

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

March 15, 2017

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, 1st Vice-President Murphy, Secretary Jensen, Treasurer Elliott, and 2nd Vice-President Johnson

Board members absent: None

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, 2017 – March 31, 2018. Director Paul Marien walked the Board through the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Book with the following highlights:

- Paul explained that the increase in expenditures was due to several large projects such as a new roof on the Rock Springs Nature Center, improvements to the Rock Springs Conservation Area playground, acquisition of land (pending grant approval), bike trail improvements and the purchase of two vehicles and a tractor.
- He explained the process of projecting revenue and expenses for the current year to arrive at a beginning fund balance for the proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Budget. As per the auditor, the budget reflects a decrease in the IMRF (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund) fund balance.
- In reviewing the summary of the General Corporate Fund, Paul explained large variances from current budget year to proposed budget. A few of the variances included:
 - Increase in grants for the land acquisition and bike trail improvements
 - Increase in funds received from the Macon County Conservation Foundation for the playground fundraising project
 - Decrease in the health insurance with the change of the benefit year knowing what the premium will be for nine months and only estimating for the last three months verses having to estimate for the last six months.
 - Decreased in miscellaneous programs due to 50th Anniversary Celebration being over.
 - Increases due to roof replacement, vehicle replacements, electronic gates and other small variances.

Very few questions were raised during the review.

- The large capital expenditures were reviewed with pictures and details. Some discussion followed concerning the playground improvements and the footbridges at Sand Creek but Board members overall were pleased with the projects that were presented.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Trustee Jensen made MOTION to adjourn the Budget Study Session at 5:10 p.m. Trustee Elliott SECONDED the motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

SECRETARY