

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

July 17, 2013

PURSUANT to written notice given all members of the Board, the above meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Trustee Ed Leonard, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Treasurer Parish, Secretary Stahl, 1st Vice-President Leonard, and 2nd Vice-President Murphy. Absent: Trustee Horn.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the Minutes of the June 19th Regular Public Meeting as amended. Correction to the minutes on page four by removing the statement "Trustee Horn left the meeting." Trustee Stahl SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report and Monthly Disbursements in the amount of \$23,312.84 and additions to disbursements in the amount of \$118,332.90. Trustee Stahl SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Stahl, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; and Trustee Murphy "AYE". Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: Dean Padgett, 3245 Susan Drive, Decatur, Illinois, commended the great article in the Herald & Review by Bob Fallstrom on the Conservation District, but that the only item missing was the mention of the Friends Creek Campground. He stated that it took seven and a half years to get the campground back to where it was and there are only nine more sites left to electrify. He thanked everyone for listening to him talking and pushing for what he believes in.

PRIOR BUSINESS:

1. **Other:** None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Audit:**

Abdullah Khan, from Knutte & Associates, presented the Macon County Conservation District Audit to the Board. He briefly highlighted the audit stating that the main concern for the audit is to evaluate internal controls. In testing the disbursements, receipts and payroll, they found the internal controls of the District to be very good. In auditing the books, they did a full testing on every balance sheet account, tested major income statement accounts and tied out payroll to payroll tax reports. He briefly explained the new GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) change in the balance sheet whereby in addition to assets and liabilities, deferred outflows/inflows were to be included. However, he reported that the District did not have any deferred outflows/inflows. Abdullah informed the Board that the District was in good financial standing.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the audit as presented. Trustee Stahl SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Stahl, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard, "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; and Trustee Murphy "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Stahl MOVED to approve the payment of \$9,500 to Knutte & Associates for the audit work. Trustee Parish SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Stahl, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard, "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; and Trustee Murphy "AYE". Motion carried

2. Election of Officers:

The Board of Trustees reviewed the following tentative slate of officers for the year beginning July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014.

President: David Horn
1st Vice-President: Ed Leonard
Secretary: Mark Stahl
Treasurer: Darrel Parish
2nd Vice-President: Lucy Murphy

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the slate of officers for the year, as presented. Trustee Stahl SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

3. Sand Creek Waterway:

Paul Marien explained to the Board that staff had reported a drainage problem at Sand Creek and wanted the Board to be aware of the current situation. A culvert had been installed years ago but is currently unable to handle the volume of water and is creating erosion problems. The Macon County Soil and Water Conservation District has recommended that the District apply to participate in the Lake Decatur Watershed Protection program. Trustee Leonard suggested that this site be added to the Trustee Tour. No action needed to be taken at this time.

4. Payout #1 Fort Daniel Trail Bridges

The contractor working on the Ft. Daniel pedestrian bridges submitted a progress pay request for work completed and materials purchased. They have already installed the culverts and are currently working on the footings. Staff requests approval of the \$50,575.00 payout to Triple K Konstruction.

Trustee Stahl MOVED to authorize the payout to Triple K Konstruction in the amount of \$50,575.00. Trustee Murphy SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Stahl, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard, "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; and Trustee Murphy "AYE". Motion carried.

5. Trustee Tour Date:

Director Merner solicited the Board for possible dates for conducting the Trustee Tour. She reported that Trustee Horn was available in September and October. After discussion and reviewing calendars, the Board decided on September 10th, leaving Rock Springs Nature Center at 8:00 a.m. The tour will tentatively include restoration work at the Rock Springs Nature Center, Leiby Hall, Griswold Conservation Area, Sand Creek Conservation drainage issue, Ft. Daniel's footbridges, and Oglesby Mansion.

6. Architect Fees for the Oglesby Mansion:

The Architect working on the Oglesby Mansion porch project has requested additional compensation for his services. Director Merner explained that the total project cost way more than anyone could have anticipated, and reminded the Board that the work had been split into different contracts, necessitating revising the bid packets and rebidding. Staff doesn't believe that the extra hours are unreasonable and recommends that the Board approves the extra cost in the amount of \$2,700.

Trustee Parish MOVED to authorize the payment in the amount of \$2,700.00. Trustee Stahl SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Stahl, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard, "AYE"; Trustee Parish, "AYE"; and Trustee Murphy "AYE". Motion carried.

7. Grant Opportunity:

Direct Merner explained that Carol Craig, with Busey Bank, encouraged the District to apply for a grant through the Ullrich Foundation. These funds would be used to replace all of the educational kiosks at the Rock Springs Information Shelter, two trailheads, and five interpretative stations along the bicycle trail. The estimated cost to complete this project is \$37,500. It has been approximately sixteen years since the trailheads and kiosks were first installed. The Board agreed it was a good idea and that the District should proceed with the application.

8. Oglesby Mansion-North Porch

Director Merner informed the Board that staff would like to proceed with the renovation of the north porch at the Oglesby Mansion. The Oglesby Mansion Board has raised funds to assist with this renovation and should give the District enough funds to complete the remaining porch projects. Staff would like the approval of the Board to proceed.

Trustee Stahl MOVED to proceed with the renovation of the Oglesby Mansion north porch. Trustee Murphy SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

9. Departmental Reports:

Trustee Leonard asked if there were any questions or additions to the Departmental Reports included in the Board packet. Jeff Tish reported on the impact that canoeing had on the summer camp attendance. Paul Marien highlighted the great defensive driver training conducted by Trooper Tracy, Educational Officer with the Illinois State Police. Pam Smith reported that training had been completed on the new online registration software and now the work would begin implementing the software. Director Merner reported that she was compiling the results of the RFP (request for proposal) that was sent out for the Nearing Trust. The District is one of five beneficiaries to the Nearing Trust with the District being one of the largest.

10. Other:

Director Merner updated the Board that she had received a letter after the Board packet was delivered regarding the Village of Mt. Zion filing a homestead exemption with Board of Review.

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES:

Trustee Leonard welcomed Lucy Murphy, new trustee to the Board. Trustee Murphy commended the Board and District on the good audit report.

Executive Session:

Trustee Parish MOVED to go into Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. for the purpose of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity.

Trustee Murphy SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Murphy MOVED to return to the Regular Public Meeting at 8:30 p.m. Trustee Parish SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the Executive Session Minutes of July 17, 2013. Trustee Stahl SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Trustee Parish MOVED to adjourn the Regular Public Meeting at 8:34 p.m. Trustee Stahl SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary