1.0 CALL TO ORDER
The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the McHenry County Conservation District was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Heinsohn on the evening of Thursday, April 20, 2017 at the Brookdale Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, Illinois 60098.

2.0 ROLL CALL
2.1 Roll Call
Trustees Present: Bona Heinsohn, President
                 Stephen Barrett, Vice President
                 Brandon Thomas, Treasurer (remotely)
                 David Kranz, Secretary
                 Pete Merkel, Trustee
                 Vern Scacci, Trustee
                 David Brandt, Trustee

Counsel & Staff Present: Robert “Bob” Nowak, County Board Liaison
                        James D. Rock, Legal Counsel
                        Elizabeth S. Kessler, Executive Director
                        John Kremer, Director of Operations & Public Safety
                        Andy Dylak, Director of Administration & Finance
                        Ed Collins, Director of Land Preservation & Natural Resources
                        Wendy Kummerer, Marketing & Communications Manager
                        Anne Basten, Executive Assistant
                        John Berg, Facilities Maintenance Manager
                        Deb Chapman, Educational Services Manager
                        Sara Denham, Wildlife Resource Center Manager
                        Jeff Diedrick, Police Chief
                        Jenny Heider, Human Resource Manager
                        Amy Peters, Planning Manager
                        Val Siler, Land Preservation Manager
                        Perry Weborg, Sites & Fleet Manager
                        Brad Woodson, Natural Resource Manager

Others Present: Kelley & Holt Kepes, Ringwood
2.2 Remote Participation
   A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Secretary Kranz, to Remote participation by Treasurer Thomas in as per Administrative Policy #200.03.02. The basis for missing the meeting is due to a work-related commitment. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.
   Motion passed unanimously.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
   President Heinsohn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 CONSERVATION ETHIC
   Trustee Merkel read the Conservation Ethic aloud and Trustee Scacci read Goal Number 1.

5.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS
   Kelley Kepes from Ringwood, stated that she and her son Holt had attended the Outreach and Advocacy meeting earlier this evening. She explained that they were defining commuting as including trips to a coffee shop as well as work sites. She also noted that the money for development had already been spent and believes some of it was transportation grant funding and encouraged the Board to extend the legal hours of the trail to allow for use of the transportation corridor outside daylight hours.

6.0 PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS
   There were no presentations or introductions this evening.

7.0 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS & REPORT
   7.1 Trustee Reports on Conferences & Meetings Attended
      7.1a Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
          Trustee Scacci reported that the meeting on April 12th was on the Monarch butterfly corridor project. The next meeting will be on May 10th at Clark Environmental headquarters and will focus on Zika virus. Trustee Brandt also attended the April meeting.

      7.1b Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
          Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins was not able to attend the most recent meeting of the group.

      7.1c Chicago Wilderness
          Executive Director Kessler reported that the Chicago Wilderness Trust Board had recently made the difficult decision to cease operating as of March 31, 2017; however, the Chicago Wilderness Alliance, of which everyone is familiar, is still active and being continued through voluntary action of the participating agencies.
7.1d **Agricultural Conservation Easement and Farmland Protection Commission**

President Heinsohn reported that there had been no meetings in April.

7.1e **IACFPD/IAPD/NRPA**

Executive Director Kessler and Trustee Brandt will be attending the IACFPD meeting on May 2nd while in Springfield at the IAPD legislative conference/Parks Day at the Capitol.

7.1f **McHenry County Conservation Foundation**

Trustee Brandt reported that there had not been a recent meeting and that the Foundation is working with the National Association of Park Foundations to help with the bylaws and conversion to a public charity 509(a)3 supporting organization.

7.1g **McHenry County Council of Governments**

Vice President Barrett reported that the event was scheduled for the following week.

7.1h **Green Drinks Crystal Lake**

Secretary Kranz reported that the program had been by McHenry Division of Transportation staff and included the use of the District for wetland mitigation work.

7.1j **Other**

There were no other reports.

7.2 **Finance & Administrative Committee**

7.2a **Summary of items discussed at the meeting held on April 20, 2017**

Vice President Barrett reported that the proposed additional changes to the FY 2018 budget discussed at the Committee of the Whole on April 13, 2017 were reviewed and the consensus of the committee was to move forward with the proposed changes. It was also noted that FY 2017 ended with about $600,000 surplus of which at least half were projects not completed and will be moved forward to the FY 2018 budget through re-appropriation so that the projects can be completed.

7.3 **Outreach & Advocacy Committee - Scheduled Meeting Cancelled**

7.3a **Summary of items discussed at the meeting held on April 20, 2017**

Secretary Kranz reported that the committee discussed the Oak Street Gap and recommended moving the Nunda Township Road District agreement forward as well as the minutes and additions to the
Mountain Bike report. Extended bike trail hours were also discussed but the consensus was to recommend no changes at this time.

8.0 COUNTY BOARD LIAISON REPORT

County Board Liaison Nowak reported that the County Board had discussed a potential resolution setting a goal of a ten percent (10%) reduction for the County’s FY 2018 Budget. An Ad Hoc Committee on Tax Reduction was designated to make recommendations for the cuts and County Board Member Nowak is on the committee.

A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Vice President Barrett, to move Board Business item #10.2 to this point in the meeting due to the eminent departure of Trustee Merkel. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.
Motion passed unanimously.

