

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
July 17, 2019**

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 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: President Parish, Treasurer Schneller, and 2nd Vice-President Bendsen

Board members absent: Secretary Johnson and 1st Vice-President White

Trustee Schneller MOVED to approve the Minutes of the June 19, 2019, Public Meeting and July 9, 2019 Special Meeting as presented. Trustee Bendsen SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Bendsen MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report and disbursements in the amount of \$119,677.93, and additions to disbursements in the amount of \$98,551.73 as presented. Trustee Schneller SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: No comments

PRIOR BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Appoint Foundation Liaison:

Paul Marien explained that it had been customary for the new Trustee to serve as the liaison to the Macon County Conservation Foundation Board. This helped familiarize the new trustee to the functions and purpose of the Conservation Foundation. Trustee Schneller has been serving in this role. Trustee Bendsen said she would be happy to serve in that new role. Given such short notice, Trustee Schneller will attend the Foundation meeting scheduled for tomorrow (Thursday, July 18, 2019).

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve Trustee Bendsen as the new liaison to the Foundation Board. Trustee Schneller SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

2. Appoint IACD Liaison:

This is a volunteer position to serve as the Liaison to the Illinois Association of Conservation Districts (IACD). The IACD consists of three Conservation Districts and several Forest Preserve Districts. The Association meets four times a year and is usually an all-day affair leaving early in the morning to travel to Starved Rock State Park. Trustee Jensen had volunteered to be the liaison for the past few years. Trustee

Schneller volunteered to serve in this role. The next scheduled IACD meeting is for July 25, 2019 leaving at 7:00 a.m.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve appointing Trustee Schneller as the new IACD Liaison. Trustee Bendsen SECONDED the motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

3. Set Trustee Tour Date:

Paul Marien explained that annually in July, the Board begins looking for a date to conduct a District tour. Last year this tour took place sometime in October. The tour usually begins around 8:00 a.m. at Rock Springs Nature Center and ends back at the Center around 2:30. After some discussion, all were in agreement that October would be a good month for the tour but preferred to wait on selecting a date until there was a full board to make the decision. Paul will put the Trustee tour on the agenda for August.

4. Bid award for Volunteer and Bus Parking Paving

An invitation for bids to install asphalt on the South Drive of the Nature Center was published in a local newspaper. Only one company, Dunn Company, responded to the bid. They submitted a bid of \$32,463.00 which is within the projected budget for the project. Staff recommends approving Dunn Company who will begin the project in August. Staff have always been happy with the work of Dunn Company.

Trustee Schneller MOVED to approve awarding the asphalt paving of the South Drive of the Rock Springs Nature Center to Dunn Company for \$32,463.00. Trustee Bendsen SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

5. Staff Reports:

Pam Smith gave a brief summary of the results of a minimum wage salary survey conducted by the Champaign County Forest Preserve. The general consensus was the new minimum wage would cause hardship and possibly mean reducing staff hours and eliminating positions. A one-year certificate of deposit held with Scott State bank which matured July 1st was renewed for another 12 months at the interest rate of 2.05%. The District received a personal property replacement tax payment in the amount of \$25,839.24.

Richie Wolf reported that the fishing trip was a success with ten participates at \$465.00 per participant. Summer camp is well underway with all new staff on board. The program is now into week 7 with three more weeks to go. The enrollment has been steady and above average. The next Summer Concert will be held this Sunday, July 21st with the group, "Swtichback."

Paul Marien reported that staff are in the middle of Prairie Pedal planning: Richland Community College will be preparing the chili, musician has been secured, route has been determined (north route), and raffle ticket prize purchased with raffle tickets going on sale tomorrow. He reported that the sponsorships are lower than where they were at this time last year. The Izaak Walton League once again donated \$500.00 to the Foundation to help fund the Natural Resource Intern. Paul participated

in a joint purchasing meeting with several local organizations to research cost savings and the pooling together of agencies.

Shane Ravellette gave an update on various projects. The sidewalk was extended in the volunteer parking lot as well as the landing area in the bus parking lot. This work was done in-house. The wildlife observation deck at Friends Creek is almost completed. Sand Creek Conservation Area has continued to battle with the wet north end area. Natural Resources has been busy spraying invasive species.

6. Other:

No other business

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES:

No comments from the Trustees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Trustee Schneller MOVED to go into Executive Session at 5:51 p.m. for the purpose of

1. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (5))

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

Trustee Schneller MOVED to return to the Regular Public Meeting at 6:10 p.m. Trustee Bendsen SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Schneller, "AYE"; and Trustee Bendsen, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Bendsen MOVED to approve the Executive Session Minutes of July 17, 2019. Trustee Schneller SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Trustee Schneller MOVED to adjourn the Regular Public Meeting at 6:11 p.m. Trustee Bendsen SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.



President

ATTEST:



Secretary