des Plaines: Yes
Golf Maine: Yes

Morton Grove: Yes

Niles: Yes Park Ridge: Yes Skokie: Yes

A motion was made by Gayle Mountcastle and seconded by Michelle Tuft to nominate Don Miletic for office of Vice President. This passed in a voice vote as follows:

Des Plaines: Yes
Golf Maine: Yes
Morton Grove: Yes
Niles: Yes

Park Ridge: Yes Skokie: Yes

A motion was made by Don Miletic and seconded by Tom Elenz to nominate John Jekot for the office of Treasurer. This passed in a voice vote as follows:

Des Plaines: Yes Golf Maine: Yes Morton Grove: Yes

Niles: Yes Park Ridge: Yes Skokie: Yes

A motion wa	as made a	t 10:49 AM by Joh	n Jekot and se	conded by Mic	helle Tuft	to
reconvene to	the regul	lar board of directo	rs meeting. Th	is passed in a v	oice vote a	s follows:
Des Plaines:	Yes					
Golf Maine:	Yes					
Morton Gro	ve: Yes					
Niles:	Yes					
Park Ridge:	Yes					
Skokie:	Yes					
A motion wa	as made a	t 10:50 AM by Jeff	Wait and sec	onded by John	Jekot to ac	djourn the
December 1	5, 2020 bo	oard meeting. This	passed in a voi	ce vote as follo	ws:	
Des Plaines:	Yes					
Golf Maine:	Yes					
Morton Gro	ve: Yes					
Niles:	Yes					
Park Ridge:	Yes					
Skokie:	Yes					
S	ecretary,	Trisha Breitlow		Date		
P	resident,	Tom Elenz, Niles I	ark District	Date		-

MAINE-NILES ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL RECREATION COMPARATIVE MONTH TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2020 AND DECEMBER 31, 2020

	N	OVEMBER	Ι	DECEMBER
MONTHLY CASH POSITION BEGINNING BALANCE	\$	693,643.94	\$	777,562.11
CASH RECEIPTS		184,995.18		33,572.39
INTEREST		43.99		45.44
TRANSFERS INTO CASH ACCOUNTS				73.77
TRANSFERS OUT OF INVESTMENTS		(77,637.35)		(69,402.52)
DISBURSEMENTS ON LIST OF BILLS		(32,798.35)		(25,636.03)
OTHER INCREASES/(DECREASES) *		9,314.69		(4,596.21)
ENDING BALANCE	\$	777,562.10	\$	711,545.18
BANK BALANCES BY ACCOUNT				
GENERAL ACCOUNT	\$	378,688.95	\$	313,159.54
PAYROLL ACCOUNT	50. 5 .00	36,940.17		36,406.21
IMPREST ACCOUNT		1,466.08		1,467.08
NOW ACCOUNT		355,008.62		355,053.69
TOTAL CASH ACCOUNTS	\$	772,103.82	\$	706,086.52
ILLINOIS FUNDS MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT	\$	5,458.29	\$	5,458.66
	\$	5,458.29	\$	5,458.66
TOTAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS				•
TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS	\$	777,562.11	\$	711,545.18
DETAILED INVESTMENT INFORMATION				
ILLINOIS FUNDS MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT AND	THE			
FIFTH THIRD BUSINESS NOW ACCOUNT				
MONTHLY INTEREST INCOME	\$	43.99	\$	45.44
YEAR-TO-DATE INTEREST INCOME	\$	1,718.48	\$	1,763.92

^{* &}quot;Other decreases" includes credit card fees charged directly to bank statement, imprest disbursements that will appear on the "List of Bills" in subsequent month and credit card refunds.

"Other increases" may occur when checks written in a prior month are voided in the current month.

MAINE-NILES ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL RECREATION BALANCE SHEET AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2020 AND DECEMBER 31, 2020

(Unaudited)

	1	NOVEMBER]	DECEMBER
ASSETS			77	
Cash at bank		417,095.20		351,032.83
Cash - NOW Account		355,008.62		355,053.69
Petty cash		186.94		79.64
Investments		5,458.29		5,458.66
Accounts receivable		2,506.62		24,068.60
Prepaid expenses		16,618.36		15,902.35
Total assets	\$	796,874.03	\$	751,595.77
			=	701,000177
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Payables, accruals and deferred revenues	_\$_	23,225.68	\$	75,292.52
Total liabilities		23,225.68		75,292.52
Fund Balance				
Beginning of the year	\$	665,272.50	¢	665 272 50
Current year activity	Ψ.	108,375.85	Ψ	665,272.50
Total fund balance	-	773,648.35	-	11,030.75 676,303.25
Total liabilities and equity	\$	796,874.03	\$	751,595.77

MAINE-NILES ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL RECREATION COMPARATIVE MONTH TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND JANUARY 31, 2021

	1	ECEMBER	•	JANUARY
MONTHLY CASH POSITION	***************************************	*****	er i i i i i i i	
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$			711,545.18
CASH RECEIPTS	**	33,572.39		19,242.26
INTEREST		45.44	. 40	45.55
TRANSFERS INTO CASH ACCOUNTS		Sheli de		45.33
TRANSFERS OUT OF INVESTMENTS		(69,402.52)		(65,440.24)
DISBURSEMENTS ON LIST OF BILLS		(25,636,03)		(28,858.58)
OTHER INCREASES/(DECREASES) *		(4,596.21)		• • •
		(4,030,21)		(26,908.51)
ENDING BALANCE	\$	711,545.18	\$	609,625.66
BANK BALANCES BY ACCOUNT	grane .		4.5	
GENERAL ACCOUNT	\$	313,159.54	\$	211,265,91
PAYROLL ACCOUNT	•	36,406.21	•	36,334.67
IMPREST ACCOUNT		1,467.08	٠.	1,467.08
NOW ACCOUNT		355,053.69		355.098.99
TOTAL CASH ACCOUNTS	S	706,086,52	·	604,166.65
	·	i i generale iii	•	***************************************
ILLINOIS FUNDS MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT	\$	5,458.66	\$	5,459.01
and the state of t	\$	5,458,66	S	5,459.01
TOTAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS		•	_	-,
TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS	\$	711,545.18	\$	609,625.66
DETAILED INVESTMENT INFORMATION				
ILLINOIS FUNDS MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT AND	THE			
FIFTH THIRD BUSINESS NOW ACCOUNT				
MONTHLY INTEREST INCOME	\$	45.44	\$	45.55
YEAR-TO-DATE INTEREST INCOME	\$	1,763.92	\$	45,55

^{* &}quot;Other decreases" includes credit card fees charged directly to bank statement, imprest disbursements that will appear on the "List of Bills" in subsequent month and credit card refunds.

