

**Journal of Proceedings**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT**  
**Thursday, January 19, 2006**  
**Golf Course Clubhouse, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois**

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing, Thursday, January 19, 2006 at the Golf Course Clubhouse, Mahomet, Illinois. President Toalson called the Public Hearing to order at 5:52 p.m., and asked the Secretary, Commissioner Wene, to call the roll. Roll was taken with the following commissioners present: Green, Herricks, Toalson, Wene, and Zehr.

**RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL TO SELL BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING VARIOUS ITEMS OF FOREST PRESERVE DEVELOPMENT AND REPAIRS, REPLACEMENT AND REMODELING OF EXISTING FACILITIES, AND RELATED FACILITIES, IMPROVEMENTS AND COSTS.**

There were no comments from the public.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Wene moved to close the Public Hearing at 5:53 p.m. Commissioner Green seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

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Ruth Wene, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners  
Champaign County Forest Preserve District

**Journal of Proceedings**  
**REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT**  
**Thursday, January 19, 2006**

**Golf Course Clubhouse, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois**

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting, Thursday, January 19, 2006 at the Golf Course Clubhouse, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois. President Toalson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked the Secretary, Commissioner Wene, to call the roll. Roll was taken with the following commissioners present: Green, Herricks, Toalson, Wene and Zehr.

**AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

Commissioner Wene requested that the approval of the minutes of the Facilities Committee Meeting from January 5, 2006 be removed from the agenda.

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY**

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 1, 2005; Special Meetings of December 6, 2005; the Personnel Committee Meeting of December 6, 2005; the Public Hearing of December 15, 2005; the Special Meeting of December 15, 2005; the Regular Meeting of December 15, 2005; and the Special Meeting of December 22, 2005. Commissioner Wene moved for approval. Commissioner Herricks seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

Commissioner Wene moved to accept the Executive Session Minutes of the following meetings: November 17, 2005, December 1, 2005, December 6, 2005, December 15, 2005 and December 22, 2005. Commissioner Zehr seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

Commissioner Zehr moved that the Board approve payment of checks #74644 through #74897 dated December 12, 2005 through January 13, 2006 including wire transfers for payment of FED/FICA/state & sales taxes for a total of \$222,337.42 excepting from that void checks #72054 and #74769 through #74773. Commissioner Herricks seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

Commissioner Zehr gave the Treasurer's Report for December 2005. There were no outstanding bonds. As of December 31, 2005, the investments of the District totaled \$3,028,921.14 with cash available totaling \$11,269.45. Income for the month totaled \$97,917.42 and expenses totaled \$399,229.32. Commissioner Zehr moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2005. Commissioner Green seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

**REMARKS AND/OR INPUT FROM THE AUDIENCE**

None.

**REMARKS AND/OR INPUT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS**

President Toalson gave an update on the Executive Director search noting that the field had been narrowed to three candidates and the Board was currently in the interview process.

**REPORT OF THE BOARD COMMITTEES**

**1. Facilities Committee**

Commissioner Herricks reviewed the Facilities Committee report from the January meeting noting action items and discussion items. The following arose from the Report of the Facilities Committee:

- What is the cost estimate for the greens mowers (GC)? Roughly \$42,000 total for both mowers.
- What were the highlights of the proposed changes to the no-mow areas (LOW)? Staff reported considerable negative feedback from the public; current no-mow areas are beyond the realm of the staff's capabilities for proper care and nurturing of a true restoration; signage providing education on proper restoration was needed; current areas pose health and safety issues; and the potential for volunteer care area projects.

## **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**January 19, 2006**

**Page 2 of 3**

### **REPORT OF THE BOARD COMMITTEES(cont.)**

#### **1. Facilities Committee (cont.)**

- Update on possibility of a donated pavilion on the west side of the Dowell property - Staff voiced concerns about the location as it would be more susceptible to vandalism and lack of sanitary infrastructure. Commissioner Wene voiced concerns about the purpose of that parcel of land as dictated by the District's Master Plan. President Toalson suggested that the Master Plan be reviewed and that staff develop a list of pros and cons to be presented to the Board including information from the acquisition of the property. It was also suggested that staff see if the pavilion could be placed on the east side of the property.

Commissioner Herricks moved that staff proceed with the bid process for the purchase of a back hoe for Middle Fork. Commissioner Green seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

#### **2. Personnel Committee**

Commissioner Wene said that the committee activity had been in written minute form and was included in the Board information.

