McHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2017

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 7:02 p.m. by President Barrett on the evening of Thursday, October 19, 2017 at the Brookdale Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, Illinois 60098.

2.0 ROLL CALL
Trustees Present: Stephen Barrett, President
David Kranz, Vice President
Pete Merkel, Treasurer
Vern Scacci, Secretary
Dave Brandt, Trustee
John Henning, Trustee
Carolyn Campbell, Trustee

Counsel & Staff Present: 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 Manager
Deb Chapman, Educational Services Manager
Sara Denham, Wildlife Resource Center Manager
Amy Peters, Planning Manager

Val Siler, Land Preservation Manager
Perry Weborg, Sites & Fleet Manager
Brad Woodson, Natural Resource Manager
Jean Gerstrbrein, Accounting Supervisor
Ben O'Dea, Sites Supervisor

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

4.0 CONSERVATION ETHIC
Trustee Campbell read Goal #6 and Vice President Kranz read Goal #2 aloud.
5.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS I
Chris Kempf, 605 Souwanas Trail, Algonquin, alerted the Board to a maintenance issue at the very southern end of the Prairie Trail South. He reported that when the Souwanas trail crossing and roadway were upgraded, the stop signs on both portions of the McHenry County trail and the Kane County trail, were not replaced. President Barrett thanked Mr. Kempf for bringing this safety issue to our attention and assured him that staff would look into the issue and get back to him.

6.0 PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS
6.1 IAPD Best of the Best - Intergovernmental Collaboration Award:
McHenry County Conservation District, Boone County Conservation District, Openlands and McHenry County Division of Transportation
President Barrett read the award aloud. Director of Operations and Public Safety Kremer was recognized for his contribution in getting it organized and done.

6.2 Special Recognition from the 100th General Assembly - Illinois House of Representatives No. 100-24595
President Barrett read the document that had been offered by the Honorable State Representative Steven Reick of the 63rd Legislative District acknowledging the McHenry County Conservation District for receiving the IAPD Best of the Best Intergovernmental Collaboration Award.

6.3 Congratulatory Correspondence from the Honorable Senator Pamela J. Althoff, 32nd Legislative District.
President Barrett read the correspondence from the Honorable State Senator Pamela J. Althoff of the 32nd District extending her congratulations to the District for the IAPD Best of the Best Intergovernmental Collaboration Award and for receiving a ComEd Green Regions Grant for the planting of oak trees at the Pioneer Fen.

7.0 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS & REPORT
7.1 Trustee Reports on Conferences & Meetings Attended
7.1a Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
Trustee Campbell reported that there had been a networking meeting. Trustee Brandt had attended the event at Gladstone Fen across from Boger Bog and the solutions that have been implemented at the Fen that still need to be addressed on the Boger Bog parcel.

7.1b Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins reported that they are still discussing and the ON TO 2050 plan is now out. The most recent meeting included a presentation on the long-term highway view that included making all highways toll roads and adding intermodal systems between the two directions of traffic and the addition of driverless car lanes.
7.1c Chicago Wilderness

Executive Director Kessler as Vice Chair of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance reported that the Executive Council had met the previous day and members are now concentrating on working on governance restructuring and focusing on strategic visioning for 2018 and beyond. Actions from the meeting included filing as a not-for-profit with the Illinois Secretary of State and selecting the Friends of the Forest Preserves to act as the fiscal agent/sponsor of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance. Membership dues invoices will soon be sent out for payment by the end of the calendar year once the agreement with the Friends of the Forest Preserves is executed and e-commerce has been re-established through the membership portal. Anne Basten was acknowledged for attending the meeting and assisting with the minutes/motions for the previous day as it was a productive meeting.

7.1d Agricultural Conservation Easement and Farmland Protection Commission

Trustee Henning reported there had been no meeting and was alerted that Dennis Sandquist at McHenry County Division of Planning is the contact person for the group.

7.1e McHenry County Farm Bureau

Trustee Henning reported that he not been able to attend the recent meeting but had spoken to President Dan Ziller regarding CRP lands.

7.1f IACFPD/IAPD/NRPA

Trustee Brandt, Trustee Campbell, Executive Director Kessler and Director of Operations and Public Safety Kremer had attended the IAPD Best of the Best Awards Gala. Executive Director Kessler also reported on the NRPA Conference and American Academy of Park and Recreation Administrator Meetings attended and shared that she had acquired a great deal of information on social media, technology efficiency tools, growth hacking, partnerships and ideas around three pillars of the Association (conservation, health and wellness and social equity).

