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, March 23, 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
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
Amy Peters, Planning Manager
Val Siler, Land Preservation Manager
Perry Weborg, Sites & Fleet Manager
Ryan Stewart, Police Sergeant
Charlie Montgomery, Police Officer
Chris Murison, Police Officer
Brian Elliot, Police Officer
Randi Baker, Police Records Clerk

Others Present: Sheriff Prim, McHenry County Sheriff
Family of Charlie Montgomery
Kelley & Holt Kepes, Ringwood
3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
President Heinsohn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 CONSERVATION ETHIC
Trustee Brandt read the Conservation Ethic aloud and Trustee Kranz read Goal Number 3.

5.0 RECESS TO PUBLIC HEARING
5.1 Motion to recess for the purposes of a Public Hearing of the FY 2018 Tentative Budget & Appropriation Ordinance
A motion was made by Vice President Barrett, seconded by Trustee Brandt, to recess for the purposes of a Public Hearing on the FY 2018 Tentative Budget & Appropriation Ordinance as published. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.
Motion passed unanimously.

5.2 Roll Call
Trustees Present: Bona Heinsohn, President
Stephen Barrett, Vice President
Brandon Thomas, Treasurer
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
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Amy Peters, Planning Manager
Val Siler, Land Preservation Manager
Perry Weborg, Sites & Fleet Manager
Ryan Stewart, Police Sergeant
Charlie Montgomery, Police Officer
Chris Murison, Police Officer
5.3 Public Comment on Proposed FY 2018 Tentative Budget & Appropriation Ordinance
There were no public comments on the FY 2018 Tentative Budget.

5.4 Close Public Hearing and Reconvene Regular Meeting
A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Vice President Barrett, to close the public hearing and reconvene to the regular meeting. A voice vote resulted in all ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

6.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS
Holt Kepes from Ringwood, Illinois is a mechanic at the Bike Haven in McHenry. He requested that the Board of Trustees and staff review the hours of operation of the Prairie Trail North that he uses for commuting to and from his job. He cited rider safety especially after dark as the reason for reconsideration and recommended later hours and a requirement of appropriate lighting by the rider. He noted that he has received a citation for afterhours use.

Kelley Kepes, also from Ringwood, provided written comments that will become part of the minutes. She thanked the Board of Trustees for their time and dedication to public service as she is also a public servant.

Ms. Kepes also requested that the Prairie Trail be open and available after sunset. She provided “green” reasons and the lack of adequate and safe transportation infrastructure for commuter cycling in McHenry County. She suggested full time use of this public asset and noted that liability exists whether the trail is closed or not and that legal use would deter illegal uses.

7.0 PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS
7.1 Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR) for Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2016 - Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)
President Heinsohn recognized the work of Director of Administration & Finance Dylak and his staff for continuing to receive this honor.

7.2 Volunteer of the Year - Environmental Defenders of McHenry County - Executive Assistant, Anne Basten
President Heinsohn recognized the volunteer work of Executive Assistant Basten and her commitment to the environment including her non-work hours.
7.3 Award Commendation - Police Officer, Charlie Montgomery
Sheriff Prim read the citation from the McHenry County Sheriff's Department recognizing Officer Montgomery's knowledge and experience of the natural resources and policing tools to identify the location of a vehicular accident victim, locating the victim partially submerged in frigid water and pulling the victim to safety. Sheriff Prim believed that the victim would likely not have lived had Officer Montgomery not been involved and first on the scene.

8.0 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS & REPORT
8.1 Trustee Reports on Conferences & Meetings Attended
8.1a Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
    Trustee Scacci reported that a joint meeting of Illinois and Wisconsin groups was held in Wisconsin. He was not able to attend. The next meeting will be in Dundee with a presentation by the Friends of the Fox and the following month in St. Charles on mosquitos.

8.1b 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.

8.1c Chicago Wilderness
    Executive Director Kessler reported that she had met with the Chicago Wilderness Trust and that the next Executive Meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2017 at the Lost Valley Visitor Center.

8.1d Agricultural Conservation Easement and Farmland Protection Commission
    President Heinsohn reported that there had been no meetings in March.

8.1e IACFPD/IAPD/NRPA
    Executive Director Kessler reminded those present that there is a chance to win a free trip (air, lodging, registration) to the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) conference in New Orleans, LA online and encouraged Board of Trustees and staff to take advantage of this opportunity. The IAPD legislative conference is coming up on May 2nd & 3rd in Springfield, IL.

8.1f McHenry County Conservation Foundation
    Trustee Brandt reported that the Foundation “Close the Gap” campaign had raised $4,300 towards their $5,000 match campaign. The group is discussing a donation of $20,000 to the District for a special project.
8.1g McHenry County Council of Governments
Vice President Barrett reported that the event the previous evening was predominantly about local politics.

8.1h Green Drinks Crystal Lake
Secretary Kranz was not able to attend. The program had been on a hydroponics gardener in Harvard that provides Duke’s Alehouse with lettuce.

8.1i Conservation Congress
President Heinsohn stated that a State of Conservation newsletter had been distributed to those registered delegates and alternates.

8.1j Other
There were no other reports.

8.2 Finance & Administrative Committee
8.2a Summary of items discussed at the meeting held on March 23, 2017
Treasurer Thomas reported that the finance reports were reviewed and are favorable. The Committee discussed highlights of the FY 2018 budget to be used in the presentation to the County Board. All items on the consent agenda that were previewed by the committee are recommended for approval by the full board.

