

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
April 22, 2020**

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

Board members present: President Parish, Secretary Johnson, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Bendsen

Board members present remotely: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President White and Treasurer Schneller

Trustee Johnson MOVED to approve the Minutes of the March 18th, 2020, Regular Public Meeting and the March 18, 2020 Special Budget Study Session as presented. Trustee Bendsen SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Johnson, "AYE"; and Trustee White, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Bendsen MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report and disbursements in the amount of \$ 48,225.41 and additions to disbursements in the amount of \$17, 971.05 as presented. Trustee White SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Johnson, "AYE"; Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee White, "AYE"; and Trustee Parish, "AYE". Motion carried.

**COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE:** No audience.

**PRIOR BUSINESS:**

**1. Grove Branch Proposal**

Richie Wolf reported that there was nothing new to report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Approve FY 2021 Budget Ordinance & Appropriation:**

The FY2021 Budget Ordinance & Appropriation was reviewed during the scheduled public hearing with no changes to the ordinance being recommended. No further comments were made.

Trustee Johnson MOVED to approve the FY2021 Budget Ordinance and Appropriation as presented. Trustee White SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee White, "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; and Trustee Johnson, "AYE"; Motion carried.

**2. Set Annual Meeting Schedule:**

An annual meeting schedule was presented to the Board with one change being made. Instead of approving the Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance in March, it was moved to February, moving the March 2021 meeting to the fourth Wednesday instead of the third Wednesday.

**MEETING DATES  
MAY 2020 – APRIL 2021**

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.

**2020**

May 20, Wednesday  
June 17, Wednesday  
July 15, Wednesday  
August 19, Wednesday  
September 16, Wednesday  
October 21, Wednesday  
November 18, Wednesday  
December 16, Wednesday

**2021**

January 20, Wednesday  
February 17, Wednesday  
March 24, Wednesday  
*(4th Wednesday to accommodate budget on review for 30 days)*  
April 21, Wednesday

Trustee Johnson MOVED to move approve the Annual Meeting Schedule as presented. Trustee White SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Johnson, "AYE"; Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; and Trustee White, "AYE". Motion carried.

**3. Authorize Depositories:**

The list of authorized depositories was presented to the Board with no new changes as noted below:

**MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
DEPOSITORIES FOR APRIL 22, 2020 – April 21, 2021**

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  
1<sup>st</sup> Mid America Credit Union

Trustee Bendsen MOVED to move approve the authorization of the annual depositories as presented. Trustee Johnson SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee White, “AYE”; Trustee Schneller, “AYE”; Trustee Parish, “AYE”; Trustee Bendsen, “AYE”; and Trustee Johnson, “AYE”. Motion carried.

**4. Signature Resolution:**

The new signatory resolution was presented removing Darrel Parish and adding Nina Bendsen.

**Macon County Conservation District  
Signatories Resolution  
April 22, 2020 – April 21, 2021**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Macon County Conservation District that Doug Johnson, Secretary; David White, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President; Karen Schneller, Treasurer; Nine Bendsen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, and Richie Wolf, Executive Director, be authorized to endorse all checks and depositories for the Macon County Conservation District for all the District funds at all applicable banks, effective April 22, 2020.

Trustee Bendsen MOVED to approve the 2020-2021 signatories as presented. Trustee Johnson SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Bendsen, “AYE”; Trustee Schneller, “AYE”; Trustee Parish, “AYE”; Trustee White, “AYE”; and Trustee Johnson, “AYE”. Motion carried.

**5. Staff Reports:**

Richie Wolf gave a brief update reporting that IPARKs was sending a check for approximately \$6500.00 for COVID -19 relief. The American Bloom was canceled. A letter was received from Bill Faber recommending that the riding trails be closed during this pandemic due to social distancing. Richie Wolf responded to his request stating that all Conservation areas will remain open as permitted by the Governor's current order. Trustee Bendsen agreed that it was a great decision to keep the areas open for the public and likes seeing tax payers enjoying the areas.

**6. Other:**

Richie Wolf discussed the opening of the Friends Creek Campground as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, when the current Governor's executive order ends. Richie said that the washroom would not be open for public use as most campers have their own facilities and the campground has water and a dump station. After some discussion, the Board recommended that Richie follow the governor's orders and check with the District's attorney and the Governor's office if the executive order is not lifted May 1<sup>st</sup> before opening the campground. Richie also brought to their attention that Summer Camp begins June 1<sup>st</sup> and he will wait until the Governor makes an announcement whether to extend the executive order nor not before making a decision whether to cancel the camp or to hold it.

**COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES:**

Trustee White reported that a patron had complained to him about the number of groups walking the bike trail and being disrespectful to bicyclists by not moving over and using profanities when they passed by them. Richie Wolf suggested that the best advice to give is for patrons to call the Sheriff's office.

Trustee White also asked if there was any update on the FOIA request and Richie reported that there had been no more news and the 60 day time period to appeal had passed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Trustee Johnson MOVED to go into Executive Session at 5:40 p.m. for the purpose of

1). The selection of a person to fill a public office, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (3)

2). 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 Bendsen SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Johnson, "AYE"; Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee White, "AYE"; and Trustee Parish, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Bendsen MOVED to return to the Regular Public Meeting at 5:47 p.m. Trustee Johnson SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee White, "AYE"; Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; and Trustee Johnson, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee White MOVED to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 22, 2020. Trustee Johnson SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee White, "AYE"; Trustee Johnson, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Johnson MOVED to approve the nomination of Dave Castor to be Bendsen SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Johnson, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; and Trustee White, "AYE". Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Trustee Johnson MOVED to adjourn the Regular Public Meeting at 5:55 p.m. Trustee Bendsen SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee White, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Johnson, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE"; Motion carried.



\_\_\_\_\_  
President

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary