

, Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 18, 2022, 6:00 pm
Activity Center, Middle Fork River Forest Preserve, Penfield, Illinois

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, August 18, 2022 at the Activity Center, Middle Fork River Forest Preserve, Penfield IL. Commissioner Goodman called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Commissioner Livesay called the roll. The following Commissioners were present: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Livesay and Kerins.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – Beth Chato, representing the Champaign County Audubon Society, gave a verbal report of the 2021 District Bird Count. Ms. Chato reported breeding bird counts for all preserves and presented the Board with a copy of the report. Commissioners thanked Ms. Chato for her work and the efforts of the local Audubon Society in tracking and reporting bird species sighted at the preserves each year.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS– None

PRESENTATION – 2023-2027 Projections and Draft Five-Year Capital Plan

Finance Director John Baker and Deputy Executive Director Michael Daab presented a visual presentation on 2023-2027 Projections and Draft 5-Year Plan. Baker noted the projections take tax cap challenges into account showing different scenarios. Commissioners agreed to using scenario 3 for at least one fiscal year. Baker also shared budget timelines. Commissioners thanked staff for their work on the documents.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on June 14, 2022**
- B. Minutes of Executive Session on June 14, 2022**
- C. Monthly Staff Reports**
- D. July Treasurers Report**
- E. Disbursements for Approval**
- F. Approve Bid for Replacement of the Covered Bridge Roof at Lake of the Woods**
- G. Approve Temporary Easement for Ameren Improvements at the Kickapoo Rail Trail**

Commissioner Livesay made a motion to approve the consent agenda (Items A – G as noted on the agenda). Commissioner Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins and Livesay.

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COMMISSIONERS REPORT

A. Forest Preserve Friends Foundation

Livesay noted information from the last meeting included: Welcome Week, Bike to Work, and Plaque information for the Covered Bridge and the KRT. Livesay also stated the groups sub-committees have also been busy meeting.

B. Citizens Advisory Committee

Marketing Manager, Lisa Sprinkle, noted the group will be losing 5 members, so they will be recruiting for new members. Sprinkle also said the group has been busy with outreach, and are so happy to be out with the public again after being unable due to COVID restrictions the last 2 years!

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners cited the following items from staff reports and observations:

- Willow Pond
- Positive PR received from the media
- District videos with the Executive Director
- IT planning work
- Volunteer Appreciation Event
- Completed District Projects
- Stargazing Event
- HQ Addition work
- Museum visitation
- Programming using the American Sign Language Interpreter
- Golf Course events and course appearance

Commissioners also commended Middle Fork Staff for the preserve appearance, and staff at the other sites for their work at keeping the preserves looking great, and also thanked planning staff for collecting input from the public on Buffalo Trace usage.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director Announcements – Pearson noted thanks to Middle Fork Staff for their work getting the preserve ready for the meeting. Pearson also staffing updates including new staff; Kristin Rose, Marketing Specialist, and Eric Roth, Natural Resources Technician, and newly created fellow position new hire, Nina Carmichael that will begin working September 12th.

OLD BUSINESS – None

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NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve Proposals from Client First Technology consulting to Support Implementation of 2022-2023 IT Plan

Commissioner Herakovich moved Board of Commissioners approve ClientFirst Technology Consulting to secure the District network against cyberthreats, upgrade internet connectivity with remote work sites and build a cloud-based network accessible to all employees at a cost not to exceed \$44,330 and authorize the Executive Director to sign the ClientFirst proposals addressing these needs. Commissioner Livesay seconded. Pearson reviewed the document. Commissioners confirmed pricing and firewall protection. Baker confirmed the current request is for what is shown, and additional needs will be requested per budgeted request, and as Client First has been working with the District on the plan the past two years, firewall protection was earlier added, thus, protection is in place. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins and Livesay.

B. Approve Transfers from the Corporate and Construction Funds to the Capital Fund

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve \$703,482 in transfers from the Corporate and Construction Funds to the Capital Projects Fund. Commissioner Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins and Livesay.

EXECUTIVE SESSION -

At 7:19 pm, Commissioner Livesay moved to adjourn to Executive Session for 2(c)(21), for the ‘Discussion of minutes of meeting lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes; as mandated by Section 2.06. Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

Commissioners Livesay moved to open regular session at 7:26 pm. Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

NEW BUSINESS contd.

A. Release of Executive Session Minutes

Commissioner Livesay moved that the Board conducted the required semi-annual review of the unreleased minutes of past executive sessions and concluded that the need for confidentiality still exists for all unreleased minutes and portions of minutes, except for the following which will be released and made available for public inspection at the time: February 17, 2022 (except, ¶1), March 17, 2022 (except, ¶), June 14, 2022 (except ¶ ¶1 and 2), and July 21, 2022 (except ¶ 2). Commissioner Livesay seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

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B. Destruction of Verbatim Recordings of Executive Session Minutes

Commissioner Livesay moved the Board concluded it is appropriate and therefore authorized the destruction of existing recordings of executive sessions. Commissioner Kerins seconded.

Commissioner amended her motion to include held on or before February 17, 2022. Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Herakovich made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:29 pm. Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

Sarah Livesay, Secretary
Board of Commissioners
Champaign County Forest Preserve District