

**Journal of Proceedings**  
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
Thursday, February 20, 2020  
Champaign Public Library, Robeson Pavilion Room B  
200 W. Green Street, Champaign, Illinois

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at the Champaign Public Library, Robeson Pavilion Room B, 200 W. Green Street, Champaign, Illinois. Commissioner Livesay called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Commissioner Kerins called the roll. The following Commissioners were present: Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Commissioner Herakovich was absent with notice. Commissioner Goodman arrived at 6:38 pm.

**REMOTE ATTENDANCE** – None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**AGENDA MODIFICATIONS** – None

**PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Report of Breeding Birds on District Sites**

Beth Chato, representing the Champaign County Audubon Society, gave a verbal report of the 2019 District Bird Count. Ms. Chato reported breeding bird counts for all preserves and presented the Board with a copy of the report. Commissioners thanked Ms. Chato for her work and the efforts of the local Audubon Society in tracking and reporting bird species sighted at the preserves each year.

**B. Community Service Award**

District Grants Coordinator, Jarrod Scheunemann, presented David Leake and the Champaign Urbana Astronomical Society an IPRA Community Service Award for their role in helping the District secure the International Dark Sky Park designation at Middle Fork River Forest Preserve.

**C. Resolution 2020-01 District Service Award**

Commissioner Livesay read Resolution 2020-01 honoring District Special Projects Coordinator, Tom Pike, for his 40 years of service with the District and his upcoming retirement, and presented him with a framed award for his years of service with the District. Commissioners thanked Pike for his work at the District and wished him well in his retirement.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on January 16, 2020
- B. Minutes of Executive Session on January 16, 2020
- C. Monthly Staff Reports

Commissioner Kerins made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Hays seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

### **COMMISSIONERS REPORT**

#### **A. Forest Preserve Friends Foundation**

Commissioner Livesay noted the group met this past Wednesday and that the time was spent brainstorming fundraising ideas, sources and contacts.

#### **B. Citizens Advisory Committee**

Commissioner Hays reported that the full committee did not meet, but that new members had an orientation session with admin staff to gain an overview of the District and CAC goals, and that the Tomlinson subcommittee had a working meeting with museum, Middle Fork, and HQ staff. Hays also noted that CAC member Greg Walburg will work with the District sustainability committee.

#### **C. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Kerins noted he had recently attended the IAPD/IPRA Annual Conference, during which he had attended the annual meeting of the Conservation and Forest Preserve Districts and had gotten updates on legal and legislative issues in our field. Kerins also commended staff for their attendance at recent job fairs including those at middle schools, noting it was an excellent way to build for the future.

Commissioner Hays expressed his displeasure at the recent court ruling approving the property tax exemption for Carle Foundation Hospital for tax years 2005 to 2011. The District will owe more than \$156,000 in back taxes as a result of the ruling.

Commissioner Livesay commended the drainage work at Homer Lake, noting it had been long awaited and will make the preserve more accessible during and after heavy rains. Livesay also commended Finance Director, John Baker, for his appointment to the IPRA Finance Committee.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

**A. Community Engagement:** Wuellner noted she had nothing to add to her written report.

**B. Announcements:** Wuellner also noted recent retirements at the District including Betty Strom and Brian Decker, congratulated Mary Beck for her recent Champaign County United Way Campaign Coordinator award. Wuellner also noted the upcoming Legislative Breakfast that will be held at Lake of the Woods on March 10<sup>th</sup>, the recent purchase and closing of land near Old Homer Park, commended the CU Astronomical Society on their work with the District, and thanked Scheunemann for submitting the nomination to IPRA for the CUAS award.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Disbursements for Approval**

Commissioner Hays moved to approve the payment of \$232,558.04 in disbursements dated January 17, 2020 through February 20, 2020. Commissioner Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**B. January Treasurer’s Report**

Commissioner Kerins moved to approve the January 2020 Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner Hays seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

**C. Resolution 2020-02 Investment Policy**

Commissioner Hays moved to adopt Resolution 2020-02 Investment Policy. Commissioner Kerins seconded. Baker gave the background of the policy and noted the addition of sustainable investment criteria. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**D. Resolution 2020-03 East Mahomet TIF Extension**