### **REPORT OF THE STAFF**

President Toalson asked about the decrease in the Museum Friends donation monies. Museum Director Cheryl Kennedy explained that different avenues of marketing had been attempted last year and that the museum staff was currently working on new strategies for increasing donations as well as gift shop revenue.

There was discussion regarding volunteers using power equipment. President Toalson asked if PDRMA had a policy regarding such use. Staff said PDRMA suggested that volunteers sign waivers as well as be provided with proper equipment training. Commissioner Wene asked about the validity of a waiver. Legal Counsel Matt Deering advised waivers could be challenged on the base of defining "proper training". The Board expressed safety concerns with volunteer as well as teenage use of power equipment and suggested this matter be further studied.

In addition to written reports included in the Board packets, staff provided activity summaries for the following departments: 1. Planning; 2. Construction; 3. Natural Resources and Forestry; 4. Botanical Garden; 5. Early American Museum; 6. Environmental Education; 7. Public Relations; 8. Volunteers; 9. Administration; 10. Hartwell C. Howard Golf Course; 11. Lake of the Woods/River Bend Forest Preserves; 12. Middle Fork River Forest Preserve and 13. Homer Lake Forest Preserve. Commissioner Wene moved to accept the staff reports. Commissioner Zehr seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried. These reports are available in their entirety at District Headquarters and on the District website at [www.ccfpd.org](http://www.ccfpd.org).

### **REPORT OF THE CCFPD FOUNDATION BOARD**

Foundation Vice President Eric Robeson reviewed recent Foundation activities including: review of the 2005 marketing efforts which included two mailings and cable television awareness spots; Foundation Gift Book; and the Foundation's potential role in the proposed CSX Trail.

### **REPORT OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Planning Director Sally Prunty said the committee had discussed the Outreach and Floraculture subcommittee activities.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **1. Master Plan Update**

Planning Director Sally Prunty said staff had met with the consultants to review the semifinal version of the Master Plan, which would be presented to the Board in February.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Approve 2006 Meeting Schedule**

Commissioner Wene moved the Board approve the 2006 Regular Meeting Schedule as presented in the CCFPD Board packets. Commissioner Zehr seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**January 19, 2006**

**Page 3 of 3**

**NEW BUSINESS (cont.)**

**2. Salt Fork River Gaging Station**

Commissioner Zehr moved the Board approve the 2006 agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) for operational costs of a streamflow gaging station on the Salt Fork River in the amount \$11,700.00. Commissioner Wene seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried. Commissioner Herricks abstained from voting because of his professional association in this matter.

Commissioner Zehr moved to amend the aforementioned motion to include that the amount would be “not-to-exceed \$11,700.00” and that this would be the final year of agreement with the USGS on this matter. Commissioner Green seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following commissioners voting “yes”: Green, Toalson, Wene and Zehr. Commissioner Herricks abstained from voting. Motion carried.

**3. Public Museum Operations Grant**

Commissioner Herricks moved to approve the overall expenditure of \$196,400.00 for completion of the Public Museum Operations Grant and this expenditure be guided by the following itemized cost structure and schedule presented by staff: Roof Replacement \$26,300 (Spring 06); Basement HVAC System \$18,800 (Spring/Fall 06); Masonry Repair and Basement Windows \$12,000 (Summer 06); Entrance Ramps/Entry/Exit-East Side \$92,000 (Summer 06); Electrical Upgrades \$14,900 (06-07); Washroom ADA Compliance \$15,600 (October/November 06); Basement Sump Pump \$3,500 (November 06 – March 07); Waterproof Interior Basement Foundation \$3,300 (November 06 – March 07); and Funding for Gutters, Drain, Tile, Insulation, Professional Fees, Misc. \$10,000. The projected project completion should be in March 2007 and filing for reimbursement from IDNR in April 2007. Any overage in the above mentioned cost structure would be brought back to the Board for approval and additionally the President would sign bid contracts. Commissioner Green seconded. Commissioner Herricks explained the purpose of this overall acceptance of the expenditure, according to the itemized cost structure, was to increase the efficiency of the process of the project. President Toalson asked if this method would be legally sound. Legal Counsel Matt Deering advised that it was, as it was a blanket approval and subject to limitations. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Wene made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Green seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

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Ruth Wene, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners  
Champaign County Forest Preserve District