

**MINUTES OF A BUDGET STUDY SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

March 21, 2018

PURSUANT to written notice given all members of the Board, the above meeting was called to order by President Murphy at 4:00 p.m.

Board members present: President Murphy, 1st Vice-President Jensen and Secretary Elliott
Board members absent: Treasurer Johnson and 2nd Vice-President White
Staff present: Director Marien, Shane Ravellette, Richie Wolf, Pam Smith

Comments from Audience: No comments.

New Business:

1. Budget Study Session:

Paul Marien walked the Board through the Budget book. He explained the Corporate Replacement Tax for new Board members. He commented that though the expenses were decreased by 22% from last budget year, the District would still incur a deficit. One of the major problems is the lack of grants available. Trustee Murphy suggested that Paul research Lumpkin Foundation as well as the Ulrich Foundation. Paul is still watching legislation in regard to the pending property freeze. There is a house bill on the IAPD platform to allow local government to invest funds up to three years instead of one year which would help the District earn more on their cash reserves.

He reviewed the difference between rental income and farm income. As per the auditor any revenue received for farming being managed by a farm manager is considered rental income instead of agriculture income. Large variances in income and expenses between the current budget year and the proposed budget were explained.

Several large capital projects were explained such as, updating the Sand Creek residence when it becomes unoccupied this summer, purchasing a new John Deer tractor replacing a Kubota tractor used at Fort Daniel Conservation Area, repair and replace some of the foundation and supporting beams of the Trobaugh-Good House, and seal coating Nearing Lane, Nature Center parking lot, oil and chipping project at Friends Creek and installing new creek crossings at Sand Creek Conservation Area.

Trustees complimented the staff on the great job of putting the budget together.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Trustee Elliott made a MOTION to adjourn the Budget Study Session at 5:03 p.m. Trustee Jensen SECONDED the motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

SECRETARY