8.3 Outreach & Advocacy Committee - Scheduled Meeting Cancelled
8.3a Summary of items discussed at the meeting held on March 23, 2017
Secretary Kranz reported that the FY 2018 Legislative Program and the proposed contract with LL Bean were recommended for approval by the full board.

9.0 COUNTY BOARD LIAISON REPORT
President Heinsohn welcomed County Board Liaison Nowak to his first meeting. He stated that he was honored to be appointed. He is a longtime camper and had received his Bachelor of Science Degree after studying forestry at the University of Montana.

10.0 BOARD BUSINESS - CONSENT AGENDA
10.1 Approval of Minutes
10.1a February 16, 2017
10.2 Board Committee Minutes to be Received and Placed on File
10.2a Finance & Administrative Committee Minutes for February 16, 2017
10.2b Outreach & Advocacy Committee Minutes for February 16, 2017
10.3 Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for February 28, 2016 as presented.
10.4 Motion to authorize the Executive Director to execute the five Month-to-Month Residence License Agreements as presented through the term of April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018.
10.5 Motion to pass Resolution #17-03 authorizing the execution of the statement of concurrence relative to the Crystal Lake Avenue & Main Street Intersection Improvement Project.
10.6 Motion to adopt Resolution #17-04 supporting the FY 2018 Legislative Program.
10.7 Motion to adopt Resolution #17-05 authorizing the Executive Director to execute a license agreement with LL Bean for the use of The Hollows Conservation Area for the operation of its stand-up paddle board classes during the Summer of 2017.
10.9 Motion to adopt Resolution #17-06 authorizing the Executive Director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the McHenry County Conservation District and the Illinois State Police for shared use of STARCOM21 talk groups.
10.10 Motion to approve the FY 2018 Salary Schedules as presented.
10.11 Motion to adopt Resolution #17-02 authorizing the execution of the Intergovernmental Agreement with McHenry County and the McHenry County Sheriff’s Department from May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2020 for Police Department Dispatch and Radio Service Fees for a cost of $22,915.44 (Year 1), $26,465.35 (Year 2) and $28,355.35 (Year 3).

A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Treasurer Thomas, 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.

11.0 OTHER BOARD BUSINESS
11.1 Approval of Bills Payable for the Month of February 2017
A motion was made by Treasurer Thomas, seconded by Vice President Barrett, to approve the payment of bills as indicated on the Submission of Bills Pending Report for the month ending February 28, 2017 as presented. A roll call vote gave the following results: Thomas-yes, Merkel-yes, Barrett-yes, Kranz-yes, Brandt-yes, Scacci-yes, Heinsohn-yes. Motion passed unanimously.

12.0 PRESIDENT’S REPORT
President Heinsohn asked staff to look into the use of linear trails after dark for use by commuters including Ridgefield Trace. The results of the research are to be presented through the Outreach and Advocacy Committee at a future meeting.
13.0 TRUSTEES' REPORTS
Trustee Brandt was excited to hear that a Sandhill Crane who had been tagged at Glacial Park Conservation Area in the valley had returned to the site. He also shared that he was able to go on one of the aerial deer counts and thanked Natural Resource Manager Woodson and Natural Resources Project Coordinator Powers for calling him in.

14.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT
Executive Director Kessler reported that the Fiscal Year was ending the following week and the first meeting with members of the County Board to present the FY 2018 budget was scheduled for April 4, 2017 before the Planning, Environment and Development Committee.

Executive Director Kessler also reported that 2,000+ members of the public attended the Festival of the Sugar Maples event over the two weekends it was open. The Volunteer Recognition and Appreciation Luncheon organized by Volunteer Coordinator Beck had been well attended.

Additionally, the District was closing on the Marcia Equity parcel of land that is part of the Monastery Marsh project at the end of March. This land will be purchased through previously donated funds.

Several buildings were in the demolition process at Fox Bluff Conservation Area. Natural Resources and Sites and Fleet had been burning every day that conditions allowed with about 1,000 acres burned so far. Planning staff had been interviewed for an upcoming Wide Open Spaces radio/podcast and the Wildlife Resource Center staff had begun fielding a large volume of wildlife calls.

15.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION
At 6:40 p.m., a motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Secretary Kranz, to go into Executive Session pursuant to Exception 2C2 (Collective Bargaining) and 2C21 (Review of Closed Session Minutes) of the Open Meeting Act. A roll call vote gave the following results: Thomas-yes, Barrett-yes, Kranz-yes, Brandt-yes, Scacci-yes, Heinsohn-yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

16.0 RECONVENE
16.1 ROLL CALL
Trustees Present: Bona Heinsohn, President
Stephen Barrett, Vice President
Brandon Thomas, Treasurer
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
17.0 ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

17.1 Placement of the Executive Session Minutes of January 19, 2017 and February 16, 2017 into the Confidential - Closed Session Minutes Files until released to the public domain.

These minutes were approved in Executive Session and will be placed on file until such time as they are approved for release to the public domain.

17.2 Consideration of an Ordinance #17-927 authorizing the execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police.

A motion was made by Treasurer Thomas, seconded by Vice President Barrett, to authorize the execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police as negotiated. A roll call vote gave the following results: Scacci-yes, Kranz-yes, Brandt-yes, Thomas-yes, Merkel-yes, Barrett-yes, Heinsohn-yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

18.0 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 7:50 p.m. March 23, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kranz, Secretary

Date: 4/20/17