7.1g McHenry County Conservation Foundation

Trustee Brandt reported on their meeting from the end of September and the rocky road to the ultimate success of the Great Outdoors Beer Trail that netted approximately $5,200. He also reported that the Foundation had joined the National Association of Park Foundations to help with their fundraising goals and board development. The Foundation will also have a table at the Green Living Expo. Lastly, he reported they discussed the final plans for the Tap Into Your Wild Side which was held early this month. Trustee Brandt thanked
everyone for their efforts and support by attending and working the event which netted approximately $18,000.

7.1h McHenry County Council of Governments
President Barrett reported that he and Secretary Scacci had attended the most recent event hosted by the City of Crystal Lake at the Three Oaks Recreation Area and had spoken with two of the Council Members from the City of Crystal Lake. There had been a ceremonial renaming of the entrance road as Dawson Way after the hard work of the longtime councilmen who spearheaded the project. There had been a presentation on the opioid issues in McHenry County by the Executive Director of the Mental Health Board Scott Black. The next meeting was the following week and hosted by Chairman Franks and the County Board.

Secretary Scacci reported that he had spoken to three Trustees from the Village of Cary and had forwarded information on to them.

7.1i Green Drinks Crystal Lake
Vice President Kranz reported Dr. Clint Gabbard and their architect gave a presentation on the new Liebman Science Center at McHenry County College.

7.1j Conservation Congress 2018
President Barrett reported that the first meeting of the Conservation Congress 2018 Steering Committee had been held and topics had been established of geotourism, water, funding and ecosystem services.

7.1k Other
Trustee Campbell reported on her attendance at State Senator McConnaughay’s Women’s Conference held at the Elgin Community College with Executive Director Kessler and Executive Assistant Basten.

7.2 Finance & Administrative Committee
7.2a Approval of Committee Minutes - September 21, 2017
A motion was made by Vice President Kranz, seconded by Trustee Scacci, to approve the Finance & Administrative Committee minutes of September 21, 2017 and recommend acceptance by the full Board as presented. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.
Motion pass unanimously.

7.2b Quarterly Investment Report FY 2018 - QTR 2
There was no discussion on this item.

7.3 Outreach & Advocacy Committee
7.3a Approval of Committee Minutes - September 21, 2017
A motion was made by Trustee Henning, seconded by Trustee Campbell, to approve the Outreach & Advocacy Committee minutes of September 21, 2017 and recommend acceptance by the full Board as presented. A voice vote resulted in all ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

8.0 COUNTY BOARD LIAISON REPORT
County Board Liaison Nowak was not able to attend this meeting.

9.0 BOARD BUSINESS - CONSENT AGENDA
9.1 Approval of Minutes
   9.1a September 21, 2017
9.2 Board Committee Minutes to be Received and Placed on File
   9.2a Finance & Administration Committee Minutes for September 21, 2017
   9.2b Outreach & Advocacy Committee Minutes for September 21, 2017
9.3 Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for September 30, 2017 as presented.
1.0 9.4 Second Reading. Motion to pass Ordinance #17-939 adopting policy 5.03.08 Financial Assistance Policy - Summer Day Camp Scholarships.
2.0 9.5 Motion to adopt Resolution #17-38 appointing President Barrett as the District’s official Delegate, Vice President Kranz as First Alternate, Trustee Brandt as Second Alternate, and Executive Director Kessler as Third Alternate for the IAPD Annual Business Meeting on January 20, 2018.
3.0 9.6. Motion to pass Resolution #17-39 authorizing the Executive Director to execute the agricultural leases on the Paulsen Parcel (330 acres @ 34.2%) with Mike Roby from March 1, 2018 to February 28, 2021 and Stade V Parcels (28 acres @ 40%) with Vernon Stade from March 1, 2018 to August 1, 2018.
4.0 9.7 Motion to award a contract to Captain Rod’s Boat Lift Service of McHenry, IL, the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, for the Hollows Lake Atwood Pier Replacement Project for a cost not to exceed $47,133 (Bid #0917.09.01).
9.8 Motion to award a contract to Jensen’s Plumbing & Heating of Woodstock, IL, the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, for the HVAC replacement at both Brookdale and Prairiewood Education Centers for a cost not to exceed $93,099 (Bid #0917.15.01).
9.9 Motion to award a contract to Path Construction Company of Arlington Heights, IL for the La Fox Bridge repairs for a cost not to exceed $24,550 (Bid #0817.07.01).
A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Trustee Campbell, to approve the Board Business - Consent Agenda items as presented. A roll call gave the following results: Campbell-yes, Merkel-yes, Henning-yes, Kranz-yes, Brandt-yes, Scacci-yes, Barrett-yes.
Motion passed unanimously.