"Other increases" may occur when checks written in a prior month are voided in the current month.

MAINE-NILES ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL RECREATION BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND JANUARY 31, 2021

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(Unaudited)

	D	ECEMBER	JA	NUARY
ASSETS				
Cash at bank		351,032.83		249,067.66
Cash - NOW Account		355,053.69		355,098.89
Petty cash		79.64		79.64
Investments		5,458.66		5,459.01
Accounts receivable		24,068.60		7,804.14
Prepaid expenses		15,902.35		13,965.06
		a distant		,
Total assets	\$	751,595.77	\$	631,474.40
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY Liabilities				
Payables, accruals and deferred revenues	\$	75,292.52	\$	22,460.86
Total liabilities		75,292.52		22,460.86
Fund Balance				
	ø	((5.070.50	d.	(7(202 05
Beginning of the year	\$	665,272.50	\$	676,303.25
Current year activity		11,030.75	·	(67,289.71)
Total fund balance		676,303.25		609,013.54
Total liabilities and equity	\$	751,595.77	\$	631,474.40

GOLF MAINE PARK DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

SUMMARY OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES & CASH BALANCES

January 31, 2021

MONTHLY CASH POSITION	Cash	Prior	Prior FY
	Balance	Month	Cash Balance
Beginning Balance	\$934,302.60	\$997,777.46	\$1,023,200.10
Cash Receipts	\$4,363.50	\$2,622.73	\$37,987.05
RE Taxes			\$0.00
Replacement Taxes	\$1,432.15		\$3,382.26
Interest	\$122.99	\$147.50	\$591.94
Transfer into Cash Accounts	\$65,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$50,000.00
Transfer Out of Investments	-\$65,000.00	-\$55,000.00	-\$50,000.00
Disbursements of Bills	-\$65,869.27	-\$69,747.45	-\$99,348.18
Bond Payments		-\$200,000.00	
Other Inc/Dec			-\$586.69
NSF/Fees		\$30.00	
Month End Balance	\$874,351.97	\$730,830.24	\$965,226.48
BANK BALANCES BY ACCOUNT	Bank	Prior	Prior FY
	LIFE-ROS BLANCIDADORO SAGILA BIBRILANDE RATO CONTRA PRODUCTION DE CONTRA	NA	C2000429 R2333443 134043200 20-8104 50 NBC22 80 NBC
BANK BALANCES BY ACCOUNT	Bank Balance	Prior Month	Prior FY Bank Balance
BANK BALANCES BY ACCOUNT Savings Account		I/TESETSTATE	
	Balance	Month	Bank Balance
Savings Account	Balance \$934,302.60	Month \$997,777.46	Bank Balance \$811,587.48
Savings Account Checking Account	Balance \$934,302.60 \$44,291.94	Month \$997,777.46 \$49,648.96	Bank Balance \$811,587.48 \$28,142.33
Savings Account Checking Account Director's Account	Balance \$934,302.60 \$44,291.94 \$2,085.90	Month \$997,777.46 \$49,648.96 \$2,185.90	Bank Balance \$811,587.48 \$28,142.33 \$2,000.00
Savings Account Checking Account Director's Account Total Cash Accounts	\$934,302.60 \$934,291.94 \$2,085.90 \$980,680.44	Month \$997,777.46 \$49,648.96 \$2,185.90 \$1,049,612.32	Bank Balance \$811,587.48 \$28,142.33 \$2,000.00
Savings Account Checking Account Director's Account Total Cash Accounts INVESTMENTS BY ACCOUNT	Balance \$934,302.60 \$44,291.94 \$2,085.90 \$980,680.44	Month \$997,777.46 \$49,648.96 \$2,185.90 \$1,049,612.32	### Balance ### \$811,587.48 ### \$28,142.33 ### \$2,000.00 ### \$841,729.81 ### Prior FY Invest Balance
Savings Account Checking Account Director's Account Total Cash Accounts	### Balance \$934,302.60 \$44,291.94 \$2,085.90 \$980,680.44 Investment Balance	Month \$997,777.46 \$49,648.96 \$2,185.90 \$1,049,612.32 Prior Month	Bank Balance \$811,587.48 \$28,142.33 \$2,000.00 \$841,729.81
Savings Account Checking Account Director's Account Total Cash Accounts INVESTMENTS BY ACCOUNT	\$934,302.60 \$934,302.60 \$44,291.94 \$2,085.90 \$980,680.44 Investment Balance \$60,499.26	Month \$997,777.46 \$49,648.96 \$2,185.90 \$1,049,612.32 Prior Month \$60,494.88	Bank Balance \$811,587.48 \$28,142.33 \$2,000.00 \$841,729.81 Prior FY Invest Balance \$60,201.02 \$408.36
Savings Account Checking Account Director's Account Total Cash Accounts INVESTMENTS BY ACCOUNT Illinois Funds Money Market IPDLAF+Class	### Balance \$934,302.60 \$44,291.94 \$2,085.90 \$980,680.44 Investment Balance \$60,499.26 \$414.51	Month \$997,777.46 \$49,648.96 \$2,185.90 \$1,049,612.32 Prior Month \$60,494.88 \$414.51	Bank Balance \$811,587.48 \$28,142.33 \$2,000.00 \$841,729.81 Prior FY Invest Balance \$60,201.02

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MAINE PARK DISTRICT	- 02/28/2021
GOLF	02/01/2C
FOR	02/
INVOICE REGISTER	POST DATES
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POST DATES 02/01/2C - JOURNALIZED PAID

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Vendor ID	Vendor Name	Invoice #	Description	Inv. Date	Amount	Check Num	Amount Check Num Check Date
00582	ACTIVE NETWORK, LLC		REGISTRATION SOFTWARE-M 02/01/2021	02/01/2021	656.25	26122	02/22/2021
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00339	AT & T		DP PHONE-DEE ELEVATOR	01/22/2021	102.87	26129	02/22/2021

32,722.27

Totals:

"In The Know"

The Weekly Communication of Golf Maine Park District

Date: March 18, 2021

ComEd Energy Efficiency Program (Dee Park Field Light Project Grant)

I have rewrote the application that was submitted in 2018 onto the current 2021 forms and submitted all the required documents. Received communication back from ComEd requesting additional back-up material. Working now with Barton Electric (the contractor who installed the light's) getting the package together of requested back-up documents. My hope is to secure all of the \$15,162.50 in reimbursement incentive that I calculated when submitting the application to ComEd.

