

Journal of Proceedings
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 15, 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, April 15, 2021 via Zoom due to the Illinois Governor’s Executive Order 2020-10. Commissioner Kerins called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:02 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, human resources generalist, and human resources assistant were present at the meeting location.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS – None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on March 18, 2021
- B. Minutes of Executive Session on March 18, 2021
- C. Monthly Staff Reports

Commissioner Hays made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Goodman 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 reported the group met remotely and discussion included: Lake of the Woods peninsula project fundraising and the upcoming tree giveaway. Livesay also expressed gratitude for committee president, Will Timmons, noting he has been doing a great job in leading the group’s fundraising initiatives.

B. Citizens Advisory Committee

Commissioner Hays noted that the full committee had not met since the last meeting, but the Hazen Bridge subcommittee had met and had a productive meeting. Hays reported members will meet next week at Heron View to have a tour of the grounds and to see the Hazen Bridge.

Regular Meeting

April 15, 2021

Page 2 of 4

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners cited the following items from staff reports and observations:

- Peninsula accessible kayak and canoe launch and dock
- Data table for prescribed burns
- Amount of golf play
- Unit 4 summer work involvement possibilities
- Spring eggs, including the golden egg initiative
- Lake of the Woods trout
- Driving range 'hit the car' initiative
- Appreciation for the program budget
- Upcoming education outdoor programs
- Contactless boat rental research
- Botanical Garden's children's area
- KRT and UPD collaboration
- MF Activity Center newly installed HVAC

All Commissioners commended Kerins on his involvement with the referendum research team that also consists of faculty from UIUC and SUNY Brockport.

Goodman questioned the location of the pedestrian crossing on Lake of the Woods Road near the Lake of the Woods peninsula, as he was concerned with the amount of traffic in that area. Moen noted that planning staff are working with the county for approval on the placement and design.

Herakovich thanked Dave Leake for his continued involvement with the District on Dark Sky Park initiatives.

Livesay noted the information regarding the Congressional Transportation and Infrastructure earmark process. Moen explained proposal ideas are forwarded to the legislators, and they in turn forward their top picks for possible funding in the bill. Livesay suggested that the board hold a study session to get a staff update on the KRT that covers work already in the plans, what is left to do, and the funds that we need to raise to complete the Champaign County portion of the trail.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Announcements – Wuellner noted that during their recent monthly Treasurer's meeting with Goodman, Baker asked for an early August study session to begin the 2022 budget process and get Board feedback. Wuellner also noted that they discussed the formation of a finance Committee consisting of 2 commissioners, 1-2 CAC members, and key staff. Goodman also

Regular Meeting

April 15, 2021

Page 3 of 4

reported he had recently met with Hope Wheeler of CliftonLarsonAllen, and that she thought a committee would be useful for the District.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Executive Director Recruitment

Kerins noted he would be signing the contract for Edgington to forward to IAPD so that the search process could get underway.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Disbursements for Approval

Commissioner Goodman moved to approve the payment of \$269,342.14 in disbursements dated March 19, 2021 through April 15, 2021. Commissioner Herakovich seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

B. Treasurers Report - March

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

C. 2021 Savings and Reserve Projects

Baker gave an overview of current year savings and an estimate of reserves. Baker also noted that final property tax extensions from the county have not been received but are expected shortly. Commissioner Herakovich commended the initiatives mentioned in the report. Commissioners asked if the IT position is a temporary one. Staff is recommending that the IT position become a permanent position but that the hours may fluctuate based on need.

D. River Bend Road and Trail Resurfacing

Commissioner Herakovich moved the Board approve the bid for resurfacing (Materials and Installation) including alternate #1 (trail resurfacing) and alternate #2 (entry easement road) at River Bend Forest Preserve from Illiana Construction Company for One Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Seventy and 00/100 (\$148,270.00). Commissioner Hays seconded. District planner, Bridgette Moen, gave an overview of the proposal and the alternates. Hays confirmed the trail work was necessary. Moen noted the current trail has original materials from when the preserve was opened in 2007 and that vegetation is growing in many areas of the trail. Wuellner also noted the original grant included this ADA path, so this type of surfacing is needed. Herakovich asked if bidding earlier in the year could yield more bidders. Moen replied that going over past District road bidding info, she noted that Illiana is frequently the only bidder for these types of projects. Moen noted that three other entities did request bid packet info, but did not return bids. Livesay confirmed that the disparity between the cost estimate and the bid was due to the addition of the two alternates. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Goodman, Hays, Herakovich, Kerins and Livesay. Motion carried.

Regular Meeting

April 15, 2021

Page 4 of 4

E. Purchase of Ford F250 for Lake of the Woods – No Action

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Hays moved to Executive Session at 7:04 pm under 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, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 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 8:23 pm.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hays made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:24 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

Journal of Proceedings
SPECIAL MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 3, 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 Special Meeting on Thursday, April 1, 2021 via Zoom due to the Illinois Governor’s Executive Order 2020-10. Commissioner Kerins called the Special 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 attended via Zoom. The executive director and HR generalist were present at the meeting location.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Ed Roy representing the League of Women Voters was present via Zoom.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Executive Director Recruitment

HR generalist Dara Edgington reviewed salary range comparison data that she had collected from a variety of sources. A discussion took place and it was confirmed by unanimous approval that the Executive Director salary range continue to be separate from the District employee pay scale and that the posted salary range for the upcoming Executive Director recruitment would be \$105,000 - \$135,000.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hays moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:29 pm. Goodman 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