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 5:00 p.m. by President Kranz on the evening of Thursday, November 15, 2018 at the Brookdale Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, Illinois 60098.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
President Kranz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 INTRODUCTORY ROLL CALL
3.1 Roll Call
Trustees Present: Dave Kranz, President
Vern Scacci, Vice President
Pete Merkel, Treasurer
Dave Brandt, Secretary
Carolyn Campbell, Trustee
Benjamin Washow, Trustee

Trustee Absent: John Henning, 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
Anne Basten, Executive Assistant
Deb Chapman, Educational Services Manager
Jeff Diedrick, Chief of Police
Sara Denham, Wildlife Resource Center Manager
Shawna Flavell, Director of Development/Executive Director
McHenry County Conservation Foundation
Jenny Heider, Human Resource Manager
Amy Peters, Planning Manager
Val Siler, Land Preservation Manager
Perry Weborg, Sites & Fleet Manager
Brad Woodson, Natural Resource Manager
Amanda Bronge, Police Officer
Randi Baker, Police Administrative Assistant
Ryan Stewart, Police Sergeant
Glen Von Bergen, Agricultural Services Coordinator

Guests Present: Kathy, Dana & Heather Diedrick, Marengo
Tyler Feeney, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co
Former Senator Pamela J. Althoff
Jacob Karkowski, Student
4.0 CONSERVATION ETHIC
Secretary Brandt read Goal #6 and Trustee Washow read Goal #5 aloud.

5.0 TRUSTEE REPORT
Secretary Brandt, Trustee Campbell and Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins attended a meeting on the Kishwaukee River with FEMA.

Secretary Brandt was impressed with the Life of the Metis program and one of the fort buildings. He also recognized Restoration Ecologist Paul Bruett as the newest Board Member of the Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge.

Trustee Campbell stated that at the FEMA meeting, she learned that it is an interesting process determining flood risk. She also attended a CMAP LTA project meeting on strategy and policy. She also noted that the McHenry County Economic Development Corporation dinner attended with Executive Director Kessler had slides of open space quite often and the keynote speaker included how open space was very much a part of what makes a county livable. Trustee Campbell also spoke to McHenry County College President Gabbard at the event.

Trustee Campbell attended Art of the Land for The Land Conservancy of McHenry County and the Friends of Hackmatack Annual Meeting where the District was awarded the Tamarack Award. She also tagged along with Executive Director Kessler, Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins and Natural Resource Manager Woodson to the Planning Committee meeting of the County Board where previously shared information by others about The Lyons Prairie and Marsh was corrected.

Vice President Scacci attended the McHenry County Council of Governments dinner where the Office of Emergency Management made a presentation about the importance for all agencies to adopt an emergency plan and that those plans need to be tested periodically. He noted that the biggest emergency issue is cybercrimes and what happens when an agencies computer is taken hostage and held for ransom.

6.0 COUNTY BOARD LIAISON REPORT
County Board Liaison Nowak reported that goodbyes were shared with the nine county board members that were leaving in December. The County Board approved a budget which cropped the levy by $10M and included an abatement of $6.5M. No services were cut. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

7.0 PRESIDENT’S REPORT
President Kranz stated that he appreciates all the extracurricular meetings that Board members are attending.

8.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS
There were no public comments made.

9.0 PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS
9.1 Presentation: Sergeant Ryan Stewart - Proactive vs. Reactive Policing
Sergeant Stewart reviewed his history with the District. He then provided a PowerPoint presentation of what the officers do on a daily basis. He reviewed the history of the division, their training and authorized powers. He shared that proactive policing began as “community policing”. He then covered some of the issues encountered and thwarted or corrected within our sites that have resulted from the
proactive approach including the changing of attitudes, traffic pattern changes, awkward conversations related to visitor conduct and after hour site use.
Besides proactive patrols, police also have assigned details, and directed patrols related to problem or suspected problem areas or issues where they also reach out to the neighborhood residents after the situation is resolved through “knock and talk” patrols.