10.2 Adoption of FY 2018 Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.

A motion was made by Vice President Barrett, seconded by Secretary Kranz, to pass Ordinance #17-928 adopting the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriations for the McHenry County Conservation District, McHenry County, IL, for Fiscal Year 2018, beginning April 1, 2017 and Ending March 31, 2018 as presented. A roll call gave the following results: Kranz-yes, Thomas-yes, Scacci-yes, Barrett-yes, Merkel-yes, Brandt-yes, and Heinsohn-yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

The County Board Finance and Audit Committee meets the first week of May. In order for the District’s FY 2018 budget to go before the County Board for discussion at their Committee of the Whole meeting on May 11th, it will need to be posted on May 1, 2017 for the Finance and Audit Committee meeting on May 4, 2017.

9.0 BOARD BUSINESS - CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Approval of Minutes
9.1a March 23, 2017

9.2 Receive & Place in Confidential File Closed Session Minutes
9.2a March 23, 2017

9.3 Board Committee Minutes to be Received and Placed on File
9.3a Finance & Administration Committee Minutes for March 23, 2017
9.3b Outreach & Advocacy Committee Minutes for March 23, 2017

9.4 Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for March 31, 2017 as presented.

9.5 Motion to accept the 2016 Hunting Program Report and to adopt Ordinance #17-929 authorizing the 2017 Deer and Waterfowl Hunting Directive.

9.6 Motion to adopt Resolution #17-07 approving a Grant Agreement with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in an amount up to $19,000 for the funding of a YCC crew in the summer of 2017 and authorizing
the Executive Director to execute any required documents including the FAF SF-24 form.

9.7 Motion to authorize the preparation of specifications and letting of bids to secure multiple Land Preservation and Natural Resource Division Joint Grassland Venture grassland management leases on thirteen (13) separate parcels containing approximately 253 acres (Bid # 0417.08.01).

9.8 Motion to adopt Resolution #17-08 authorizing the Executive Director to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement authorizing the Construction and Maintenance of a Multi-Use Trail and Crossing by McHenry County Conservation District within Nunda Township Road District’s Roadway Jurisdiction on Oak Street in Crystal Lake.

9.9 Motion to approve two actions to move the Ridgefield Trace Railroad Crossing at Oak Street project forward by (1) Filing a petition with the Illinois Commerce Commission for the crossing through Resolution #17-09 and (2) Authorizing staff, along with Baxter and Woodman Engineers, to prepare specification and letting of bids for construction.

9.10 Motion to pass Resolution #17-10 authorizing the execution of a Limited License Agreement with Sigecon, LLC d/b/a WOW! Internet, Cable and Phone permitting the installation and maintenance of fiber optic cable and equipment on certain District real estate.

9.11 Motion to accept the FY 2018 Project Wish List as presented and submit to the McHenry County Conservation Foundation for consideration.

9.12 Motion to extend a one-year agreement to Verizon Wireless of Schaumburg, IL, for the District’s cellular equipment and wireless services for an estimated cost of $2,365.29 per month.

9.13 Motion to adopt Resolution #17-11 authorizing the Executive Director to execute Agricultural Lease Agreements on forty (40) acres of hay and fifty-two (52) +/- acres of cropland on the Marcia Equity parcel with Tyke Nichols for the hay lease and Dan Sass for the cropland, the highest quote for the term of April 20, 2017 thru February 28, 2018 with an option to continue thru February 28, 2019 if necessary.

A motion was made by Vice President Barrett, seconded by Trustee Brandt, to approve all Board Business - Consent Agenda items as presented. A roll call vote gave the following results: Barrett-yes, Scacci-yes, Thomas-yes, Kranz-yes, Merkel-yes, Brandt-yes, Heinsohn-yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

10.0 OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

10.1 Approval of Bills Payable for the Month of March 2017

A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Trustee Merkel, to approve the payment of bills as indicated on the Submission of Bills Pending Report for the month ending March 31, 2017 as presented. A roll call vote gave the following results: Thomas-yes, Merkel-yes, Barrett-recused, Kranz-yes, Brandt-yes, Scacci-yes, Heinsohn-yes.
Motion passed unanimously with one recusal by Vice President Barrett as he was the payee of one of the invoices.

Trustee Merkel left the meeting at this point.

11.0 PRESIDENT’S REPORT
President Heinsohn had no report prepared.

12.0 TRUSTEES’ REPORTS
Trustee Scacci complimented Planning Manager Peters and Sites & Fleet Manager Weborg for their work on the horse trailer parking lot at Brookdale and for Planning Manager Peters’ presentation to the Equestrian Coalition of McHenry County on the project.
Trustee Brandt thanked the Police Department for the amount of work documented in the most recent staff report.

13.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS’ REPORT
13.1 2016-2020 Strategic Plan 4th Quarter Update - Year 2
13.2 ADA Transition Plan - 4th Quarter Update
13.3 In the News - 4th Quarter
13.4 Dashboard - 4th Quarter Update

Executive Director Kessler reported that the Earth Day event at Prairiewood Education Center had a record number of attendees at about 500. Executive Director Kessler and Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins met with County Administrator Peter Austin about collaborating on the Chicago Trees Initiative workshop with Morton Arboretum to be held at the County on June 23, 2017.
Director of Operations and Public Safety Kremer had a presentation scheduled with the McHenry County Transportation Committee the following week on the Close the Gap fundraising campaign to cross the train tracks at Oak Street in Crystal Lake.

14.0 ADJOURN
A motion was made by Vice President Barrett, seconded by Secretary Kranz, to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.
Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. April 20, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kranz, Secretary

Date