

MINUTES OF A BUDGET STUDY SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

March 16, 2016

PURSUANT to written notice given all members of the Board, the above meeting was called to order by Trustee Parish at 4:00 p.m.

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

Board members absent: 1st Vice-President Smithson

Staff present: Director Marien, Shane Ravellette, Richie Wolf, Pam Smith

Comments from Audience: There were no comments.

New Business:

1. Budget Study Session:

The Board of Trustees and staff reviewed the tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the fiscal year April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017. Below are some highlights from the discussion:

- Trustee Murphy inquired into the detail for the budgeted dollars for the Meetings & Conferences expense and suggested that the District provide an annual summary of the conferences attended by employees.
- Trustee Parish inquired into the expenses for construction at the various conservation areas. This includes remodeling rooms at the Nature Center at Rock Springs, new roof at Friends Creek Conservation Area, and new maintenance shed at Griswold Conservation.
- Trustee Parish questioned if outlying areas such as Leiby Hall are included in the budget. Director Marien informed the Board that these small areas are usually included in other areas. For example, Leiby Hall is included with Rock Springs Conservation Area budget and DuBois Sangamon and Nearing included in Friends Creek Conservation area. After some discussion, the Board agreed it would be a good idea to tour some of these sites that have never been seen.
- Shane Ravellette walked the Board through the large capital items. The District is getting ready to go out to bid on the Griswold maintenance building with a consultation to follow as soon as possible. The building is the same size as the current shed and the contracted price will include hauling away the old shed. A new John Deere mower is a new purchase and not a replacement. A truck replacement for Ft. Daniel and Sandcreek for plowing snow is being planned. A new skid steer is scheduled to be purchased with some assistance from the Macon County Conservation Foundation.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Trustee Murphy made MOTION to adjourn the Budget Study Session at 5:13 p.m. Trustee Elliott SECONDED the motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

SECRETARY