

SEPTEMBER 18, 2025 PLANTS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Foley: Called meeting to order at 5:49.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Mr. Foley: Melissa Mongillo, Dan Foley.

Karla Malerba, absent.

Mr. Foley: We do have a quorum.

Also Present:

Dr. Matthew Conway, Superintendent of Schools

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Foley: Anyone from the public wish to speak. Anyone from the public wishes to speak, third time. Seeing no one, I close the public portion.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion that the Plants and Facilities approve the minutes from the July 17, 2025 Special Plants and Facilities meeting. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Dan Foley	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes.

FACILITIES DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Hoffman: I'll go through the Facilities report quick. Playground is complete. Will be back out tomorrow afternoon about 30 days, just going to tighten up the hardware.

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By Marc J. Garofalo, MPA, MCC, MCTC at 10:25 am, Sep 24, 2025

September 29, the big bang swing be delivered. The zip line still looking at October 24th. So, we're getting it. Everything will be done.

Badge reader, had to order one more piece. Supposed to be there today at 5. So, I will follow up in the morning to see if he was there.

At Irving School, the BRS system, which is the mini split system for the air conditioning in the classrooms. Currently we got block one down and two down. It affects rooms 103, 134, 136 through 139. The control boards communication with the control boards are no good. They are on order. Hopefully Tuesday or Wednesday next week we'll see them. I will say a little update is also affecting intermittently other classrooms where the BRS unit will drop out, 212, 211 we were experiencing that today. Talked to Dan from Blizzard and it is the control boards. So, the system's trying to run on two condensers instead of four, it keeps dropping out. The rooms were getting a little warm today, about 77 upstairs.

Mr. Foley: Is it expensive the control board.

Mr. Hoffman: No, the boards it was \$3,000 to install. He's only charging me it was \$400 for labor. The rest are for the control boards.

Dr. Conway: 3,000.

Mr. Foley: How many rooms?

Mr. Hoffman: Nurses' office, AC we replaced that. We did that one in-house. That had an old mini split that wasn't changed when they updated Irving. So, we changed it in-house. It was \$3,200 so not bad.

Derby Middle School: The chiller is up and running. We have been maintaining 66 to 70. A little warmer today because teachers were a little colder. So, we shut it down for a little while. One room was like 62 degrees. We've averaging about 61-degree air temp, which I hadn't seen that in a long time here. And I'd like to report, no water flow issues.

Ms. Mongillo: This is the test before we buy.

Mr. Hoffman: Correct.

Dr. Conway: We might not have to.

Mr. Hoffman: I do have an estimate for Echo Cooling. Echo Cooling with the gentleman. He worked on this chiller back in 2014. He's actually the one that put it into a vacuum and pressure tested the system. They shut that one down for water flow issues. Under \$2,000 he's willing to come out, go through the whole unit out there and see if we can get that

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going. If we can get that 200-ton absorption chiller going chiller outside, we would not have to go and replace the other chiller.

Dr. Conway: Which should be close to a half a million.

Mr. Hoffman: Correct. The only difference is we would for the chiller inside runs on electricity. The chiller outside runs on natural gas. So, we would save it on electric but not for gas.

Dr. Conway: Save long-term if we can do this.

Mr. Foley: If it works, Doctor, what about the capital plan.

Dr. Conway: That's part of it. We have a meeting on the 25th. That is a piece of the referendum. They use the old cost on that. They use 358,000. That 358,000 was pre-January of '25; no '24 I think. We went to them in '23, and said if we wait until January of '24, the price is going to go up because of the refrigeration, the coolant goes up. So, the unit itself would go up. Because it needs different parts during the one we were going to get prior to that. In any event, it's closer to a half million today than a year and a half ago. So, even that 358,000 would have to be increased for the referendum if we end up needing it. The hope is, we'll have an answer for that before we go to referendum because we were going to give this three weeks. We're on the second week now. I would spend the 2,000, have the guy come out.

Mr. Hoffman: He's available to come out the end of next week.

Dr. Conway: Have him come out ASAP so prior to the 25th

Mr. Hoffman: We'll have an idea of what we're going to do.

Mr. Foley: Do we need the Board's approval for the 2,000?

Dr. Conway: No.

Mr. Foley: Okay.

Ms. Mongillo: So, you've got the temporary chiller. What is it that the engineer thinks he can do?

Mr. Hoffman: Well, we have a 200-ton absorption chiller outside that we're hoping we can get that going.

Ms. Mongillo: It's not working at all.

Mr. Hoffman: In 2014 they shut it down and that was the end of it.

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Dr. Conway: Because of the water flow issue, which could have been because of the incorrect piping.

Mr. Hoffman: Well, the piping that we just fixed, even the smaller chiller goes on water issues after all these years. So, we fixed that. So, currently the 200-ton chiller no water issues.

Dr. Conway: Instead of buying a 200-ton.