9.2 **Recognition of Employee Service Anniversaries**

Executive Director Kessler read the list of employees reaching milestones with their number of years of service. Randi Baker, who is celebrating five years of service, was present and introduced to the Board of Trustees.
9.2a 20 years: Trish Greninger, Andy Talley
9.2b 15 years: Sarah Rummel
9.2c 10 Years: Dan Hibbeler, Kyle Retek, Chris Zeiner, Lora Petrak
9.2d 5 Years: Randi Baker, Jacob Muench

9.3 **Resolution #18-33 Recognizing Illinois State Senator Karen McConnaughy**

President Kranz read the resolution recognizing Senator McConnaughy. A motion was made by Secretary Brandt, seconded by Trustee Washow, to adopt Resolution #18-33 Recognizing Illinois State Senator Karen McConnaughy’s Service to the Citizens of McHenry County as presented. A voice vote resulted all ayes.

Motion passed unanimously.

9.4 **Resolution #18-34 Recognizing Illinois State Senator Pamela J. Althoff**

President Kranz read the resolution recognizing Senator Althoff. A motion was made by Treasurer Merkel, seconded by Secretary Brandt, to adopt Resolution #18-32 Recognizing Illinois State Senator Pamela J. Althoff’s Service to the Citizens of McHenry County as presented. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.

Motion passed unanimously.

President Kranz then presented the framed resolution to Senator Althoff.

9.5 **Resolution #18-30 Recognizing the Retirement of Chief Jeffrey Diedrick**

President Kranz read the resolution recognizing Chief Diedrick’s retirement. President Kranz then presented the framed resolution to retiring Chief Jeffrey Diedrick.

Chief Diedrick thanked the entire staff, board, the District and his family for allowing him thirty-one (31) years of doing a job he loved.

A motion was made by Vice President Scacci, seconded by Secretary Brandt, to adopt Resolution #18-30 Recognizing the Retirement of Chief Jeffrey Diedrick as presented. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.

Motion passed unanimously.

9.6 **Tamarack Award - Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge**

President Kranz displayed the Tamarack Award that was presented to the District through Secretary Brandt, Trustee Campbell, Executive Director Kessler and Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins at the recent annual meeting of the Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge in Richmond.
10.0 BOARD BUSINESS - CONSENT AGENDA

10.1 Approval of Minutes
10.1a October 18, 2018 - Regular Meeting

10.2 Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for October 31, 2018.
10.2a General Fund Variance Report - Second Fiscal Quarter ending September 30, 2018

10.3 Motion to accept the Investment Report for October 31, 2018.

10.4 Motion to affirm Change Order #1 in the amount of $5,375 from National Wrecking Company of Chicago, IL, for additional removal and fill material at the Fox Bluff - Camp Algonquin Building Demolition & Restoration Phase II (Bid #0718.09.01).

10.5 Motion to authorize the Executive Director to execute a Proposed Activity Form permitting the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission to control Phragmites on several District sites.

10.6 Motion to adopt Resolution #18-31 authorizing the execution of a Grant Agreement with the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation for the Monastery Marsh/Alden Creek Greenway Project.

10.7 Motion to accept the 2018 Blanding’s Turtle Population Report as presented.

10.8 Motion authorizing the Executive Director to execute an agreement with Sikich, LLP of Naperville, Illinois to serve as the District’s independent auditors and perform audit services for FY 2019 for a fee of $21,165 and FY 2020 for a fee of $21,800.

10.9 Motion to adopt Resolution #18-34 authorizing the Executive Director to execute a three-year agricultural lease with Marengo High School FFA per the District’s Farm Management Policy #700.04 beginning March 1, 2019 through February 28, 2022.

10.10 Motion to adopt Resolution #18-29 appointing President Kranz as the District’s official Delegate, Secretary Brandt as First Alternate, Trustee Campbell as Second Alternate, and Executive Director Kessler as Third Alternate for the IAPD Annual Business Meeting on January 26, 2019.

