

Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
February 18, 2021, 6:00 pm
Headquarters, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois
Via Zoom meetings (www.zoom.us)

Meeting ID: 841 0004 0630

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 18, 2021 via Zoom due to the Illinois Governor’s Executive Order 2020-10. Commissioner Kerins called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Commissioner Hays called the roll. The following Commissioners were in attendance by both audio and video: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins, and Livesay.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE – All commissioners and staff attended via Zoom. The executive director, finance director, and human resources assistant were present at the meeting location.

PUBLIC COMMENT – No members of the public participated at the meeting location or remotely via Zoom.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS – None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Public Hearing on January 21, 2021
- B. Minutes of Regular Meeting on January 21, 2021
- C. Minutes of Executive Session on December 17, 2020
- D. Minutes of Executive Session on January 21, 2021
- E. Monthly Staff Reports

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

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

A. Forest Preserve Friends Foundation

Commissioner Livesay noted the group met earlier in the month via zoom. The board identified members for four committees: fundraising, nominating, marketing, and finance, with all members represented within the committees. The group also discussed investment strategies and legacy initiatives. It was also noted that the honorary bench recognizing retiring committee member, Bob Espeseth, would be placed in the botanical garden near the pond.

B. Citizens Advisory Committee

Commissioner Hays advised the group did not meet this past month.

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners cited the following items from staff reports and observations:

- IPRA/IAPD conference participation
- Museum and Education summer programming options
- Recent media coverage
- District budget document
- Golf pass sales
- Museum award
- Golf Course tree removal and replacement
- Rankin Collections Care Center
- Glover Crossing updates
- IT Committee work
- District Comprehensive Plan

Commissioner Goodman noted the Golf Committee had recently met virtually, and the Committee will be holding a volunteer cleanup day at the course on March 18th. Commissioner Livesay also asked if a date would be set for the annual Champaign Cycle bike sale to benefit the Kickapoo Rail Trail. Wuellner noted that a decision had not yet been made.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Announcements Wuellner noted there were no additions to the submitted staff report.

B. Comprehensive Plan Update – District planner, Bridgette Moen, gave a visual presentation and overview of the proposed Comprehensive Plan development process. Commissioners confirmed timeline, coordination with strategic plan and land acquisition conservation plan, incorporation of past plans, and how Board priorities will be established. Moen advised a normal timeline is from 1 -1 ½ years, a comprehensive plan encompasses strategic, master and other planning documents, and plans are reviewed as needed for updates. Moen noted the document would be brought to the Board several times throughout the process for input. Commissioner Herakovich thanked Moen for the information and her work, and encouraged her to review the Downstate Forest Preserve Act for guidance. Commissioner Hays noted that he looks forward to the process and is ready to get underway.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Resolution 2021-03 2021 Management Plan and Budget Approval

Commissioner Goodman moved the Board approve the updated Resolution 2021-03 Management Plan and Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 provided February 18, 2021 by email. Commissioner Hays seconded. Wuellner, Baker, Balbach and Goodman met February 16 to review and answer Commissioner questions on the 2021 budget. The updated resolution addresses the issues the Commissioners had raised. Commissioner Kerins noted Goodman and

Wuellner spoke to him regarding the information presented and stated that the program budgeting goal in the document is to promote greater transparency, not to drive revenues nor create an undue administrative burden. Kerins requested staff give quarterly program budget updates to the Board. Commissioner Hays expressed appreciation for the text in the plan, as the explanations made it easy to understand. Commissioners thanked Baker and Balbach for their work on the document. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Disbursements for Approval

Commissioner Goodman moved to approve the payment of \$294,806.14 in disbursements dated January 22, 2021 through February 18, 2021. Commissioner Herakovich seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

B. Treasures Report - January

Commissioner Goodman moved the Board approve the January 2021 Treasurer’s report. Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

C. Project Labor Agreement Discussion

Wuellner thanked Moen for her work on the document. Moen asked the Commissioners if they had any questions with the information shared in the packet and asked for their feedback. Commissioner Goodman asked if the County uses them. Kerins advised last summer he had been approached by a County Board member regarding the use of such agreements, and as of then, the County did not use them. Livesay felt the District is too small of an entity to use such an agreement. Hays noted he is always in favor of utilizing union labor but that the use of a PLA may not be necessary to encourage unions to bid on District projects. Consensus was decided no further work was needed by staff in regard to the use of such agreements at this time.

D. Purchase of Skid Steer Track Loader and Forestry Mower, Middle Fork

Commissioner Livesay moved the Board approve the purchase of one (1) Bobcat T770 T4 compact track loader and (1) 60” forestry cutter for the total purchase price of Sixty-Eight Thousand, Eight Hundred Seventy-One and 94/100 Dollars (\$68,871.94). Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

E. Hazardous Tree Removal

Commissioner Livesay moved the Board approve the hiring of a professional tree service contractor, Bud’s Tree Care, to remove 45 dead or dying ash trees within the golf course for Twenty-Two Thousand, Two Hundred and Fifty-Five and 00/100 Dollars (\$22,225.00). Commissioner Goodman seconded. Commissioner asked if any of these trees are in close

proximity to adjoining homeowners, and if they are, will the homeowners be notified beforehand. Natural Resources Director, Peter Goodspeed, noted that staff will speak to the owners of the properties located in close proximity to the work that is planned. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

F. Golf Course Irrigation Control

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve the bid for the Lake of the Woods Golf Course irrigation control installation project from Commercial Irrigation & Turf, located in East Peoria, IL for Seventy-Two Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$72,800.00). A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

G. Roof Replacement: Izaak Walton Cabin, Lake of the Woods

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve the quote for replacement of the Izaak Walton Cabin roof from Adkission Construction Contractors, Inc, located in Tuscola, IL for Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$15,500.00). Commissioners commended staff on using the metal roofing, as it is a more sustainable option. Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

H. Roof Replacement: Walnut Hill Shelter, Homer Lake

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve the quote for replacement of the Walnut Hill Shelter roof, along with new gutters and downspouts, from Commercial Builders, Inc., located in Champaign IL for Nineteen Thousand Dollars (\$19,000.00) Commission Hays seconded. Again, Commissioners commended the use of a sustainable product. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Hays moved to Executive Session at 7:12 pm under 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 and 2(c)21 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. Commissioner Herakovich seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

Executive Session was closed and regular session resumed at 7:31 pm.

OPEN SESSION

NEW BUSINESS

A. Release of Executive Session Minutes

Commissioner Herakovich moved that the Board had 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 made available for public inspection at this time:

February 20, 2020 (except ¶ under 2 (c) 5 beginning ‘Also discussed’)

March 19, 2020 (except ¶ 1)

November 19, 2020 (except for first and second ¶¶ under 2 (c)5)

December 17, 2020

January 21, 2021

Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

B. Destruction of Verbatim Recordings of Executive Session Minutes

Commissioner Herakovich moved that the Board concluded it is appropriate and therefore authorizes the destruction of existing recordings of executive session held on or before August 18, 2019. Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hays made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:33 pm. Livesay seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

Scott Hays, Secretary
Board of Commissioners
Champaign County Forest Preserve District