

Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
Thursday, January 16, 2020
Education Classroom, Museum of the Grand Prairie
Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at the Museum of the Grand Prairie, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois. Commissioner Livesay called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Commissioner Kerins called the roll. The following Commissioners were present: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS - None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Public Hearing (Bond) on December 19, 2019
- B. Minutes of Public Hearing (Budget & Appropriations) on December 19, 2019
- C. Minutes of Regular Meeting on December 19, 2019
- D. Minutes of Executive Session on December 19, 2019
- E. Minutes of Special Meeting on January 8, 2020
- F. Minutes of Executive Session on January 8, 2020
- G. Monthly Staff Reports

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

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

A. Forest Preserve Friends Foundation

Commissioner Livesay noted the group met this past Wednesday. Livesay said they are now meeting the first Wednesday of the month, which is a change for 2020, to try to accommodate members with scheduling conflicts. Livesay also reported the group discussed foundation strategic planning and the proposal to consider a dedicated development director, as the group is seeking to become more active in its fundraising initiatives and setting benchmarks to hold themselves accountable.

B. Citizens Advisory Committee

Commissioner Hays reported he had been unable to attend the last meeting, but had a report from the group. Hays noted the group had met and the three recently appointed members were in attendance. Hays also noted that Greg Walberg would now be a liaison to the District sustainability committee, and that a summary of 2019 outreach events included 20 events and over 175 hours of volunteer time, which were both increases from 2018.

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Goodman commended staff for the recent installation of the solar flag pole lighting at Lake of the Woods and supplying information about the District's partnership with chambanamons.com. Goodman thanked John Baker and finance staff for their work on the audit preparation and the golf staff for year-end information and results. In response to a question from Goodman about the date change for the triathlon from September to May, Wuellner noted it allowed for more time between our event and the Illini Triathlon and was also a result of the sponsor company's scheduling conflicts.

Commissioner Hays commended staff on the increase in annual social media numbers, Natural Resources staff photos on social media, and the recent IDOT installation of the Dark Sky Park highway signage for Middle Fork.

Commissioner Kerins echoed Goodman's appreciation to golf staff for their work over the past year and thanked the finance department for 2019 financial reporting. Kerins also asked about the recent placement of picnic tables in St. Joseph along on the KRT. Staff noted the current placement is temporary, as they are still waiting on approval of the IDOT amenities grant contract to begin final placement of all features along the first phase of the KRT.

Commissioner Herakovich echoed appreciation to staff for the installation of the solar lit flag poles, the work of the sustainability committee, and finance staff's work on the District and Foundation audit. Herakovich also confirmed with staff that high-speed internet had indeed been installed at Homer Lake. Staff noted that they continue to work with the District IT supplier to get things running at full speed.

Commissioner Livesay thanked staff for providing updates of the Community Engagement Committee's work, garden staff's photos of the Koi fish, information regarding Brian Decker's upcoming retirement, the Natural Resources Department partnering with Piatt County Habitat for Humanity to deliver downed trees for their fundraising project. Livesay also noted golf staff's social media post welcoming Stone Creek golfers to the Lake of the Woods Golf Course.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Announcements: Wuellner introduced Peter Goodspeed, and reported he was recently named the new CCFPD Natural Resources Director. Wuellner also noted Tom Pike, District Special Projects Assistant, is retiring from the District in February and she had asked him to attend the February Board meeting. Planning Director, Mike Daab, also congratulated Goodspeed on being named the NR Director.

DISCUSSION ITEMS - None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Disbursements for Approval

Commissioner Goodman moved to approve the payment of \$349,171.85 in disbursements dated December 20, 2019 through January 16, 2020. Commissioner Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

B. December Treasurer’s Report

Commissioner Goodman moved to approve the December 2019 Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner Kerins seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

C. Ordinance 2020-01 Issuance of 2020 Series General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve the issuance of \$308,800 in Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds, Series 2020, of the District, for the purpose of paying costs of maintaining forest preserve lands and facilities in and for said District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the corporate fund of the District. Commissioner Kerins seconded. Finance Director, John Baker, gave a review of the document. Baker noted that this amount was a change from the estimated amount noted in the board packet that the Commissioners received, as the 2021 CPI information had just been made available. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

D. Request to Acquire Collections

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve the request to acquire items included in the Schmale, Hanson, Miller, Allyson, Emerson, Goodman, Samuelson, Mustard, Scaff, Oehlschlaeger-Garvey, and Chambers offers for inclusion in the Museum’s Permanent Collection. Commissioner Hays seconded. Commissioner Livesay thanked staff and the Museum Advisory Committee for their work. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried. Executive Director Wuellner noted that the MAC would be losing a member to a relocation and that a new addition to the committee would be needed. Some museum or collection experience is preferred but not necessary.

E. Request to Deaccession Collections

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve the request to deaccession the items in the Bechtol Collection from the permanent collection. Commissioner Goodman seconded. The deaccessioned items will be forwarded to the Spurlock Museum for educational use. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

F. Electricity Supplier, Lake of the Woods and River Bend, 2020-2022

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board approve Constellation Energy as the District electric supplier for Lake of the Woods and River Bend Forest Preserves. Commissioner Hays seconded. Wuellner noted this supplier will be furnishing electricity obtained through 100% renewable

sources. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Kerins moved at 6:39 pm to convene to Executive Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically section 2 (c) 1 The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity, and 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. Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

Executive Session was closed and Regular Session was re-opened at 7:46 pm.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kerins made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:47 pm. Herakovich seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

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