2020 Dee Park OSLAD Grant Improvement Project

The project close out binder has been completed and it is now being audit by our auditors, Lauterbach & Amen, LLP. Once this audit has been completed, the binder will be submitted to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for their review. Upon completing their review, IDNR, along with myself, will meet on site over at Dee Park and conduct a final inspection. Once IDNR determine that we complied with the OSLAD grant requirements, we will be issued the second half of our grant, which is \$100,000.00.

Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency (CURE) Support Program

Back in October I submitted an application to CURE support program in hopes of getting some relief in unexpected expenses we encountered because of COVID-19. I am happy to report that we received the maximum allocation amount allowed, which is \$5,000.00

Dee Park Athletic Field Opening

Now that the weather has turned to more "spring time" weather, it's time to evaluate the condition of the field in preparation to open it up for use. Will take a close look at the grass reseeding that was done in the fall and decide the best time to "roll" the entire field to eliminate any "bumps" and make the field as level as it can be. Along with this evaluation, I will be meeting with a landscaping general contractor this coming Friday to review fertilizing program along with sprucing up the park (shrub trimming, flower bed clean-up, mulch, etc). I'll also be following up with a netting contractor to take a look and install netting towards the southwest corner of Dee Park to protect homeowner's property from cricket balls being batted on to their property.

Energy Providers (Electric & Gas)

Listed below are the results of energy quotes provided by our broker, Voltz Energy Partners. All quotes are for a 30 month service period and contracts signed for a May, 2021start date (upon expiration of current agreements after May billing cycle ends).

Electric Quotes

Supplier	Price (\$/kWh)
Constellation Energy	\$0.06047
Dynergy Energy	\$0.06429
Nordic Energy	\$0.07452

(Current contract rate \$0.06185) *(Current billed rate \$0.06248)

Gas Ouotes

Supplier	Price Per Therm
*Constellation Energy	\$0.3627
Nordic Energy	\$0.3871
Spark Energy	\$0.3955
Hudson Energy	\$0.3941

(Current contract rate \$0.3460) (Current billed rate \$0.3460)

American Rescue Plan Act

Last week the President signed onto law the "American Rescue Plan Act". Few details are available at this time but funds can be used for services affected by revenue reduction during the pandemic relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year. While the plan does not include dedicated funding for park districts it does grant states, counties and cities that receive direct funding with the express authority to transfer a portion of their funding to special districts, such as park districts. As soon as more details are released regarding how to apply for funding, I will evaluate the details and if we qualify for funding, I will apply for it. I do know that the State of Illinois is estimated to receive \$13.2 billion in funding out of \$360 billion allocated to this act.

April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election Update

I received communication from the Cook County Clerk's office that all declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate forms arrived to the office after the February 4th dead-line and will not be considered as write-in candidates. Prior to this I submitted to Clerk's office the certificate of ballot with no names to appear on the ballot because no candidates filed petitions on or before the December 21, 2020 deadline. With all this said, I have been in contact with are law firm to determine the legal process in how to seat the 4-terms that will be expiring in April.

^{*}changes in law forces increase

^{*}increase over previous contract reflects "astronomical" storm costs (see attached)

Tuesday, March 02, 2021 3:35 PM ET Exclusive

Gas utilities face unprecedented test in digesting 'astronomical' storm costs

Article

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By Tom DiChristopher

As U.S. gas utilities report <u>a billions</u> of dollars in natural gas purchase <u>a costs during February's deep freeze, analysts and executives say the industry has never faced a cost recovery challenge quite like this.</u>

The initial gas cost estimates are "astronomical and unprecedented" enough to complicate the funding and timing of any type of cost recovery, Mizuho Securities USA LLC analyst Gabriel Moreen said in a recent research note. While Mizuho was an initially confident the impact on gas distributors would be limited, Moreen said the firm now sees potential for longer-term impacts. The cost recovery mechanism that policymakers ultimately approve will play a major role in determining the magnitude of those impacts, the analyst said.

Consensus is emerging among gas utility leaders and equity analysts that securitizing the costs would be the simplest and best solution for companies and ratepayers alike. Under this model, companies would issue bonds to finance storm-related gas purchase costs. Some state commissions have already authorized utilities to record those costs in a regulatory asset. They will later determine whether those recorded costs were reasonably incurred and accurate, before setting a schedule for recovering them.

