

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

JULY 15, 2015

PURSUANT to written notice given all members of the Board, the above meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by 2nd Vice-President Jensen with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Treasurer Jensen, President Parish, Secretary Murphy, and 2nd Vice-President Elliott.

Board member absent: 1st Vice-President Smithson.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the Minutes of the June 15, 2015, Regular Public Meeting. Trustee Elliott SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Murphy MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report and Monthly Disbursements in the amount of \$97,693.16 and additions to disbursements in the amount of \$25,590.34 as presented. Trustee Parish SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Jensen, "AYE"; Trustee Elliott, "AYE", and Trustee Murphy, "AYE". Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: There were no comments from the audience.

PRIOR BUSINESS:

- 1. Other: No other business.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Election of Officers:**

The Board of Trustees reviewed the following tentative slate of officers for the year beginning July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016.

President: Darrell Parish
1st Vice-President: Jim Smithson
Secretary: Lucy Murphy
Treasurer: Norm Jensen
2nd Vice-President: Anne Elliott

Trustee Elliott highly recommended that it's good for the new Board member to serve as liaison to the Foundation Board to understand their function.

Trustee Murphy MOVED to accept the slate of officers for the year as presented. Trustee Elliott SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

2. Appointment of IACD Representative:

Trustee Jensen volunteered to serve as representative to the IACD (Illinois Association of Conservation Districts) for another year. Director Marien reminded the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2015. Trustee Parish wondered what Districts made up the Association and the response was Vermillion County Conservation District, Boone County Conservation District and Macon County Conservation District.

Trustee Murphy MOVED to accept Trustee Jensen as the IACD representative for another year. Trustee Elliott SECONDED the motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

3. Annual Trustee Tour:

Director Marien would like to schedule a Trustee tour and asked the Board members present for some dates. After some discussion, they decided all present could attend a tour on either September 9th or October 14th. Director Marien will send the selected dates to Trustee Smithson and confirm the tour date at the August meeting. A tentative schedule has been drafted to include the following sites:

- Bethel School House and the new kiosks at Friends Creek Conservation Area
- The south lagoon sludge process
- The installed chair lift at the Oglesby Mansion
- The new signs at the Kaufman Lakeside Conservation Area
- The drainage project at the Sandcreek Conservation Area

4. Bid Award for Painting Nature Center:

Director Marien was pleased with the bid process for Nature Center painting project and recommends the bid be awarded to H.F. Fritsch & Sons. They have done other work for the District as well as painting of the Oglesby Mansion, and staff were pleased with their work. The August timing is perfect for the District as August is usually a down time and the most convenient time to do any work on the Nature Center. Trustee Parish recommended that the Board review the priorities of the Master Plan for the next year or so. After some discussion of siding and roofing the building, Director Marien stated that painting is the most economical for now and was included in this fiscal year's budget.

Trustee Jensen MOVED to award the bid to H.F. Fritsch & Sons in the amount of \$22,431.00. Trustee Murphy SECONDED the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Jensen, "AYE"; Trustee Elliott, "AYE", and Trustee Murphy, "AYE". Motion carried.

5. Staff Reports

Trustee Murphy commented on the increase in numbers over last year. Richie Wolf contributed that some of the increase is due to several weddings that had taken place and they have seen an increase in rentals. In addition, there had been visiting camps, such as the YMCA, Church of Life and several schools had visited. He reported that the summer Adventure Club had met his maximum every week. He reported that the library theme based around frogs/toads was very popular with the surrounding libraries. He reminded the Board of the upcoming "Hummingbird Festival" on July 21st from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Director Marien reported that operations had been busy mowing with all the rain that the area had received. The bike trail has been closed longer than usual and will be closed into next week. He reported that the Natural Resource Technician position had been filled and will start at the end of the month. The new hire is Ethan Snively.

Director Marien announced the retirement of Mike Bricker from the Resident Guard position at Friends Creek Conservation Area. Mike had been with the District for 37 years. The application process for the Operations Manager position was closed July 10th and he is in the process of reviewing the applications.

6. Other

Director Marien announced an Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) informational webinar being offered for staff and Board members on August 18th.

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES:

Trustees were glad to see Anne Elliott back on the Board of Trustees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Trustee Jensen MOVED to adjourn the Regular Public Meeting at 6:16 p.m. Trustee Elliott SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary