

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
April 19, 2023**

PURSUANT to written notice given all members of the Board, the above meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Bendsen

Board members present: President Bendsen, 1st Vice President Castor, 2nd Vice President Schneller, Secretary Allen and Treasurer Reed.

Board Members absent: None

Trustee Schneller MOVED to approve the Minutes of the March 22, 2023, Public Meeting and the March 22, 2023 Budget Hearing. Trustee Castor SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Reed MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report and disbursements in the amount of \$175,009.10 and additions to disbursements in the amount of \$43,576.30 as presented. Trustee Allen SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Castor, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; and Trustee Schneller, "AYE". Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE:

No comments.

PRIOR BUSINESS

1. Application for Richie Wolf Memorial Scholarship

Discussed applicant requesting assistance using the Richie Wolf Memorial Scholarship for Summer Camp. Board members were in agreement to accept the application.

Trustee Schneller MOVED to approve the summer camp application for the Richie Wolf Memorial Scholarship. Trustee Castor SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; and Trustee Schneller, "AYE". Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Purchase approval for a mower and a F150 Truck:

Director of Operation presented information related to the replacement of the 2013 Ford f150 used by Rock Springs Operations staff. Director of Operations explained that the f150 state bid and cooperative purchase bid will not be available at the earliest summer of 2024, and he has had conversations with other organizations the vehicles are getting harder to replace, some of the organization are behind by 4 or 5 vehicles. Many of the dealerships in central Illinois have replacement vehicles at government prices just not state bid, but are sold before we can put together a bid process to acquire the vehicle. Staff contacted the District Legal Counsel and they commented that they are seeing this supply chain issue from many organization and recommended we approve purchasing the vehicles from the dealerships at government

pricing his year and hopefully by next year the supply chain issues are resolved. A proposal was presented from Landmark Ford in the amount of \$50,270.26 for the purchase of the 2023 f150. Director Julius explained that in the time frame between preparing his memo and the board meeting the f150 that he received a quote on had been sold, but he located another F150 that had the same specification, but was less expensive, so he presented a new memo with a new quote at a price of \$47,956.76. The budget for the vehicle was \$45,000, but the difference would be made up in the sale of the existing F150.

Trustee Reed asked the question whether staff checked locally for the vehicle. Staff responded and said they check the dealers in central Illinois that typically have state bid vehicles or are part of a cooperative purchase program and have government pricing.

Director of Operation presented information related to the replacement of a 2014 Toro zero turn mower, the mow has reached its useful life and is in need of replacement. A state bid proposal from John Deere through Sloan Implement for the replacement of was presented in the amount of \$15,777.76.

Trustee Reed MOVED to approve the purchase of the 2023 Ford F-150 Truck through Landmark Ford in the amount of \$50,720.26 Trustee Allen SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Reed MOVED to approve the purchase of the 2023 John Deere Z994R mower in the amount of \$15,777.76 from Sloan Implement as presented. Trustee Castor SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

2. Purchase Approval for Program Services Van:

Director Culp presented a proposal from Bob Ridings ford for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Transit to replace the existing 2008 Honda Odyssey mini-van. The current van has been on the replacement list for over three years now and with supply chain issue the District has not been able to replace the vehicle. In September of 2022 the board approved the purchase of a Ford Transit through Source well the cooperative purchasing program, but the latest update is they are not sure when it will go into manufacturing and Ford is going to discontinue manufacturing of the this model of the Ford Transit. Director Culp called around to the local dealers in central Illinois and found a Ford Transit that is scheduled to be delivered in May of 2023 and received a proposal from Bob Ridings in the amount of \$40,943.00. The budget for the van was \$37,000, but staff feels that the sale of the existing van will make up the difference and requested the board approve the purchase of the Ford Transit from Bob Ridings Ford in the amount of \$40,943.00

Trustee Allen MOVED to approve the purchase of the 2023 Ford Transit Connect Wagon through Bob Ridings Ford in the amount of \$40,943.00. Trustee Reed SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Bendsen, "AYE" Trustee Castor, "Aye"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; and Trustee Reed, "AYE". Motion carried.

3. Approval of surplus property disposal – F250 Truck:

The Board discussed whether to auction or sell outright and a decision was made to declare the truck surplus and sell at auction.

Trustee Castor MOVED to approve declaring the 2011 Ford F-250 truck as surplus property and allow the District to sell the unit at auction. Trustee Allen SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; Trustee Castor "AYE"; and Trustee Schneller, "AYE". Motion carried.

4. Approval of Resolution for Transfer of funds:

Director Culp explained the process that the new Capital Fund is funded by the Corporate Fund and that the transfer of funds to the Capital Fund would happen at the end of each fiscal year to account for all actual expenses being spent out of that fund. The resolution that is presented is to approve the transfer of those funds from the Corporate Fund to the Capital Fund.

Trustee Reed MOVED to approve the Resolution of the permanent transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Capital Fund. Trustee Allen SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; and Trustee Schneller, "AYE". Motion carried.

5. Resolution approval of Penhallegon Farmstead:

Director Culp presented a resolution to the board for the acquisition of the Penhallegon Farmstead. The farmstead acquisition was intentionally removed from the purchase of the balance of the land because the grant the District received would not provide grant funds to acquire property with structures on it. Director Culp explained that this is just finalizing the agreement to purchase all of the Penhallegon property and the resolution being approved is for the 6.37 acre farmstead.

Trustee Schneller MOVED to approve the Resolution for the purchase of Pat Penhallegon Farmstead. Trustee Castor SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; and Trustee Castor "AYE". Motion carried.

6. Review of lower level office space remodel and outdoor classroom:

Director Culp presented plans to the board of Trustees related to the development of and indoor/outdoor classroom space that is being proposed on the first floor of the Rock Springs Nature Center in the location where the old offices were located. The plan included the relocation of the staff offices to the main floor of the Nature Center to create a better interaction between staff and the visitors. This will free up space on the lower level of the Nature Center to create a space that include a transition of program and classroom space to the outdoors, creating an outdoor classroom space on the east end of the building. Director Culp explained that a grant

opportunity through the IDNR will be available for this project and will bring it back for approval to write the grant.

7. Set Annual Meeting Dates:

The Board approved the following annual meeting dates:

MEETING DATES

MAY 2023 – APRIL 2024

All meetings will be held the third Wednesday of the month at the Rock Springs Nature Center at 5:30 p.m. unless otherwise specified or notified.

2023

May 17 Wednesday

June 21, Wednesday

July 19, Wednesday

August 16, Wednesday

September 20, Wednesday

October 18, Wednesday

November 15, Wednesday

December 20, Wednesday

2024

January 17, Wednesday

February 21, Wednesday

March 27, Wednesday

(4th Wednesday to accommodate budget on review for 30 days)

April 17, Wednesday

Trustee Allen MOVED to approve the Meeting Schedule for May 2023 through April 2024. Trustee Schneller SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

8. Annual Depositories approval:

Raymond James was added to the list of depositories as a possibility of investing with them at a higher interest rate. Raymond James has a partnership with Hickory Point Bank. The Board reviewed and approved the following depositories

DEPOSITORIES FOR APRIL 21, 2023 – April 20, 2024

Hickory Point Bank

Gerber State Bank

Regions Bank

PNC Bank

Busey Bank

Scott State Bank

The Illinois Funds

Town & Country Bank
First Mid Bank and Trust
Prairie State Bank & Trust
Buena Vista National Bank
Peoples Bank of Macon
First National Bank of Pana
Commerce Bank
1st Mid America Credit Union
Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund
Raymond James

Trustee Reed MOVED to approve the Annual Depositories from April 21, 2023 through April 20, 2024. Trustee Castor SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

9. Staff Reports:

Staff highlighted the information in their reports but submitted them as written and asked if the board had any questions.

10. Other

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES: No comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Trustee Allen MOVED to go into Executive Session at 6:48 p.m. for the purpose of

- 1. Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (21)**

Trustee Schneller SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; and Trustee Reed, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Reed MOVED to return to the Regular Public Meeting at 6:54 p.m. Trustee Castor SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Castor MOVED to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 19, 2023. Trustee Schneller SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Castor, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; and Trustee Schneller, "AYE". Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Trustee Reed MOVED to adjourn the Public Meeting at 6:56 p.m. Trustee Schneller SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Reed, "AYE"; Trustee Allen, "AYE"; Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; and Trustee Castor "AYE". Motion carried.


Secretary


President