Chart Watch

Companies report financial consequences from February deep freeze					
Company	Role in market	Summarized impact	Source		
Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp.	Electric generator with 150 MW of wind in ERCOT. Owns Empire District Electric utility in SPP.	Expects negative impact of \$45 million to \$55 million on 2021 adjusted EBITDA. The company has asserted force majeure and is assessing other potential mitigating options.	Feb. 19 statement		
American Electric Power Co.	Electric utility with about 1 million customers in Texas. Public Service Co. of Oklahoma serves 540,000 electric customers and Southwestern Electric Power Co. serves 530,000 electric customers.	AEP's CEO's aid he expects "minimal, if any, financial impact from the ERCOT, Texas weather events." Utilities in the Southwest Power Pool region, however, were hit with excess natural gas and purchased power costs: \$825 million for Public Service Co. of Oklahoma and \$375 million for Southwestern Electric Power Co., which AEP expects to recover through fuel clauses.	Feb. 25 earnings presentation		
Antero Resources Corp,	Natural gas production company with operations focused in the Marcellus and Utica Shales in the Appalachian Basin.	Antero management expects \$50 million of incremental revenue from higher realized prices during the event, and \$25 million from lower marketing expenses. The winter freeze drove a 10 cents/MMBtu increase in Antero's 2021 expected gas realizations.	Feb. 18 earnings call comments		
Atmos Energy Corp.	Natural gas distribution company in nine states, including Texas.	"Unprecedented market pricing" for gas — especially in Colorado, Kansas and Texas — resulted in the company purchasing \$2.5 billion to \$3.5 billion in gas payable by the end of March. With \$3.0 billion in total liquidity and approximately \$800 million in cash, Atmos is evaluating financing alternatives to maintain its investment grade credit ratings.	Feb. 18 Form 8-K		
Avangrid inc.	Electric generator with 1,316 MW of wind capacity in ERCOT.	Parent Iberdrola SA does not expect material financial impacts. Avangrid management said wind fleet performed well, providing 7% of production compared with its installed wind capacity of 4%, and reaffirmed 2021 earnings guidance.	Feb. 24 earnings call comments		
Black Hills Corp.	Electric and natural gas utility in eight Plains and Rocky Mountain states.	Natural gas costs exceeded the company's forecast by about \$600 million for the month of February and the company secured an \$800 million unsecured term loan facility to pay for its February gas purchases and pipeline transportation charges.	Feb. 25 Form 8-K filing		
Brazos Electrio Power	Generation and distribution cooperative supplying 16 member co-ops in Texas.	Filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection after receiving "excessively high invoices" from ERCOT, reported by Reuters	March 1 news release		
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2/2021 ວຽວນຸນອາສຸດທຸນອ	Golf Maine Park District Mail - Fw: Gas	utilities face unprecedented test in digesting 'astronomical' storm	
Capital Power Corp.	Electric generator with 100 MW of wind in ERCOT, under contract.	Estimates a production loss of approximately US\$8 million, partially offset by commodity gains of US\$6 million for a net loss of approximately C\$3 million to adjusted EBITDA and adjusted funds from operations.	Feb. 24 press release
Center Point Energy Inc.	Integrated utility with 2.6 million electric cuistomers in the Houston area and 1.7 million natural gas customers in Texas. Supplies gas customers in seven other states.	Reported \$2.5 billion in expected incremental gas costs in seven states.	Feb. 25 earnings presentation
Clearway Energy Inc.	Electric generator with 1,198 MW of wind and solar in ERCOT.	Direct cash impact of \$20 million to \$30 million in 2021 from wind facilities that were unable to operate.	Feb. 24 press release
Comatack Resources Inc.	Oll and natural gas producer in Texas, Louisiana and North Dakota.	Comstock expects to profit from greater-than-normal spot market exposure during the event. "That's going to pay off handsomely in improved price realizations in the first quarter," Comstock President and CFO Roland Burns said. "Whatever gas we've been able to sell ever since last Thursday [Feb. 11] — just some phenomenal pricing opportunities."	Feb. 17 earnings call comments
DTE Energy Co.	Electric and gas utility with an energy trading arm.	The utility has seen 'some favorability" at its Energy Trading business based on small positions.	Feb. 19 earnings call comments
EDP Renovávets 8A	Electric generator, with approximately 1,000 MW operating in ERCOT.	Expects an impact in the "low tens of millions" in the first quarter. Of its roughly 1-6W wind portfolio in Texas, less than 10% was affected by the freeze, with most of its capacity contracted under virtual power purchase agreements.	Feb. 24 earnings call
Energy Transfer LP	Natural gas midstream, intrastate and interstate transportation and storage operator.	Energy Transfer benefited from soaring natural gas spot prices, according to management. "We feel very fortunate to be able to have gas in storage at a time when it's needed," co-CEO and Chief Commercial Officer Marshall McCrea said. "We're doing everything we possibly can to pull gas out of storage and deliver it to the power plants and to the LDCs."	Feb. 17 earnings call comments
Engle SA	Electric utility with more than 1.6W of wind, solar and gas capacity in ERCOT.	Estimates a potential negative impact at group current operating income and net recurring income for group share Levels of between €80 million and €120 million.	Feb. 26 earnings release
Entergy Corp.	Electric utility in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas, but outside of ERCOT.	Incurred \$125 million to \$140 million in power restoration costs and about \$400 million of incremental fuel costs.	Feb. 24 earnings call
EQT Corp.	Natural gas production company with operations focused in the cores of the Marcellus and Utica Shales in the Appalachian Basin.	EQT made unexpected profits selling into inflated western U.S. markets during February weather. "Because of our [firm transportation] portfolio, there's been a lot of — call it volatility in different locations. And so, having multiple pipes to multiple regions gives us some optionality to great value moving gas in and around to those regions," CFO David Khanj said.	Feb. 17 earnings call comments
Evergy Inc.	Electric utility in Kansas and Missouri.	"In aggregate, across our jurisdictions, we estimate that our cost to procure natural gas and purchase power through the event were approximately \$300 million. The purchased power portion of this number is expected to rise as it does not yet include Friday, February 19," President and CEO David Campbell said.	Feb. 26 earnings presentation
Exelan Corp.	Electric generator with 3,670 MW of natural gas capacity in ERCOT.	"They only periodically were available when the prices hit and were maintained at the administrative cap of \$0,000 [per MWh];" President and CEO Christopher Crane said. "Our preliminary estimate of the impact of this event across our portfolio is \$750 [million] to \$950 million pretax or \$560 million to \$710 million post-tax. At this point, the range is wide. It includes our best estimate from load obligations, ancillary charges and bad debt."	Feb. 24 earnings call
innergex Renewable Energy inc.	Electric generator with 804 MW of wind capacity in ERCOT.	On Feb. 17, estimated a C\$45 million-to-C\$60 million hit as a result of realized losses on power hedges, as well as from its share of joint ventures and associates also related to power hedging losses. Increased estimate to C\$80 million.	Feb. 26 earnings presentation
Just Energy Group Inc.	Retail electric provider in ERCOT.	Originally said it may have incurred a loss of C\$315 million as of Feb. 22. The company received initial settlement statements from ERCOT, which are subject to resettlements, that would result in significantly lowering its exposure to approximately C\$50 million.	Feb. 26 sarnings release
NRG Energy Inc.	Electric generator and retail power provider with 10,230 MW of owned capacity in Texas.	According to a stress-test analysis of preliminary data, NRG Energy sees a potential plus or minus \$100 million to its guidance ranges.	March 1 news release
OGE Energy Corp.	Oklahoma electric and natural gas utility with 959,000 customers.	"Our fuel and purchase power costs for this event alone were more than all of our fuel and purchase power costs in 2020. We anticipate the regulatory asset that will be created as a result of the storm to be in the range of approximately \$800	Feb. 25 earnings

		million to \$1 million, wie nave secured \$1 billion of additional bank financing or liquidity to cover these costs;" Chairman, President and CEO Sean Trauschke said	presentation
Oncor Electric Delivery Co. LLC (Sempra Energy subsidiary)	Electric distribution and transmission utility, serving more than 3.7 million homes and businesses and operating more than 139,000 miles of transmission and distribution lines in Texas.	Says it was responsible for shedding approximately 7,200 MW of the approximately 20,000 MW requested by ERCOT for the controlled outages during the cold snap.	Feb. 26 earnings release
One Gas Inc.	Natural gas utility in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas	Incurred approximately \$2.2 billion worth of natural gas purchase costs due at the end of March	Feb. 22 Farm 8-K filing
Ørsted A/S	Electric generator with 1,325 MW of wind capacity in ERCOT	The majority of onshore U.S. wind and solar projects do not have firm delivery obligations, an Ørsted spokesperson said. The company "unwound the majority of our short positions before the power market was impacted by the extreme weather" and as a result, does not expect a material EBITDA-impact at the group level.	Feb. 19 statement
RWE AG	Electric generator with 3,100 MW of capacity, mostly wind, in ERCOT.	Adjusted EBITDA of the onshore wind/solar segment in 2021 expected to be negatively affected in the range of low to mid-three-digit million euros.	Feb. 19 statement
Vietra Corp	Electric generator with 19,064 MW of capacity, mostly gas, coal and nuclear, in ERCOT.	Vistra estimates a one-time adverse financial impact of \$900 million to \$1.30 billion. The company cannot reaffirm or adjust 2021 guidance, but said it has sufficient liquidity to operate.	Feb. 26 earnings release
Western Midstream Partners LP	Midetream operator with assets in the Rocky Mountains, North-central Pennsylvania, Texas and New Mexico	Still evaluating the financial impact of the storm but expects the winterweather will adversely affect first-quarter results.	Feb. 24 earnings conference call

As of March 1, 2021.

Source: Select company statements and filings

One Gas Inc., which reported \$2,2 billion in gas costs, is working with state policymakers and regulators to develop legislation allowing gas utilities to securitize the regulatory assets, Senior Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer Curtis Dinan said on a Feb. 26 a conference call. He characterized the conversations as "very positive" but cautioned that the situation is unprecedented.

"Historically, you've seen [securitization] in different parts of the country primarily related to electric utilities that have dealt with different storm costs," Dinan said. "There hasn't been, that I'm aware of, situations that would apply to a gas utility similar to that until this most recent event."

Securitization seen as likely

The Public Utility Commission of Texas, which regulates electric utilities, can use securitization to address storm-related costs, but state law does not grant the same authority to the Railroad Commission of Texas, which oversees gas distributors, according to Moreen. However, the analyst noted that Texas legislators were responsive to calls to accommodate securitization in 2006 following Hurricane Rita and in 2009 following Hurricane Gustav.

Given the magnitude of the gas purchase costs, Moreen believes lawmakers will allow some degree of securitization. For context, in 2019, the Texas PUC allowed AEP Texas Inc. to securitize about \$229 million in electric distribution system restoration costs after Hurricane Harvey, he noted. Atmos and One Gas face expenses that could be 10 times greater, he added.

By Moreen's calculations, Atmos' guidance for storm-related expenses exceeded its total gas costs over the past nine quarters, while One Gas' forecasted cost equaled nearly all of its purchase costs over the last 15 quarters.

On March 1, Atmos Energy Corp. @ narrowed its cost estimate from as much as \$3.5 billion to a forecast \$2.5 billion,

making it more manageable to digest through liquidity, debt and an existing equity program. In a March 1 report, UBS Group AG equity analyst Aga Zmigrodzka expected investors to cheer the revision, and said a decision on securitization could be constructive for Atmos' & recently downgraded credit ratings.

Atmos' disclosure that roughly 95% of the extraordinary costs were related to Texas operations could also be positive if the state moves swiftly to allow securitization. Similarly, CenterPoint Energy Inc. said \$1.25 billion of its \$2.5 billion in the estimated gas purchase costs were linked to Texas operations.

Making due without securitization

If policymakers decide against securitization, they will face the challenge of establishing a cost recovery mechanism that does not substantially alter utilities' capital structure or leave them with more bad debt, Moreen said. Companies would likely try to avoid issuing new equity or using financing options that produce a long-term impact on their capital structure, he added.

Those options could lead to stock price dilution and lend the impression that regulators are allowing utilities to earn a return on equity linked to gas purchase costs. That could open a "can of worms," Moreen said. Regulators require utilities to pass on gas costs to customers at no markup.

Asked whether One Gas could simply roll forward its term loan, Dinan noted that One Gas must not only account for the astronomical gas purchase costs but also the cost of carrying that expense. Securitizing those costs would offer more clarity into recovery and would not require utilities to change how they capitalize their business, Dinan said. Moreen did see a path for regulators to pursue a more traditional recovery approach while avoiding problematic utcomes. Regulators, who typically consider debt and equity levels in determining a utility's allowed return on equity, could let gas distributors deploy more debt without penalizing them in regards to allowed ROE, he said. However, regulators would have to thread the needle to get the timing right. The magnitude of the excess gas costs may be a reason not to try to recover them too quickly, Moreen said. While accelerated cost recovery is ideal, it could cause companies' bad debt expense to blow out, since customers would face steeper monthly bills that they might be unable to pay, he noted. That would only add to unrecoverable past due amounts, which have crept higher during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Legislative Update













The Latest Legislative Issues Affecting Parks, Recreation and Conservation

#17-2021 -- March 17, 2021

TO: IAPD Members

FROM: Peter Murphy, Esq., CAE, IOM, IAPD President and CEO Jason Anselment, IAPD General Counsel

RE: Nearly \$900,000 in Bike Path Grants Announced

Today the Governor announced \$885,300 in grants to help communities develop and improve bike path facilities throughout Illinois under the Bicycle Path Grant Program.

There were 33 applications totaling \$4.9 million in requested funds for this grant cycle demonstrating the overwhelming demand for these projects.

Congratulations to this year's grant recipients:

Carol Stream Park District (DuPage County) – Mitchell Lake Park Trail \$180,000 to renovate a 0.95-mile, 8-foot-wide existing asphalt trail adjacent Mitchell Lake Park.

Decatur Park District (Macon County) – Stevens Creek Bikeway Phase II \$57,500 to acquire 31.7 acres of land located in northwest portion of Decatur. The land will allow for access to the current 10-foot-wide asphalt bike trail, which is 9.8 miles long with an additional 1.5 miles under development. The land acquisition will help complete the final 2 miles of the Stevens Creek Bikeway.

DuPage County Forest Preserve District (DuPage County) – Springbrook Prairie Trail: Brighton Ridge Connector

\$100,000 to construct a 10-foot-wide, 0.25-mile limestone pedestrian and bicycle trail along the forest preserve right-of-way on the east side of Naperville-Plainfield Road. The trail will connect a municipal sidewalk along the Brighton Ridge subdivision to a limestone trailhead parking lot in the forest preserve. The project will also modify the trailhead, which serves two loop trails within Springbrook Prairie Forest Preserve, as well as connecting to the Southern DuPage Regional Trail and other regional trails beyond.

