

Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 20, 2023, 6:00 pm, Philo Township Hall, 106 S Harrison, Philo, Illinois

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at the Philo Township Hall, 106 S Harrison, Philo, IL. Commissioner Goodman called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Commissioner Livesay called the roll. The following Commissioners were present: Goodman, Herakovich, Kerins, and Livesay. Commissioner Hundley joined remotely, under OMA guidelines and without objection from Commissioners, due to travel for employment purposes.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE – Wendy Hundley

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS - None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Special Meeting on March 16, 2023**
- B. Minutes of Regular Meeting on March 16, 2023**
- C. Minutes of Executive Session on March 16, 2023**
- D. Monthly Staff Reports**
- E. February Treasurers Report**
- F. March Treasurers Report**
- G. Disbursements for Approval**
- H. Appoint Citizens Advisory Committee new member**
- I. Approve Deaccession of Permanent Collections**
- J. R 2023-05 IDNR Bike Path Application**
- K. Accept LOW Streambank Engineering Proposal**

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

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

A. Forest Preserve Friends Foundation

Livesay noted the group recently met and committees had also met, including the finance and fundraising, with discussions including the endowment, marketing and branding. Livesay also reported an event for the Three Rivers Society was recently held at the Lake of the Woods Golf Course, with golf staff giving the group information on the golf industry and the golf course operations.

B. Citizens Advisory Committee

Lisa Sprinkle, Marketing Manager, noted the group hadn’t met since the last meeting, but have been working on outreach schedules, and they are down to 8 members now, as one member decided to leave the committee.

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C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners cited the following items from staff reports and observations:

- Bike Path Grant
- Nina Carmichaels involvement with the mussel film recognition
- Comprehensive Plan work
- Prescribed burns
- Quarterly Connection event
- Lincolns Challenge work
- Orientation video
- MF kitchen renovation
- Golf numbers
- Golf Simulator play
- Museum accreditation

Commissioner Hundley thanked all staff for their hard work. Commissioner Livesay welcomed new CAC member, Madison Story. Commissioner Herakovich commended Mike Daab on his completion of the IPRA Financial Sustainability Certification Program. Commissioners also commended Planning staff on their work on the comprehensive plan

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director Announcements – Pearson commended staff on recent hiring activities, 75th anniversary planning, volunteer activities, and museum and education work. Pearson also noted Nina Carmichael has been conducting Crucial Conversation training; and the hiring of the new Museum and Education Director.

B. First Quarter Strategic Outcomes and Actions - Commissioners commended staff on so much being done; and the well-done report.

C. Freedom Fest Board Direction - Pearson gave an overview of last month's discussion with the Board regarding Freedom Fest, and then had District staff give an overview of the report that was included in the Board Packet. Daab noted, in regard to the Sustainability Committee report, the amount of carbon dioxide emissions that are released during a typical Freedom Fest firework show is roughly 34 metric tons, which contributes to climate change. Daab also noted, in regard to Natural Resources, the impact on wildlife that fireworks cause. Marketing Manager, Lisa Sprinkle, also reported on the financial, staff and volunteer limitations the District have experienced regarding the event. Pearson asked the Board for direction regarding this event for future planning. Commissioners noted that although this event is a family friendly event, and brings new audiences to the District, that the impact noted from the environmental aspect the show causes, the lack of an event planning staff, respect for those that suffer from PTSD, that other events would be more suited to the District mission. Commissioner consensus agreed, that

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the 2023 Freedom Fest would be the last firework show event at the District. Staff noted other family friendly event ideas would be brought forward. Pearson noted a statement would be sent out to the public regarding the termination of the event. Livesay asked when new events are created, to make sure to redesign to be inclusive. Sprinkle advised that with a new event, partnerships would be created.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve Contract with GovTemps

Commissioner Livesay moved the Board approve a contract with GovTemps USA, LLC, to provide a temporary financial professional in an amount not to exceed \$59,0000. Commissioner Herakovich seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:50 pm, Commissioner Kerins moved to adjourn to Executive Session for 2(c)(1), the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, 2(c)(5) the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired,” as authorized by 5 ILSC 120. Commissioner Livesay seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

It was noted, due to the Board bylaws that Commissioner Hundley would be leaving the meeting, as since she was attending remotely, she is unable to attend closed session.

Commissioners Livesay moved to adjourn back to regular session at 7:10 pm. Kerins seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Herakovich made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:10 pm. Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Kerins, and Livesay.

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