

Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
November 16, 2023, 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, November 16, 2023, at Education Classroom, Museum of the Grand Prairie, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet, Illinois. Commissioner Kerins called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Hundley called the roll. The following Commissioners were present: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins and Knott. Commissioner Herakovich was absent with notice.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE – None

Commissioner Kerins opened the Public Hearing at 6:01 pm

PUBLIC HEARING:

***RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE TENTATIVE TAX LEVY ORDINANCE 2023-01
OF THE CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF
CHAMPAIGN, OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, FOR THE 2023 TAXES DUE IN 2024.***

None - No public in attendance

Commissioner Knott moved to close the Public Hearing at 6:02 pm. Commissioner Goodman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins and Knott.

Commissioner Kerins opened the Regular meeting at 6:03 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS – Commissioner Knott, requested item G. Approve Collections Deaccession of the Consent Agenda be pulled and placed at Prior to item A under XII. New Business.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on October 19, 2023**
- B. Minutes of Executive Session on October 19, 2023**
- C. Monthly Staff Reports**
- D. Disbursements for Approval**
- E. October Treasurers Report**
- F. Approve Collections Acquisition**

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

FOREST PRESERVE FRIENDS FOUNDATION

Pearson reported at the last meeting discussion included: End of the year fundraising initiatives including Natures Appeal, and Dark Sky and Homer Lake boat launch for Giving Tuesday.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

It was noted the outreach season is over, and staff will be reviewing by-laws.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioners noted positive things about the following items from staff reports and observations:

- Old Homer Park – African American Heritage Trail Signage
- Golf numbers
- Staff reports
- Elks Lake Pavilion updates
- Painting of the covered bridge and swinging bridge at Lake of the Woods
- Illinois Tourism coverage of Middle Forks International Dark Sky Park status
- Social media

Commissioners also commended staff for staying ahead of possible concerns by updating the public of preserve activity prior to the activity beginning, such as prescribed burns.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director Announcements – Pearson noted Discovery Green House design meeting and the recent planting of 75 trees at Middle Fork in honor of the District’s 75th anniversary.

B. 2024 Draft Board Meeting schedule

Pearson gave an overview of the proposed schedule, and asked Commissioners to review with their calendars and let her know if there are any conflicts, as the final schedule will be on the December agenda for approval.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve Collections Deaccession

Commissioner Knott moved the Board approve deaccessioning identified artifacts from the following collections: Redhed, U of I, Barnhart, Davis, Schloss, “Tools and Chest”, Barth, Brauer, Ziegler, Creamer, Chesbro, IPL, FIC, and items previously recommended for deaccession but without documentation of Board approval. Commissioner Hundley seconded. Commissioner Knott asked for clarification on destruction procedures. Staff advised as the Museum is an accredited museum, there are ethical rules they must follow. Knott noted that as opposed to destruction, if they couldn’t be place at another institution, that selling would be a better option. Goodman asked if the original donors are contacted. Staff noted they are not, as the donor signs over the ownership of the item to the museum. Commissioners asked for staff to report back with the disposition information of all the items. A voice vote was taken. 3 Ayes – 1 No. Motion carried.

B. Approve Ordinance 2023-01: Annual Final Tax Levy

Commissioner Knott moved the Board approve Ordinance 2023-01, the Annual Final Tax Levy for 2023 Taxes due in 2024. Commissioner Hundley seconded. Commissioners noted a small edit under, secretary name, on the document. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins and Knott. Motion carried.

C. Approve Ordinance 2023-02 Annual Tentative Budget & Appropriations

Commissioner Knott moved the Board approve Ordinance 2023-02 Annual tentative Budget & Appropriations. Commissioner Goodman seconded. Pearson gave an overview of the document, noting the KRT grant funding is not currently included in the document. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins and Knott. Motion carried.

D. Approve Bid for Lake of the Woods Golf Course Chemicals

Commissioner Hundley moved the Board approve the Base Bid and Add Alternative #1 for Chemicals (Materials and Delivery) at Lake of the Woods Golf Course from Helena Agri Enterprises LLC for Thirty Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Four and 33/100 (\$30,564.33) and authorize the Executive Director to execute the contract. Commissioner Goodman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins and Knott. Motion carried

E. Approve New Position: Donor Relationship Coordinator (Foundation Funded)

Commissioner Goodman moved the Board approve the creation of a new full-time Donor Relationship Coordinator position to be funded entirely the Forest Preserve Friends Foundation. Commissioners confirmed funding for the position would be 100% funding from the Foundation. Commissioner Hundley seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

F. Approve Cleaning Service Agreement with Strong Cleaning Solutions at the Museum of the Grand Prairie

Commissioner Knott moved the Board authorize the Executive Director to execute the agreement for Strong Cleaning Solutions to perform routine cleaning and janitorial services for the Museum of the Grand Prairie in an amount not to exceed \$21,600. Commissioner Goodman seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

G. Approve IAPD/IPRA Credentials

Commissioner Knott moved the Board approve the attached credentials certificate designating Andrew Kerins as delegate and Lorrie Pearson as alternate representative to serve as a delegate to the Illinois Association of Park Districts Annual Business Meeting on January 27, 2024. Commissioner Hundley seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:48 pm, Commissioner Knott 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. Commissioner Goodman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins and Knott.

Commissioners Kerins moved to adjourn back to regular session at 6:59 pm. Hundley seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

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MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kerins made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm. Commissioner Hundley seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hundley, Kerins and Knott.

Wendy Hundley, Secretary
Board of Commissioners
Champaign County Forest Preserve District