Ms. Mongillo: We thought was broken but might not be. Thank you.

Mr. Foley: That was my question about the chiller.

Mr. Hoffman: Those are all very good signs. He was very excited about that.

Ms. Mongillo: Well, he wants to redeem himself.

Mr. Hoffman: He wasn't the one that installed it. He was the one who hired an engineer and they shut it down.

Dr. Conway: It was only four years old when they shut it down.

Mr. Hoffman: It only has 42 months of run time on it. So, it never ran. 42 hours total.

Ms. Mongillo: We turned it off because it was.

Mr. Hoffman: Water flow issues. They decided to go with the smaller chiller we had that was supposed to be the auxiliary then they burnt that one out.

Also at the middle school, ABS server is not compatible with Windows 11. We are in the process of upgrading it to encompass 2.0 software. They're working on it. Hopefully, they'll have it done this week. But it was \$14,000 to do.

This is the computer, the server and the new program.

Ms. Mongillo: Do you mean laptops?

Mr. Foley: No.

Mr. Hoffman: No, just the one main frame gets replaced. And then we can control the building. So, right now we have control of the building but it's limited on we can't go and change all the perimeters any longer just because there is no support.

Ms. Mongillo: And that's just here.

Mr. Hoffman: That's just here. They're on different servers. This is the only building that has ABS.

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Derby High School, heat detectors. There was 12 heat detectors. They expire next month. So, rooms 129, G02, G04, G05. 124, 125 and the stage. Impact Fire is changing them. We already got a couple changed. They're supposed to come in tomorrow to change the rest during the half day. The chemistry rooms, the old Home Economic rooms, the stage. Instead of smoke detectors, they're heat. But they're good for about 25 years.

Mr. Foley: What did it cost?

Mr. Hoffman: \$2,200. So, it wasn't bad. We did have a fire marshal's inspection. I put the reports on there. There are a few things. The fire marshal had he wanted everything to national fire code, which is fine. It's good for the district, but there's things that fire doors we have to add, railings need to be added. We need to add emergency lights, new exit signs.

Derby High School, he wants six fire doors installed.

Dr. Conway: That's going to have to go to capital. They're expensive. It's possible maybe they would consider, if we don't spend the 358,000 on the chiller that we'll get some doors and other things that we need to get done in place of that chiller funding.

That's what's going on that referendum. So, we're putting together that list in the event that we'll consider leaving the 358,000 in there because it's not a lot when you think about the overall six million. And we're not asking for anything else out of this capitalized. Maybe we can get some of these other projects done. This is for the fire marshal. There's other things as well that we've been putting off but we would ask them to consider.

Mr. Foley: On the referendum is it all or nothing.

Dr. Conway: I believe the question is going to be all or nothing.

Ms. Mongillo: Yeah, they're going to approve it all or we're going to get nothing.

Mr. Foley: Yeah.

Mr. Hoffman: He's willing to work with us. Again, and there's a lot of things that he wanted that we've already done. He was more questioned why they weren't on the reports before.

Mr. Foley: He's the new fire Marshal. How do you like working with him?

Mr. Hoffman: I enjoyed working with him this time around. He's very knowledgeable. He was more, he listened more than the last fire Marshal. Very well-qualified and again, willing to work with us. He's the only fire Marshal since I've been here that came up for the fire drills, participated in all our fire drills. So, so far so good. National fire code, it's quarterly.

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Ms. Mongillo: Inside the concession stand was clean and approved for inspection. But there's something on the roof of the building that needed to be done that I didn't have the authority to have done.

Mr. Foley: Nice to hear. Thank you, Jim.

PLANTS AND FACILITIES FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion that the Plants and Facilities to table number five, the Plants and Facilities Financial Report. Passed with a motion by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Dan Foley	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent

Mr. Foley: Table that.

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second. Motion passes.

BRADLEY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND UPDATE

Mr. Foley: Jim, Bradley School Playground update.

Mr. Hoffman: Yes, I did. It's all set. They're going to come back out Friday to inspect it again after 30 days, tighten the bolts.

Mr. Foley: Do you know what time he's coming?

Mr. Hoffman: So, he comes after 6 because of the YMCA. So, he comes in the evening. But I know he is scheduled to be, it's Friday and Saturday. It's just part of our initial contract.

Mr. Foley: It looks good.

Ms. Mongillo: I'm sure the feedback is good. Everybody is happy.

Mr. Foley: Yes.

Mr. Hoffman: Yes.

Ms. Mongillo: Thanks for all that you did for that.

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DMS HEATING SYSTEM

Mr. Hoffman: We're going to bring in that company to check out the absorption chiller.
And then we're going to go from there.

ADJOURN

Motion that the Plants and Facilities adjourn their meeting. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Melissa Mongillo and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Dan Foley	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent

Ms. Mongillo: Making motion.
Mr. Foley: Second.
Adjourned at 6:08.

Marianne Samokar
Recording Secretary