10.0 OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

10.1 Approval of Bills Payable for the Month of September 2017
Trustee Henning asked that Vendor number C5124 - Conserve FS be pulled from the submission of bills for a separate vote.
A motion was made by Treasurer Merkel, seconded by Secretary Scacci, to approve the payment of bills as indicated on the Submission of Bills Pending Report for the month ending September 30, 2017 with the exception of vendor C5124. A roll call vote gave the following results: Merkel-yes, Brandt-yes, Kranz-yes, Henning-yes, Scacci-yes, Campbell-yes, and Barrett-yes.
Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Treasurer Merkel, seconded by Secretary Scacci, to approve the payment of bills to vendor C5124 Conserve FS as presented. A roll call vote gave the following results: Scacci-yes, Kranz-yes, Brandt-yes, Merkel-yes, Campbell-yes, Henning-Recuse, and Barrett-yes.
Motion passes 6 to 0 with 1 recusal by Trustee Henning.

10.2 Notice of Intent - Preliminary Dedication of Various Conservation Areas as Illinois State Nature Preserves
Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins explained the process for seeking the highest legal protection of land in the State which is permanent with the property no matter who owns it. The process used by the District is the most complicated in the six-county region and allows for input at all stages of the process. He then reviewed the qualities required for consideration as an Illinois State Nature Preserve.
Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins then outlined the sites being proposed as potential Illinois State Nature Preserves as: An addition to Goose Lake Land & Water Reserve; an additional Nature Preserve within Glacial Park Conservation Area; a new nature preserve in the North Branch Preserve Conservation Area; an additional portion within Pleasant Valley Conservation Area; a new designation at Alden Sedge Meadow Conservation Area and an addition to the Lake in the Hills Fen Conservation Area.
A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Vice President Kranz, to adopt Resolution #17-40 directing staff to work with the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission to prepare the necessary documents seeking preliminary approval to dedicate portions of Goose Lake, Glacial Park, North Branch, Pleasant Valley, Alden Sedge Meadow and Lake in the Hills Fen as Illinois State Nature Preserves. A roll call vote gave the following results:
Brandt-yes, Campbell-yes, Merkel-yes, Scacci-yes, Henning-yes, Kranz-yes, and Barrett-yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

11.0 PRESIDENT’S REPORT
President Barrett had no report.

12.0 TRUSTEES’ REPORTS
Secretary Scacci commented on Sergeant Wolfe’s professionalism in handling a suspicious vehicle incident at the Rush Creek parking lot.

Trustee Brandt commented on Wildlife Ecologist Jablonski’s early morning sighting of a Whooping Crane at Glacial Park and complimented staff for their presentation at the Soil & Water Conservation District’s women landowners meeting on conservation practices and stream borders.

13.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS’ REPORT
13.1 Project Update: ADA Improvements
13.2 Quarterly Dashboard - FY 2017 - QTR 2
13.3 Strategic Plan Update - Year 2 - QTR 2
13.4 In the News - QTR 2

Executive Director Kessler gave a shout out to Marketing & Communications Manager Kummerer for her amazing efforts and hard work on the Tap Into Your Wild Side event and thanked all others that assisted with the event as well.

Executive Director Kessler then reported on attending the recent County Board Meeting with Trustee Brandt; during public comment, they asked them to save February 10, 2018 for the Conservation Congress, to plant Oaks at the Oaktober event and handed them the 2018 calendars and highlighted the recent award received from the IAPD Best of the Best Awards Gala on intergovernmental collaboration where McHenry County Division of Transportation was a key partner in making it happen and congratulated the County for their efforts.

Executive Director Kessler reported that Educational Services Manager Chapman and Natural Resource Manager Woodson had attended the Leadership of Greater McHenry County meeting to facilitate conversations and answer questions about the District. She reminded everyone that the Openlands Annual luncheon is on November 4, 2017 and to let her know if you are interested in attending.

14.0 PUBLIC COMMENT II
There were no public comments at this time.
15.0 ADJOURN

A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Trustee Campbell, to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m. October 19, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Vern Scacci, Secretary

Date 11/16/17