Commissioner Kerins moved to adopt Resolution 2020-03 East Mahomet TIF Extension. Commissioner Hays seconded. Baker gave an overview of the eleven year extension request. Private investment now taking place in the TIF district will add revenue to the District in time. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**E. Resolution 2020-04 ITEP Agreement – KRT Amenities**

Commissioner Kerins moved to adopt Resolution 2020-04 approving the funding agreement for design engineering of the amenities on the Kickapoo Rail Trail, from Main Street, Urbana to Seventh Street, St Joseph, in an amount not to exceed \$33,800. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 2019-03. Commissioner Goodman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**F. Executive Director 2020 Compensation**

Commissioner Kerins moved to approve an increase to the Executive Director’s 2020 Compensation in the amount of \$3,090.00, retroactive to January 1, 2020. Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**G. Golf Course Greens Mower**

Commissioner Hays moved approval of the purchase of a 2019 Jacobsen Greens King IV mower for Twenty-One Thousand, Nine Hundred Eighty Seven Dollars and Zero Cents (\$21,987.00) through Burriss Equipment, Joliet, Illinois. Commissioner Goodman seconded. A roll call vote

was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**H. Golf Course Aerator**

Commissioner Goodman moved approval of the purchase of a 2019 Redexim Verti-Drain 2216 Aerator for a net amount (after trade-in) of Twenty-three Thousand, Three Hundred and Nine Dollars and Zero Cents (\$23,309.00) through Redexim Turf Products, Valley Park, Missouri. Commissioner Kerins seconded. Wuellner advised the Redexim was the only vendor that provided a proposal that met the aerator specifications. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**I. Middle Fork River Shelters**

Commissioner Hays moved approval of the proposal for the construction (materials and labor) of two shelters at the Middle Fork River Forest Preserve from Duce Construction for Eighty-One Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$81,870.00). Commissioner Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**J. Middle Fork John Deere Gator**

Commissioner Hays moved approval of the purchase of a John Deere Gator XUV835M from Arends Hogan Walker of Urbana for Nineteen Thousand, Nine Hundred, and Ninety –Nine Dollars and Zero Cents (\$19,999.00). Commissioner Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**K. Natural Resources Polaris Ranger**

Commissioner Kerins moved approval of the purchase of a 2020 Polaris Ranger XP 1000 for Nineteen Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty Three Dollars and Zero Cents (\$19,983.00). Commissioner Goodman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**L. Lake of the Woods Peninsula Floating Dock**

Commissioner Goodman moved approval of the proposal for the Floating Dock Installation (Materials and Labor) at Lake of the Woods Peninsula from G&H Marine for Eighty-Nine Thousand, Three Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$89,360.00). Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Kerins moved at 7:02 pm to convene to Executive Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically section 2(c)5: The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular

parcel should be acquired and 2(c)21 discussion of minutes of meeting 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. Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

Executive Session was closed and Regular Session was re-opened at 8:12 pm.

**OPEN SESSION**

**A. Release of Executive Session Minutes**

Commissioner Kerins moved that the Board had conducted the required semi-annual review of the unreleased minutes of past executive sessions and concluded that the need for confidentiality still exists for all unreleased minutes and portions of minutes, except for the following which will be made available for public inspection at this time:

June 16, 2016 (all previously unreleased ¶¶), June 22, 2017, October 18, 2016, December 20, 2018 ¶3 (¶¶ 1 and 2 remain unreleased), March 21, 2019 (previously unreleased ¶¶ under 2(c)21 beginning “Director Wuellner reviewed...”), May 23, 2019 (except ¶ under 2 (c)1 beginning “Wuellner provided and update...”), August 15, 2019 (except ¶1 and attached 2 page memorandum related to), September 19, 2019 (except ¶1), November 14, 2019 (except ¶¶1,2 and 3), December 5, 2019 (except ¶¶1&2), January 8, 2020, January 16, 2020 (except ¶1). Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**B. Destruction of Verbatim Recordings of executive Session Minutes**

Commissioner Kerins moved that the Board concluded it is appropriate and therefore authorizes the destruction of existing recordings of executive session held on or before August 20, 2018. Commissioner Goodman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Kerins made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:13 pm. Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

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Andrew Kerins, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners  
Champaign County Forest Preserve District