

Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
June 14, 2022, 6:00 pm
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, June 14, 2022 (*Rescheduled meeting from 6/16/2022*) via Zoom due to the Illinois Governor’s Executive Order 2020-10. Commissioner Goodman called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Kerins called the roll. The following Commissioners were in attendance by both audio and video: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, and Kerins. Commissioner Livesay was absent with notice.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

EMPLOYEE MILESTONE RECOGNITION

HR Director, Dara Edgington, noted quarterly recognition of the following District staff: Jennifer Wick, Marina Montez-Ellis and David Sebestik all celebrating 5-years with the District, and Roy Woodmansee celebrating 30-years with the District. Dara noted the dedication and talent of all 4. Deputy Director, Mike Daab, also noted Roy’s help to him during his time with the Natural Resources was much appreciated.

Commissioners thanked the four for their service, and thanked Woodmansee for attending the meeting.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS – None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on May 19, 2022**
- B. Monthly Staff Reports and Program Budget Second Quarter Report**
- C. May Treasurers Report**
- D. Disbursements for Approval**

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

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

A. Forest Preserve Friends Foundation

Will Timmons, FPFF Chair, was present and gave an overview of the groups activities during 2021 including: donor numbers, and giving amounts; events including: donor tree plantings, donor hike to Buffalo Trace, funding of the accessible boat launch at Lake of the woods, and the funding of the covered bridge roof at Lake of the Woods. Timmons also advised of the groups 2022 goals including: donor retention numbers, donation dollar goals of 10% over 2021 giving, creation of a donor society, legacy giving initiatives, KRT Ogden, the Greenhouse project, land

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acquisition, KRT charging station, and the also the group will be gaining 3 new members. Lastly, Timmons introduced a new Foundation member, Brendan McGinty.

Commissioners welcomed McGinty, and thanked Timmons and the Foundation for their work

B. Citizens Advisory Committee

Commissioner Hays welcomed all CAC members that were present, including: Roger Digges, Fred Newport, Jon Hoekstra, Dick Harris, Kayla Boparai, and Nancy Elliot. Hays noted in-person outreach activities have finally started again, and the group is very excited to be out in public again after 2 years of not being able to due to the pandemic! Hays reported over the past year the group has been involved in the recently CCFPD Board approved Climate Commitment, work is underway on the Tomlinson Cemetery, and matching grant research initiatives. Hays reported committee member Fred Newport, and Newport's spouse, Sandy Lu, recently received volunteers for the year award from IPRA. Hays thanked Fred and Sandy Lu for their work with the District.

Roger Digges noted this will be his last year on the Committee, but wanted to thank Marketing Manager, Lisa Sprinkle, Former CCFPD Executive Director, Mary Ellen Wuellner, Executive Director, Lorrie Pearson, the District Board and Commissioner Hays for their help and all they do for the Committee and the District.

Commissioners thanked the Committee for all of their work and for those that were in attendance.

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners cited the following items from staff reports and observations:

- DEI work
- Visit Champaign County outreach event
- Work on wetland areas
- Lake of the Woods boat rentals
- KRT Ogden
- Staff trainings
- Summer programming
- Museums new exhibit
- Audit work
- Lake of the Woods road sealcoating
- Willow Pond
- Media coverage
- New staff
- Working with area communities in regard to KRT
- Welcome to Skylar Smith, Homer Lake Site Superintendent

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Commissioners thanked Commissioner Hays for his time on the Board including special thanks for: passion for creating water access, land acquisition, his humor, dedication, and sustainability and transparency dedication.

Commissioners also commended staff on the work of all District staff as noted in the staff reports.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director Announcements – Pearson thanked Hays for his support of District staff, and thanked Herakovich and Goodman for attending the museum’s recent opening exhibit ‘A History of Healing.’

Business and Finance Director, John Baker, reported the District had recently received property tax payments, a little behind the normal payment time.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Board NRPA Travel

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve \$2,157.19 for 2022 NRPA Conference travel expenses for Commissioner Andrew Kerins. This includes a \$189.19 transportation allowance overage from the last updated travel expense policy approved in 2016. Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich and Kerins.

B. Purchase of ADA Lift for HQ Basement

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve the bid for an ADA lift (Materials and Installation) at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve from CCM Champaign County Mobility for Twenty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Eight dollars and 00/100 (\$29,978.00) and authorize the Executive Director to execute the contract. Commissioner Kerins seconded. Commissioners confirmed the unit was within fire code. District Planner, Bridgette Moen, advised the unit did meet fire codes. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich and Kerins.

C. Purchase of HVAC for HQ Basement

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board the quote for HVAC (Materials and Installation) at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve from P&P Heating and Cooling for Nineteen Thousand Two Hundred dollars and 00/100 (\$19,200.00) and authorize Executive Director to execute the contract. Commissioners commended staff for repurposing the smaller unit that was in the artifact storage room. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich and Kerins.

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D. CCFPD and Ogden Intergovernmental Agreement

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board approve the intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for Kickapoo Rail Trail Maintenance and Trail Upgrade within the Village of Ogden. Commissioner Hays seconded. Deputy Executive Director, Mike Daab, noted the agreement had been recently approved by the Village of Ogden with only one minor change that is not noted in the current version, with that change being in the maintenance section, second sentence will notate that Ogden will not allow grass to reach eight (8) inches or greater in height, not 6” as the current copy states. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich and Kerins.

E. Change Order 1 for KRT Phase 2C Ogden Construction

Commissioner Kerins moved the Board approve a change order request for KRT Phase 2 C Ogden project from Stark Excavating for Fifteen Thousand Two Hundred Fifty-Five dollars and 33/100 (\$15,255.33). Commissioner Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich and Kerins.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Kerins moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:03 pm 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. Herakovich seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich and Kerins.

Commissioners Kerins moved to move back to regular session at 7:24 pm. Hays seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich and Kerins.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hays made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:24 pm. Kerins seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich and Kerins. Motion carried.

Andrew Kerins, Secretary
Board of Commissioners
Champaign County Forest Preserve District