A motion was made by Secretary Brandt, seconded by Trustee Washow, to approve Board Business - Consent Agenda items 10.1 through 10.10 as presented. A roll call vote gave the following results: Scacci-yes, Campbell-yes, Washow-yes, Merkel-yes, Brandt-yes, Kranz-yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

11.0 OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

11.1 Approval of Bills Payable for the Month of October 2018

11.1a Treasurer’s Internal Audit

Director of Administration and Finance Dylak had provided the requested information from the previous meeting in writing and passed it to the Board of Trustees to review. All items were in compliance with the purchasing policy and procedures.

It was requested that the following documents be pulled for review: A8268-Ace Hardware in Harvard for $34.91 and I1521-Interstate Graphics for $136.21.
11.1b Consideration of Payment to Carolyn Campbell as indicated on the Submission of Bills Pending Report for the period ending October 31, 2018.

A motion was made by Secretary Brandt, seconded by Trustee Washow, to approve the payment of $28,29 for the reimbursement of meeting expenses to Carolyn Campbell as indicated on the submission of Bills Pending Report as presented. A roll call vote gave the following results: Campbell - recused, Merkel-yes, Washow-yes, Brandt-yes, Scacci-yes, Kranz-yes.

Motion passed 5 to 0 with a recusal by Trustee Campbell due to conflict of interest.

11.1c Motion to approve the payment of the balance of bills as indicated on the Submission of Bills Pending Report for the month ending October 31, 2018.

A motion was made by Secretary Brandt, seconded by Trustee Campbell to pay the balance of bills as indicated on the Submission of Bills Pending Report for the month ending October 31, 2018 as presented. A roll call vote gave the following results: Merkel-yes, Brandt-yes, Washow-yes, Scacci-yes, Campbell-yes, Kranz-yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

11.2 Consideration of Health, Dental, Vision and Life Insurance Renewals & Broker of Record

Director of Administration and Finance Dylak explained that things had changed during the day in that Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois had provided the same rates to the existing broker as were provided through Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. He then summarized the previously presented advantages of the Intergovernmental Personnel Benefit Cooperative (IPBC) to provide more stability to the insurance rates for financial planning purposes. It was recommended that all three health insurance plans (HMO, PPO & HSA) be kept and moved to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois as well as change the dental to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois further reducing the cost. It was noted that the cost sharing by the employees would go down a little on most plans and would save the District over $100,000.

11.2a A motion was made by Secretary Brandt, seconded by Trustee Washow, to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute the necessary contracts for health, dental, vision and life insurance for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 as follows: execute a contract for health insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois for a PPO (Blue Print PPO, MIBPP102), HSA (Blue Edge HSA, MIBEE104), and HMO (Blue Advantage HMO MIBAH1020); execute a contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois for dental insurance for a PPO (PPO Dental, DINHR03); renewal of life insurance with MetLife and renewal of vision insurance coverage through VSP. A roll call vote gave the following results: Scacci-yes, Washow-yes, Brandt-yes, Merkel-yes, Campbell-yes, Kranz-yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

11.2b A motion was made by Trustee Washow, seconded by Treasurer Merkel, to authorize the Executive Director to appoint Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. to be the “Broker of Record” for the District in all matters related to providing dental and health
insurance coverage. A roll call vote gave the following results: Brandt-yes, Campbell-yes, Merkel-yes, Scacci-yes, Washow-yes, Kranz-yes.
Motion passed unanimously.

11.3 **Strategic Planning Workshop**
The meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2018 beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Brookdale Administrative Offices.

11.4 **Ratification of a Local Rail-Highway Crossing Safety Program (Section 130) Grant Application with Hebron Township for Hebron Trail Crossing at Lange Road**
A motion was made by Vice President Scacci, seconded by Treasurer Merkel, to ratify the submission of a grant application to the Illinois Department of Transportation for the Local Rail-Highway Crossing Safety Program (Section 130) to assist in funding safety improvements at the intersection of Lange Road, Wisconsin & Southern Railroad and the Hebron Regional Bike Trail. A roll call vote gave the following results: Washow-yes, Scacci-yes, Brandt-yes, Campbell-yes, Merkel-yes, Kranz-yes.
Motion passed unanimously.

12.0 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**
12.1 **Legislative Update - Verbal**
Executive Director Kessler reported that the recent Election Day resulted in a lot of changes and new connections will need to be made. She is working set up meetings with newly elected County, State and Federal officials.

