

Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 17, 2022, 6:00 pm
Education Classroom, Museum of the Grand Prairie,
Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois

Via Zoom meetings (www.zoom.us)
Meeting ID: 841 0004 0630

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2022 via Zoom due to the Illinois Governor’s Executive Order 2020-10. Commissioner Goodman called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Kerins called the roll. The following Commissioners were in attendance by both audio and video: Goodman, Hays, Kerins, and Livesay. Herakovich was absent with notice.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE – All commissioners were remote via Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Marianne Lippi and Jon Hoekstra attending remotely; (None via previous email). Ms. Lippi noted she had noticed the Districts Environmental Assessment Report on the District website was dated from 2009. Lippi asked the Board to consider a Policy addition or Resolution regarding Climate Change. Pearson noted a review of the website will be done, as the District has implemented sustainability measures since then. Jon Hoekstra, also speaking regarding climate change polices at the District, added the importance of communication of climate change information should be a high priority.

Goodman and Hays noted thanks to the Lippi and Hoekstra for attending the meeting and for their comments. Hays added thanks for the work of the Sustainability Committee, CAC members, and District volunteers.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS – Executive Director Pearson asked item *XI. Museum Collections Conservation Assessment*, which was at the end of the agenda would expect any discussion or questions. If not Museum Curator Mark Hanson, who was present, wouldn’t have to attend the whole meeting. Commissioners had no questions on the document included in the packet, but thanked Hanson and staff for their work on the document, and thanked Hansen for attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Special Meeting on February 10, 2022**
- B. Minutes of Regular Meeting on February 17, 2022**
- C. Minutes of Executive Session on February 17, 2022**
- D. Monthly Staff Reports**
- E. Disbursements for Approval**
- F. February Treasures Report**
- G. Purchase of Mower**
- H. Purchase of Utility Vehicle**
- I. Second Intergovernmental Agreement between IDNR and CCFPD**

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Commissioner Kerins made a motion to approve the consent agenda (Items A – I).

Commissioner Hays seconded. Commissioner Kerins amended motion to approve consent agenda A-F and H and I, and remove Item G. Purchase of Mower from the consent agenda.

Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried. It was noted Item G would be placed at the beginning of New Business.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

A. Forest Preserve Friends Foundation

Commissioner Livesay reported she had been unable to attend the last meeting, but Goodman was able to attend in her place. Notes forwarded to her by Pearson advised a quorum wasn't present, but discussion included the endowment process. Goodman stated he enjoyed attending, and was glad to have one on one time with the committee.

B. Citizens Advisory Committee

Commissioner Hays noted the FPF president attended their last meeting, and received a warm welcome. Also, Sue Gallo, District Volunteer Coordinator, gave an overview of volunteer activities. Hays also reported the Hazen Bridge Committee is being led by Roger Digges, and also noted thanks for the January CAC minutes that were included in the Board packet.

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners cited the following items from staff reports and observations:

- Basics of Land Acquisition webinar training
- Golf updates
- Volunteer activities
- Legislative Conference
- Willow Pond updates
- Lake of the Woods spillway updates
- Buffalo Trace off trail areas
- Cyber security
- FPF & CAC reports
- IDOT/KRT
- Education Programs
- Collaboration between departments and staff working with other like agencies

Commissioners also commended the work of all District staff as noted in the staff reports.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director Announcements – Pearson noted no additions to her report that was included in the packet.

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OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

G. Purchase of Mower

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board of Commissioners first reject the lowest bid from Birkey's Farm Store for Twenty Thousand Three Hundred Forty and 00/100 (\$20,340.00). Staff then requests the Board of Commissioners approve the bid for purchase of a commercial mower for Middle Fork River Forest Preserve from AHW LLC for **Twenty-Five Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-Nine and 00/100 (\$25,369.00)**. Commissioner Livesay seconded. District Planner, Bridgette Moen, noted the lowest bid did not meet the minimum specifications in the bid. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted "yes": Goodman, Hays, Kerins, and Livesay.

A. Purchase of Simulator

Commissioner Livesay moved the Board approve the purchase of the Simulator in a Box-Birdie Plus Package – from Foresight Sports for the amount of Seventeen Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Nine (\$17,449). Commissioner Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted "yes": Goodman, Hays, Kerins, and Livesay.

B. Irrigation Head Replacement

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board approve the bid for the Lake of the Woods Golf Course Irrigation Head Replacement project from Commercial Irrigation & Turf, located in East Peoria, IL for Eighty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$87,500). Commissioner Livesay seconded. Kerins asked about additional work needed to repair/replace the golf course irrigation system. Daab clarified that this year's request was for only half of the irrigation's heads, and next year they would plan to ask for the other half. Golf Course Superintendent, Joie Torres, added that once these irrigation heads were all replaced that it would just be the underground system that had not seen significant improvements. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted "yes": Goodman, Hays, Kerins, and Livesay.

C. Resolution 2022-06: Easement and License Agreement Request Policy

Commissioner Livesay moved the Board approved Resolution 2022-06 amending the Easement Request Policy and retitling it to the Easement and License Agreement Request Policy. Commissioner Kerins seconded. Hays asked for clarification regarding the licensing requirements. Pearson advised this request is for agreements for use of land, not so much for vending. Moen noted this document will also help with IDOT transactions. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted "yes": Goodman, Hays, Kerins, and Livesay.

D. Resolution 2022-07: KRT License Agreement Request

Commissioner Livesay moved the Board approve a license agreement with Mr. Eugene O'Neil to utilize land north of the Kickapoo Rail Trail seasonally to access farm fields,

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contingent upon review and approval by counsel. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins, and Livesay.

E. Resolution 2022-05: Housing Policy

Commissioner Livesay moved the Board approve Resolution 2022-05 pertaining to the District’s Housing Policy. Commissioner Hays seconded. Livesay confirmed if the housing would be considered a monetary agreement. Daab noted they had met with legal counsel and it will be a separate agreement with either a staff member, or non-employee resident. Commissioner Kerins asked the request be tabled until next month, as Commissioner Herakovich was absent due to a delay in travel that was out of her control, and would like to be included in discussion, as she has strong opinions on the subject. Staff noted the negotiations with candidates for the Site Superintendent position will need to begin as soon. District HR Generalist, Dara Edgington, stated a survey had been done with other conservation and forest preserve districts and none had a resident guard capacity. Pearson suggested approving the policy tonight, and then reevaluate the policy and bring updates, if so needed back to the Board with such updates. Commissioners present agreed with Pearson’s suggestion. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins, and Livesay.

EXECUTIVE SESSION -

At 7:09 pm, Commissioner Kerins moved to adjourn to Executive Session for 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,” as authorized by 5 ILSC 120. Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins, and Livesay.

Commissioners Kerins moved to adjourn back to regular session at 7:13 pm. Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins, and Livesay.

***OTHER** Pearson noted the April meeting scheduling (in-person/Zoom) will be confirmed after Governors Pritzker’s April announcement regarding the current COVID-19 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.*

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kerins made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:17 pm. Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

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