Madison County Mass Transit District (Madison County) – Confluence Trail Improvements

\$165,000 to construct a 0.5-mile trail improvement that begins near the westerly end of the pedestrian bridge over Wood River and ends just west of the wooden structure under a conveyor. The existing 22.9-mile Madison County Mass Transit (MCT) Confluence Trail begins at the McKinley Bridge in Venice and runs northerly along the Mississippi River to Russell Commons Park in Alton. The Confluence Trail is a 10-foot wide asphalt or gravel surface. Once this 0.5-mile trail section is complete, residents of and visitors to Madison County will benefit by having additional all-weather surfaced trail as part of the 137-mile MCT Trail System.

McHenry County Conservation District (McHenry County) – Prairie Trail Ringwood Renovation

\$50,000 for renovations between Barnard Mill Road and the pedestrian bridge that is approximately 0.25 miles south in Ringwood, Illinois. The project involves reestablishing the storm sewer outlet, re-grading the existing ditch, repairing trail erosion, resurfacing the 8-foot-wide asphalt trail, and restoring the turf shoulders to improve drainage.

St. Clair County Transit District (St. Clair County) – Old Collinsville Road Trail, Phase 3

\$200,000 to construct a 10-foot-wide approximately 0.8-mile section of asphalt paved shared-use trail, located along the west side of Old Collinsville Road from Munie Road to Frank Scott Parkway East.

Zion Park District (Lake County) – Edina Trail Renovation and Resurfacing

\$132,800 to resurface 1.5 miles of 8-foot-wide asphalt trail. The project also includes updating roadway crosswalks with ADA concrete curb ramps, providing trail entry and crossing signs, a bike repair station, and improving drainage with culvert and riprap replacement at drainage crossings.

Legislative Update













The Latest Legislative Issues Affecting Parks, Recreation and Conservation

#16-2021 -- March 16, 2021

TO: IAPD Members

FROM: Peter Murphy, Esq., CAE, IOM, IAPD President and CEO Jason Anselment, IAPD General Counsel

RE: \$24.9 Million in PARC Grants Announced

Today, the Governor announced more than \$24.9 million for PARC grants to 17 park districts, forest preserves and local governments to construct, renovate, and improve recreational facilities.

The PARC funding is made available through the Rebuild Illinois capital program and was the direct result of IAPD's advocacy efforts in 2019.

IAPD congratulates all of the PARC Grant recipients:

Alsip Park District (Cook County) \$2,500,000: A development project to expand the existing facility to include an indoor walking track, an additional multi-purpose gymnasium, an expanded fitness center, an indoor playground, additional program spaces including senior/teen areas, and seating in the existing gymnasium.

Chicago Park District – Calumet Park (Cook County) \$ 750,000: A development project to restore interior finishes through the first floor of the park's recreation facility including plaster, painting, other finishes on the walls, ceiling, doors, and windows. ADA upgrades in the restrooms, shower rooms and locker rooms including plumbing, fixtures, partitions, and lockers.

Chicago Park District - Cornell Square Park (Cook County) \$1,000,000: A development project to restore exterior concrete, restoration or replacement of windows and doors, and ADA upgrades in the restrooms and locker rooms including plumbing, fixtures, partitions, and lockers.

Chicago Park District - Franklin Park Facility (Cook County) \$750,000: A development project to restore or replace windows and doors, ADA upgrades in the restrooms and locker rooms, and main lobby ADA accessibility improvements.

Chicago Park District - Garfield Park (Cook County) \$1,000,000: A development project to restore or replace masonry, windows, doors, and structural decking of the park's recreation facility. Electrical upgrades, exterior site work which includes the hardscape pavement of the accessible pathway, stairs, terrace, and landscape work is also planned.

Chicago Park District - Marquette Park (Cook County) \$750,000: A development project to reconfigure the auditorium and stage to improve accessibility for all patrons. The auditorium improvements also include upgrades to the stage, lighting, ceiling, fixtures, and access to the stage. Other improvements consist of ADA accessibility upgrades to the main entrance bathrooms, locker rooms and shower rooms.

Chicago Park District - Washington Park (Cook County) \$750,000: A development Project to restore extensive concrete bleachers/stands overlooking a newly renovated swimming complex including an Olympic-style swimming pool. The Chicago Park District has the largest swim clubs in the country and hosts various swimming and water polo events.

Cook County, Forest Preserve District of (Cook County) \$1,228,800: A development Project to transform the Caldwell Preserves Warming Shelter into the Caldwell Woods Wellness Studio. Improvements will include the demolition of concession spaces; reconstructing space for an indoor recreation wellness studio for small and large classes for yoga, pilates, cultural arts, and other related classes; and, updating site utilities including the heating and cooling system. Sidewalks, ramps, and curbs to the shelter and aquatic area will also be improved to ADA standards.

Dieterich, Village of (Effingham County) \$2,014,800: A development project to renovate a 16,600-square foot single-story, multi-use facility, offering numerous and much needed new recreation opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities in the community. The facility will have one large multi-use court with a retractable dividing curtain that can be converted to two multi-use courts. Portable bleachers will make this a very flexible gym space. In addition to basketball, these courts will also be striped for pickleball and volleyball. The facility will have cardio and weight equipment, a two-lane walking track around the gym, and three community rooms to allow for non-sport recreation opportunities like card and quilting clubs, fitness classes, birthday parties, art programs, Kinder-music and other educational classes and social gatherings.

Glencoe Park District (Cook County) \$2,500,000: A development project to renovate and update the Watts Recreational Center to meet ADA standards. The project includes an elevator and a secondary entrance. Ice-skating support spaces will be renovated, and a new multi-purpose room, restrooms and storage are included. New dasher boards will be installed at both skating rinks.

Jerseyville, City of (Jersey County) \$450,000: A development project to replace the existing Susnig Center gym floor and bleachers, upgrade restrooms, and install a new roof. Retractable batting cages will be installed, and portable basketball goals will be provided.

Kendall County Forest Preserve District (Kendall County) \$828,200: A development project to renovate and update the Pickerill Estate House located at Pickerill-Pigott Forest Preserve with ADA renovations and construction of an adjoining open-air pavilion.

Roscoe Township (Winnebago County) \$704,000: A development project for the construction of an open pavilion/stage with seating, indoor antique farm equipment displays, a vendor area for outdoor events, a farmer's market area, walking paths, and community gardens.

