

Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
November 17, 2022, 6:00 pm, Education Classroom,
Museum of the Grand Prairie, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 20, 2022 at the Education Classroom, Museum of the Grand Prairie, Mahomet IL. Commissioner Goodman called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Commissioner Livesay called the roll. The following Commissioners were present: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE – Commissioner Herakovich was present via phone. It was noted Herakovich would not be able to vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE TENTATIVE TAX LEVY ORDINANCE 2022-02 OF THE CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF CHAMPAIGN, OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR THE 2022 TAXES DUE IN 2023

No Public in Attendance.

Commissioner Livesay moved to close the Public hearing. Commissioner Kerins seconded. A voice vote was taken. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:03 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS– None

PRESENTATION –

A. 2023 Budget Updates: General Update #3 – Finance Director, John Baker, gave an overview of information supplied in the meeting packet. Commissioners commented on KRT completion timelines, capital equipment expenses in regard to golf carts, bonding reserves, and employee health insurance cost. District Planner, Bridgette Moen, noted in regard to KRT work, that as the engineering work has been completed, it would be dependent on construction timelines and weather. Baker noted, in regard to golf carts, this year golf had enough in reserves to help offset cost, and they are not expecting an increase in health insurance. Commissioners thanked staff for the information supplied, noting the format of the reporting makes it much easier than past documents. A study session will be held on December 1st to further discuss the budget.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on October 20, 2022**
- B. Minutes of Executive Session on October 20, 2022**
- C. Monthly Staff Reports**
- D. October Treasurers Report**
- E. Disbursements for Approval**

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

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

A. Forest Preserve Friends Foundation

Livesay noted at the last meeting discussion included the 2023 Budget, the Three Rivers Society and other fundraising initiatives. Livesay also reminded everyone of the Night Lights event being held on December 1st at the garden.

B. Citizens Advisory Committee

It was noted the group didn’t meet this past month, but the nominating committee has been working on recruitment.

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners cited the following items from staff reports and observations:

- Walking Wednesdays
- Interpretive Signage
- Wilderness Living Skills program
- Natural Resources prescribed burns
- Financial Software testing
- IDOT and KRT work
- Halloween at MF campground

Commissioners noted thanks to all staff for the appearance of all preserves, and Nina Carmichael for the report she submitted.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director Announcements – Pearson gave thanks to all staff involved in the budget process, and commended garden staff for their work on the upcoming Night Lights event.

B. 2023 CCFPD Meeting Schedule – Pearson reviewed past history on meeting times and locations, asking the Commissioners for feedback if past locations and timing should continue, or if adding new locations may be beneficial. Commissioners noted possibly adding Rantoul and Philo to the rotation may offer more community involvement.

C. Comprehensive Plan Feedback Exercise – District Planner, Bridgette Moen, had the Commissioners work together on an exercise which will help in the process of creating the District Comprehensive Plan.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Ordinance 2022-02 Annual Final Tax Levy

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board approve Ordinance 2022-02, Annual Final Tax Levy Ordinance for 2022 Taxes Due in 2023. Commissioner Livesay seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

B. Ordinance 2022-23, Annual Tentative Budget & Appropriation for 2023

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board approve Ordinance 2022-03: 2023 Tentative Budget & Appropriation. Commissioner Livesay seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

C. Resolution 2022-23 Purchasing Policy

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board adopt Resolution 2022-23, Purchasing Policy. Commissioner Livesay seconded. Pearson noted the addition of equity and sustainability guidelines, and the increase in staff spending limits. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

D. Approve IAPD/IPRA Credentials

Commissioner Livesay moved the Board approve the attached Credentials Certificate designating Pearson as delegate, and Kerins as alternate to the Illinois Association of Park District’s Annual Business Meeting. Commissioner Hundley seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve Executive Director’s 2022/2023 Compensation and Revised Employment Contract

Commissioner Goodman read the motion to approve an increase of \$6,050 to Executive Director Lorrie Pearson’s salary to be reflected in the September 27, 2022 payroll as discussed and recommended during her performance review conducted November 9, 2022. Commissioner Kerins moved the Board approve the motion as read by Goodman. Hundley seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

Commissioner Goodman also read the additional motion to approve conditional grants to Lorrie Pearson of 8 hours of additional vacation time after the completion of each two-week pay period (or a prorated portion thereof after the completion of any partial pay period) during which Lorrie Pearson also serves as the Interim Director of the Museum and Education department, with the understanding that each such grant shall be an independent and one-time/non-recurring grant, that Lorrie Person shall cooperate in good faith in District efforts to hire a full-time Director of the Museum and Education department, that and no further grants of additional vacation time as

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contemplated in this motion shall be made on or after the start date a full-time Director of the Museum and Education Department. Commissioner Kerins moved to approve the motion as read by Goodman. Livesay seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Livesay made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:45 pm. Hundley seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Herakovich, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

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

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STUDY SESSION – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 1, 2022, 7:00 pm
Elks Lake Pavilion, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Study Session on Thursday, December 1, 2022. Commissioner Goodman called the Study Session to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Livesay called the roll. The following Commissioners were in attendance: Goodman, Hundley, and Livesay. Commissioner Kerins arrived at 7:04 pm. Herakovich was absent with notice.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

2023 BUDGET

Assistant Finance Director, Blair Balbach, reviewed highlights of information earlier shared with the Commissioners. Commissioners commended staff on cross departmental work, and the sharing of capital equipment purchases between departments. Goodman noted reserve status, and appreciated the projection graphics being shown.

Balbach noted, in regard to the insurance fund, that a substantial number of projects are included this year, also, golf now having positive income, is able to contribute to the golf fund.

Kerins asked what the funding from the state is currently in regard to the KRT. Daab noted that as a new representative with the state grant funding has recently been put in place, hopefully funds will be available in the near future.

All commissioners present commended staff on the budget document, noting the format of the budget is very easy to read, and much more user friendly.

COMMITMENTS

Balbach reviewed information that was earlier shared on reserve projections and noted more information would be shared at the December Regular Meeting. Commissioners present agreed, that setting aside funding that could be classified for land acquisition use only should be done.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hundley moved to adjourn the Study Session at 7:34 pm. Livesay seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins, and Livesay.

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