Lincoln Municipal Golf Advisory Committee meeting minutes

Location:	Parks & Recreation Administration Office, 3131 O Street, Third Floor
Date:	Thursday, October 23rd, 2025
Time:	12:00 p.m.
Attendees:	Members Present: Greg Bauer, Mike Calvert, Joe Canney, Matt Herman, Todd Johnson, Casey Karges, Sherrie Nelson, Tammy Poe
	Members Absent: Jim Danson, Jennifer Kirkland, Becky Moyer
	Members of the Public Present: None
	Staff Members Present: Maggie Stuckey-Ross, Wade Forman, Casey Crittenden, Scott Carlson, Jonathan Benson, Tim Rowland, Denis Vontz, Pam Hoffman

Agenda items

1. Call to Order: Sherrie Nelson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
2. Approval of previous minutes: Minutes approved by roll call with no changes. Motion to Approve: Matt Herman, seconded by Mike Calvert.
3. Public Comment: Micheal Thompson, Director of PR & Case Management at K2 Holistic Health. Stopped by to introduce himself and advise that his company is available to sponsor league events.
4. Review of Reports:

   Monthly Report: Maintenance – Jim Ager Golf Course recently had an exciting three-week "demo" featuring cutting edge autonomous mowers. Two high-tech mowers roamed the course, running for 4 hours at a time before taking just a 1-hour break to charge, then heading back out for more mowing. These machines seamlessly handled mowing tee boxes, fairways and roughs, all with the same machine.

   The maintenance team is gearing up to finish fall projects and keeping a close eye on the weather as we approach the time for winter irrigation blowouts, which usually take place around Thanksgiving.

   Beginning the week of October 20th, Holmes Golf Course will transition to having only 9 holes open Monday through Saturday. This allows the irrigation crews to begin Phase 2 of the project,

which includes installing lateral lines on the tees, fairways, and greens. The crews will focus on two to three holes at a time during this phase. This will last for a few weeks. All 18 holes will be open on Sundays.

Monthly Rounds: September golf rounds remained steady compared to the previous year, with a total of 23,713 rounds of golf played. This figure came in 11.7% above the budgeted target, marking a good start to the new fiscal year for play. Occasional rainfall impacted rounds at times, overall participation was solid throughout the month.

Financial/CIP: $422,693 profit for operating income at the end of August 2025. With the $757,662 transfer added to the profit, a total of $1,525,376.02 is the overall profit for fiscal year 2024-2025. Golf operations profit from fiscal year 2023-2024 of $1,063,413 will be transferred into CIP for irrigation (Fund 409477) to pay for Holmes Irrigation Project.

5. Golf Organizations Updates:

   A. Lincoln Municipal Golf Association: Mike Calvert: Ended the year with 230 members and 12 associate members. Successful season.

   B. Lincoln Women's Municipal Golf Association: Sherrie Nelson: Alice Skultety will be the new President in 2026. Already setting up tournaments for next year.

   C. Lincoln Senior Golf League: Greg Bauer: Last event was at Eagle Hills. One more board meeting will be held in November and then no more meetings until January or February. Deciding on what types of tournaments to do for next year and voting on other items (yellow tees vs white tees).

6. Old Business: None.

7. New Business: Thank you to Todd Johnson (board member since 2018) and Becky Moyer for serving on the LMGAC.

   Year-end FY 24-25 Report: The 2024-2025 fiscal year wrapped up with record numbers. For the seventh year in a row, golfers turned out in force, creating one of the strongest years in the history of city golf. Golfers played 242,020 rounds this year, the highest number since 1997 and the second highest in the past 45 years.

   Every 18-hole course surpassed 52,000 rounds played, let by Pioneers Golf Course with 53,827 rounds, closely followed by Holmes, Mahoney, and Highlands. The nine-hole Jim Ager course added another 31,047 rounds. Golfers also rented 167,679 carts, a 4.37% increase from last year.

   Youth and beginner golfers: 21,315 rounds were played by junior golfers this year. 1,203 juniors participated in programs at Jim Ager, a 6.3% increase from last year. 117 adults joined Get Golf Ready, a 41% increase. 29 high school and college teams made Lincoln courses their home, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska Wesleyan, Doane, Concordia, and schools across the city.

   Course conditions: thanks to steady spring and summer rains, Lincoln courses enjoyed what superintendents call a "perfect summer" for turfgrass. With 781 acres under expert care, courses were in excellent condition all season long.

The Bald Eagles once again took up residence at Holmes Golf Course, near hole #13, with 2 baby eagles born in the spring. Worked with U.S.Fish and Wildlife Service to temporarily adjust play to protect the eaglets until mid-summer, when the hole returned to its normal route.

Roughly 225 employees keep the city's five courses running through the year. Staffing reaches its peak between April and September, when the golf season is in full swing, and demand is highest. Each 18-hole course is open 362 days a year, providing nearly 4,100 hours of public access annually.

Lincoln City Golf also made major strides in capital improvements, including the launch of the $1.998 million Holmes Irrigation Project in August. Other key investments included lawn irrigation work at Mahoney and continued payments on the Pioneers Irrigation bond with six payments left on the bond. Financially, Lincoln City Golf remains strong. Profits totaled $1.515 million this year, with more than $2.59 million of operation profits contributed to the golf capital improvement project fund over the past four years.

8. Staff Reports: Pioneers Golf Course Cart Path Project: Wade Foreman & Casey Crittenden. Back in July, started working with Olsson to design cart paths (replace/repair). Got bids back in August and Dax Construction's bid was selected, $393,000. Dax did a great job on the cart paths at Mahoney Golf Course. Highlands will be the next course for cart path work, probably will start working with Olsson on a plan soon.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Pam Hoffman, Office Specialist.

Next meeting Thursday, April 23, 2026 at noon.