Skokie Park District (Cook County) \$2,500,000: A development project for renovation of Skatium Ice Arena's mechanical systems and ice rink. The project includes the demolition and replacement of the concrete main rink surface (85' x 200'), sub-floor heating and drainage system, all piping and insulation in the rink floor, all mechanical equipment in the refrigeration plant, hydronic heating system, evaporate condenser, dehumidification system, and dasher boards. Installation of LED light fixtures is also included.

Urbana Park District (Champaign County) \$2,500,000: A development project for the construction of the new Urbana Indoor Recreation and Fitness Center. The project includes a gymnasium, walking track, exercise equipment room, multipurpose meeting and rental room, office space for facility staff, locker rooms and parking. The project also includes installation of rain gardens in the parking lot medians and additional tree planting.

Vernon Hills Park District (Lake County) \$2,247,700: A development project to provide an addition and renovation to the existing Lakeview Fitness Center. The addition will be more than 3,300-square feet and will include health/fitness and support offices. The site work includes additional parking with expanded storm water detention facilities and an outdoor paved area. The renovation includes locker room upgrades, a new group exercise room and a new bathroom with shower. The pool expansion includes a new ADA pool lift, added lap lanes, zero entry pool edge and adding shallow-water spray features.

Wood River, City of (Madison County) \$2,500,000: A development project to build a new recreation center revitalizing Central Park, to include a gymnasium with two full-sized sports courts for basketball, volleyball, and pickleball, and an elevated walking path above the courts. Included are three multipurpose rooms, along with another space designated for gymnastics, a lobby area with public restrooms, office space, a kitchen, storage space, and locker rooms.

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Legislative Update













The Latest Legislative Issues Affecting Parks, Recreation and Conservation

#15-2021 -- March 10, 2021

TO: IAPD Members

FROM: Peter Murphy, Esq., CAE, IOM, IAPD President and CEO Jason Anselment, IAPD General Counsel

RE: Congress Finalizes American Rescue Plan Act - Special Districts Eligible for Pass-Through Relief Dollars

As has been widely reported in the media, this past weekend the U.S. Senate approved the final version of the \$1.9 trillion <u>American Rescue Plan Act</u>. The U.S. House is expected to take a final vote today to approve the package, and President Biden has indicated his intent to sign the package into law this week.

As you know from our many legislative updates and alerts, IAPD has been working closely with the National Special Districts Coalition (NSDC) to advocate for special district eligibility for federal funding.

The <u>American Rescue Plan Act</u> includes \$360 billion for states, territories, tribes, counties, and cities, and Illinois is estimated to receive approximately \$13.2 billion of this state and local funding.

While the plan does not include dedicated funding for special districts through the <u>Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act</u>, it does grant states, counties and cities that receive direct funding with the express authority to transfer a portion of their funding to special districts, which means that park districts, forest preserves and other special districts will be eligible to receive pass through dollars from the state, cities and counties. This is a

significant victory for special districts because prior state and local funding proposals did not include this language.

Few details are available at this point, but the Act states that these funds may be used to respond to the public health emergency and address its negative economic effects, including through assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits or to aid impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality. Funds can also be used to provide government services affected by a revenue reduction during the pandemic relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year and will be available for expenditure through December 31, 2024.

It is likely that additional federal guidance with specific details will be issued in the coming weeks. We also anticipate future action by the Illinois General Assembly to appropriate funding that is not directly allocated to counties and cities.

NSDC and national stakeholder partners are currently crafting strategies to leverage the transfer authority in the package for special districts to utilize when advocating for inclusion in part of their state's programming of these new relief funds.

As those of you who have attended one of the 8 virtual legislative breakfasts are aware, in anticipation of this new federal funding package, we have already been advocating with members of the Illinois General Assembly for eligibility for future state programs based upon the specific negative impact that the pandemic has had on park districts and other local park, recreation and conservation agencies.

As further details become available, we will update you with specific actions to take as we continue our collective efforts to advocate for eligibility for funding at the state and local levels.

Here in Illinois, both the House and Senate have been holding dozens of virtual committee hearings as bills begin to work their way through the legislative process. We have been actively engaged behind the scenes on a number of these bills and other legislative matters. As a reminder, you can view the status of all the bills we are tracking on the IAPD website.

We also wanted to remind you that we continue to update IAPD COVID
Resources webpage with the latest available information such as Updated
Sports Safety Guidance, which includes changes to outdoor seating capacity, as well as the latest Executive Order 2021-05, which again extended prior executive orders.

Legislative Update













The Latest Legislative Issues Affecting Parks, Recreation and Conservation

#11-2021 -- February 12, 2021

TO: IAPD Members

FROM: Peter Murphy, Esq., CAE, IOM, IAPD President and CEO

Jason Anselment, IAPD General Counsel

RE: Mask Requirements in Health & Fitness Centers

We wanted to let you know that the DCEO has updated its prior Phase 4 Health and Fitness Guidelines with regard to face coverings.

Similar to the Tier 2 and Tier 3 Mitigations, page 6 of the updated Phase 4 guidelines now states:

"2. Members should wear face coverings over their nose and mouth at all times when inside the facility and outside when unable to maintain 6 feet social distancing."

Previously, the Phase 4 Health and Fitness Guidelines contained an exception to face coverings during exercise.

As you may have noticed on our updates to the <u>IAPD COVID</u>

<u>Resources webpage</u>, DCEO has also updated the <u>Phase 4 Guidelines</u>

<u>and Mitigation Measures FAQs</u>. Many of the updates restore prior

FAQs for Phase 4 that were removed when the tiered mitigations were put in place.

Additionally, one of the updates under the Sports and Fitness Centers heading on pages 7-8 of the FAQs now states:

Do people have to wear face coverings if indoors and they can stay six feet apart?

- Face coverings should be worn at all times when inside a heath and fitness center, including while exercising. Face coverings should also be worn when outside if unable to maintain six feet social distancing from another individual
- Spectators and athletes inside sports facilities should wear face coverings at all times when inside the facility, with the exception of when wearing a mask could lead to injury as set forth in the All Sports Policy

We encourage you to review the entire FAQ document and to visit the <u>IAPD COVID Resources</u> webpage frequently for the latest updates.

In addition to monitoring COVID-19 updates and developments, we are also reviewing the thousands of new bills that are being filed in the 102nd General Assembly. As a reminder, you can view the status of all of the new legislation we are tracking on the <u>IAPD</u> website.

