

Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
Thursday, July 16, 2015
Activity Center, Middle Fork River Forest Preserve,
Penfield, Illinois

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting, Thursday, July 16, 2015 at the Activity Center, Middle Fork River Forest Preserve, Penfield, Illinois. Commissioner White called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. Commissioner Herakovich called the roll. Roll was taken with the following commissioners present: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Commissioner Livesay was absent with notice.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE – None

SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONER

Andrew Kerins was sworn in as commissioner of the Champaign County Forest Preserve District for his second term.

SELECTION OF OFFICERS – Commissioners concurred that the selection of Officers would be postponed until August when all Commissioners are present.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Committee appointments were postponed until August when all Commissioners are present.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS – It was noted Beth Chato representing the Champaign County Audubon Society would give the 2014 District Bird Count.

Ms. Chato reported bird counts for all preserves and presented the Board with a copy of the report. Ms. Chato also thanked volunteers that helped with the count.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

SECRETARY REPORT

Commissioner Kerins moved approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2015. Commissioner Hult seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

Commissioner Hult moved approval of the Special Meeting Dedication Minutes of June 18, 2015. Commissioner Herakovich seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

Commissioner Herakovich moved approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2015. Commissioner Hult seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kerins moved approval of the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2015. Commissioner Hult seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

Commissioner Hult moved that the Board approve payment of \$155,508.40 in accounts payable disbursements dated June 19, 2015 through July 16, 2015. Commissioner Kerins seconded. Staff answered disbursement questions regarding Deans Graphics and United Lab. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Kerins moved acceptance of the June 2015 Treasurers Report. Commissioner Hult seconded. Commissioner suggested looking into other investing options. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted "yes": Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REMARKS AND/OR INPUT

Commissioners commended staff on programming, campground host, golf camp and the professionalism shown through exhibits at the Museum of the Grand Prairie. Commissioner Herakovich thanked Commissioners Hult and Livesay for volunteering at Freedom Fest, and also commented after a recent visit to River Bend about the amount of visitors that were using the facilities. Commissioner White stated he would be able to attend the 2015 NRPA Conference, and thanked Commissioners Herakovich and Kerins for their work with staff on future accreditation work. Commissioner Kerins asked the Board, in regard to a recent letter to the editor in the News Gazette, if we could have a response drafted. Commissioners agreed this would be a positive response. Commissioner Herakovich commented that the FPPF had discussed responding to the letter to the editor with a thank you to the community for their donations and funds raised are getting close to being able to begin construction on the Kickapoo Rail Trail. Herakovich also reminded commissioners to check the IPRA website on upcoming house bills and to contact their representatives on such bills. Kerins also requested, in regard to the 2016 budget, a separate line item for the botanical garden improvements with a stated amount, and also having staff chart expenses against revenue to determine the amount of District subsidies for programs and events.

STAFF REPORTS

- A. **Staff Reports** – Executive Director Olson introduced Middle Fork staff that were attending the meeting. Commissioners commended Deputy Director Wuellner for speaking at a recent Champaign/Urbana Optimist Club meeting about the Kickapoo Rail Trail. Commissioners also suggested staff check with the county on tax guidelines on trails and asked about the following upcoming covered bridge dedication, Freedom Fest revenue, the Public Art League piece that will be displayed in the garden, the Kickapoo Rail Trail recent engineering findings, and asked about the creation of a Friends Group.

Commissioner Kerins moved acceptance of the July Staff Reports. Commissioner Hult seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted "yes": Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

- B. **Strategic Plan Update** – Commissioners commended staff for their work on updating the plan during a typically busy season.
- C. **Revenue, Expense, and Fund Projections** – Finance Director John Baker provided an overview of District projections for 2015-2020 including funding challenges for capital projects, land acquisition, and golf. Baker advised the figures are projections, as many factors such as health cost cannot be determined at the current time.

- D. **Firewood Special Report** – The report was included in the Board packet.

FOREST PRESERVE FRIENDS FOUNDATION BOARD REPORT

Donations for the Kickapoo Rail Trail have greatly increased over the last 2 months.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee has been busy with outreach at the Urbana Farmers market.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

A. **Resolution #15-3 – Updated 2015 Meeting Schedule**

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board adopt Resolution 2015-3: Change to the 2015 Regular Meeting Times and Locations. The Resolution is attached. Commissioner Hult seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

B. **Resolution #15-5 – Urbana TIF Contingency Assignment**

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board the Board adopt Resolution 2015-5: Urbana TIF Contingency Assignment. Commissioner Herakovich seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

C. **Resolution #15-6 – Financial Signatories Resolution** – Tabled until the August meeting when all commissioners will be present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Herakovich made a motion at 8:33 p.m. to convene into Executive Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically section 2 (c) 1 for 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 section 2 (c) 5 for the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose whether a particular parcel should be acquired. Commissioner Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.

Commissioner White closed the Executive Session at 10:47 p.m. and opened the Regular Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS - None

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Herakovich moved adjournment of the Regular Meeting at 10:48 p.m. Commissioner Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Herakovich, Hult, Kerins, and White. Motion carried.