Executive Director Kessler received a request regarding allowing electric bicycles on the bicycle trails and staff will be looking at this and has done some preliminary research.

Executive Director Kessler reported that the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission will be reviewing the Alden Sedge Meadow Nature Preserve for preliminary approval by the State.

The Village of Ringwood as approached the District regarding cleaning out and maintenance of a ditch near Ringwood Road and District staff is preparing a license agreement to allow the Village to do the work on the District’s trail since the ditch is for the roadway and was installed when the roadway was built.

13.0 **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS & REPORT**
13.1 **Trustee Reports on Conferences & Meetings Attended**
13.1a **Fox River Ecosystem Partnership (FREP)**
Trustee Campbell reported that there had not been a meeting in November but some did attend the Art of the Fox exhibit.

13.1b **CMAP**
Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins was not able to attend but had heard that the ONTO 2050 plan is up for review and they are now concentrating on committees to implement the plan.

13.1c **Chicago Wilderness**
Executive Director Kessler reported that the Trolls, Trees and Table Talks Membership Appreciation event had gone well. The ballots for the new at-large member to the Steering Committee were still coming in. The CW Steering Committee will meet in December and will be officially confirmed at the Executive Council Meeting on January 16, 2019. Executive Director Kessler will be stepping up from Vice Chair to serve as Chair of the alliance for the
next three years. The Visioning Working Group is holding listening sessions throughout the region.

13.1d **McHenry County Farm Bureau**
Trustee Henning reported that most of the members were working at bringing in the crops so there had not been a meeting.

13.1e **IACFDP/IAPD/NRPA**
Secretary Brandt reported that he and Treasurer Merkel were planning on attending the upcoming luncheon and IACFDP meeting as part of the IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference in January on January 25, 2019.

13.1f **McHenry County Conservation Foundation**
Secretary Brandt reported that the November meeting had been postponed due to the Friends of Hackmatack meeting the same evening.

13.1g **McHenry County Council of Governments**
Trustee Washow attended the meeting the previous evening and the program was on Future Energy Jobs Act opportunities.

13.1h **Green Drinks Crystal Lake**
Trustee Campbell reported that the program had been on electric vehicles.

13.1i **Conservation Congress 2018**
There was nothing new to report on this item.

13.1j **MCCG Shared Investment Study & Algonquin/Cary Subarea Plan Steering Committee**
Executive Director Kessler reported that there had not been a meeting.

13.1k **MAPP**
Director of Operations and Public Safety Kremer reported that he had attended a meeting on this same day but that there was nothing to report at this time.

13.1l **Other Outreach Contacts**
No other contacts were reported on this month.

14.0 **PUBLIC COMMENTS II**
There were no public comments.

15.0 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
At 6:54 p.m. a motion was made by Secretary Brandt, seconded by Trustee Washow, to go into Executive Session pursuant to Exception 2C11 (Pending Litigation) and 2C21 (Review of Closed Session Minutes of the Open Meeting Act). A roll call gave the following results: Scacciyes, Campbell-yes, Washow-yes, Merkel-yes, Brandt-yes, Kranz-yes. Motion passed unanimously.
16.0 RECONVENE
The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the McHenry County Conservation District was reconvened to order at 7:53 p.m. by President Kranz on the evening of Thursday, November 15, 2018 at the Brookdale Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, Illinois 60098.

16.1 Roll Call
Trustees Present: Dave Kranz, President
Vern Scacci, Vice President
Pete Merkel, Treasurer
Dave Brandt, Secretary
Carolyn Campbell, Trustee
Benjamin Washow, Trustee

Trustee Absent: John Henning, Trustee

Counsel & Staff Present: Robert “Bob” Nowak, County Board Liaison
James D. Rock, Legal Counsel
Elizabeth S. Kessler, Executive Director
Anne Basten, Executive Assistant

17.0 ACTION ON ITEMS OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION
There was no action considered on Executive Session items.

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

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m. November 15, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Dave Brandt, Secretary

[Signature]

Date 12/20/18