Lastly, this year's Legislative Breakfast program will be held remotely beginning February 22. The hosts for each location are currently reaching out to member agencies within their area with further details. However, if you are interested in attending a particular breakfast and do not hear from a host agency, please do not hesitate to contact us, and we will connect you. Click here for this year's schedule.

Have a wonderful holiday weekend!

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GOVERNOR'S HIGHLIGHTS:

New Laws: Governor Pritzer signed <u>HB 4276</u> which allows up to 60 days of time-off if COVID impacted the recovery of an employee. The legislation also extends the timeline in which the death of a policeman and fireman from COVID-19 can be designated as a fatal injury while in active service. HB 4276 passed during the lame duck session.

COVID-19: COVID positivity rates continue to trend downward both nationally and in Illinois. The current 7-day average case positivity rate is 2.4% while the test positivity rate is 2.9%.

The Illinois Department of Public Healthon Thursday reported 1,740 new c cases of COVID-19 in Illinois, including 42 additional deaths. On Thursday, labs reported 73,990 test results. As of Wednesday night, 1,200 individuals in Illinois were reported to be in the hospital with COVID-19. Of those, 260 patients were in the ICU and 128 patients with COVID-19 were on ventilators.

The University of Illinois received FDA emergency use authorization for its COVID saliva testing. The Governor announced plans to expand the use of the tests to all state universities in Illinois.

Vaccination Update: The number of COVID-19 vaccines to be shipped to Illinois and Chicago this week will increase by about 50% after a third vaccine received emergency authorization over the weekend. Johnson & Johnson is allocating 104,500 of its single-shot COVID-19 vaccine to Illinois and Chicago this week -- 22,300 doses will go directly to Chicago with the remainder being distributed elsewhere throughout the state. The new shipments come as Pfizer also increases its weekly shipments to both jurisdictions by about 20,000 total doses. Moderna's allocations for this week remain unchanged from last week.

Illinois continues to develop more vaccination sites with new sites coming on-line almost daily. This week, mass vaccinations began being offered at the United Center and at locations in Des Plaines and Quincy, and the state continues to develop additional downstate partnerships to broaden vaccine access. The state is also partnering with four local federally qualified health centers and safety net hospitals to administer vaccines to residents in Cook, DuPage, and Lake Counties. In the coming weeks, the pilot program will expand to include additional critical access hospitals across the state.

The Illinois Department of Public Health is encouraging those who receive a COVID-19 vaccination to utilize the V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker (V-safe). Developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, V-safe sends text messages to individuals who have received their first vaccine dose to remind them when the second shot is due. More information and registration for V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker here.

A total of 3,563,775 doses of vaccine have been delivered to providers in Illinois, including Chicago. In addition, approximately 443,700 doses total have been allocated to the federal government's Pharmacy Partnership Program for long-term care facilities. A total of 2,993,543 vaccines have been administered in Illinois as of midnight Thursday, including 330,328 for long-term care facilities. The 7-day rolling average of vaccines administered daily is 78,942 doses. On Wednesday, 93,302 doses were administered in Illinois.

Gubernatorial Appointments: The Governor made the following appointments:

- Lara Shayne will serve as Chair of the Educational Labor Relations Board
- Steven Grossman will serve on the Educational Labor Relations Board
- Michelle Ishmael will serve on the Educational Labor Relations Board
- King Harris will continue to serve as Chair of the Housing Development Authority
- Stephen Kouri II will serve on the Human Rights Commission
- Lynne Sered will serve as Chair of the Local Panel of the Labor Relations Board

TREASURER'S HIGHLIGHTS:

Supporting historically underserved entrepreneurs – Black, Latinx, and women – is the goal of a program announced Wednesday by State Treasurer Frerichs, in partnership with private venture capital firm Cleveland Avenue and others. The CAST (Cleveland Avenue State Treasurer Urban Success) initiative focuses on Chicago's South and Westside neighborhoods. Through the Illinois Growth and Innovation Fund (ILGIF), Frerichs and State Chief Investment Officer Rodrigo Garcia are committing \$16 million to the effort. A recent study found that Chicago-area Black and Latinx entrepreneurs have about 80 percent of their equity capital needs unmet, compared to 46 percent of white business owners. More information will be available April 1 at Clevelandavenue.com/castus.

ATTORNEY GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS:

Attorney General Kwame Raoul announced Tuesday that he is part of a coalition of 24 attorneys general to file a friend-of-the-court briefing encouraging the Supreme Court to preserve schools' abilities to address cyberbullying and other forms of off-campus bullying that can undermine students' educations. Raoul noted that any form of bullying – whether at school or off school grounds – can derail a student's ability to learn and achieve. The prevalence of technology, especially given its role in student learning and socializing during the pandemic, has amplified bullying aspects, he offered. The AG also said schools should be able "to hold students accountable for disruptive speech, regardless of where it takes place." More information is here.

Election Update:

Democrat State Senator Michael Hastings announced his bid for Secretary of State to replace retiring Secretary Jesse White. Hastings was first elected in 2012. He chairs the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee and serves as the Senate Democratic Caucus Whip.

Democratic Congresswoman Robin Kelly was elected by Democratic State Central Committee to serve as Chair of the Democratic Party of Illinois. Kelly is the first woman of color to hold the Democratic Party's top spot. Kelly replaces former House Speaker Michael Madigan, who held the post for 23 years. Kelly received 52% of the vote to challenger Chicago Alderman Michelle Harris' 48%.

102nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Both chambers met virtually in committees this week.

The University of Illinois released the Corporate Board Diversity, Inclusion, and Representation Report for 2020. The report was a product of HB 3394, passed in 2019, which required companies and corporations based in Illinois to report the racial and gender makeup of their boards to the Secretary of State's office. The University of Illinois was required to analyze the data and issue a report with their findings. View the full report here.

COMING UP:

Both chambers are scheduled to be in Springfield for session March 9th - 11th. It is rumored that the House may cancel session next week although no formal announcement has been made at this time.

The House committee schedule is <u>here.</u> The Senate committee schedule is <u>here.</u>

2021 Key Session Dates:

March 26 - Deadline: Substantive Bills out of Committee/both chambers

March 29 - April 9 Spring Break April 6 - Consolidated Election

April 23 – Deadline: Third Reading Substantive Bills/both chambers

May 14 - Deadline: Substantive Bills out of Committee in opposite chamber/both chambers

May 28 - Deadline: Third Reading Substantive Bills/both chambers

May 31 - Adjournment

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