MCWENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2018

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 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Kranz on the evening of Thursday, February 15, 2018 at the Brookdale Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, Illinois 60098.

2.0 ROLL CALL
2.1 Roll Call
Trustees Present: Dave Kranz, Vice President
Vern Scacci, Secretary
Dave Brandt, Trustee
John Henning, Trustee
Carolyn Campbell, Trustee

Trustee Absent: Steve Barrett, President
Pete Merkel, Treasurer

Counsel & Staff Present: James D. Rock, Legal Counsel
Elizabeth S. Kessler, Executive Director
John Kremer, Director of Operations & Public Safety
Andy Dylak, Director of Finance & Administration
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
Jenny Heider, Human Resource Manager
Sarah Denham, Wildlife Resource Center Manager
Jeff Diedrick, Police Chief
Amy Peters, Planning Manager
Val Siler, Land Preservation Manager
Perry Weborg, Sites & Fleet Manager
Brad Woodson, Natural Resource Manager

Others Present: Brad Semel, McHenry County Conservation Foundation
Rebekah Snyder, Executive Director, Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves
2.2 Appointment of President Pro-Tempore
A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Secretary Scacci, to appoint Vice President Kranz as President Pro-Tempore for the purpose of executing documents any documents responsive to action at the meeting this evening. A roll call vote gave the following results: Scacci-yes, Kranz-yes, Brandt-yes, Campbell-yes, Henning-yes.
Motion passed unanimously.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
President Pro Tempore Kranz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 CONSERVATION ETHIC
Trustee Brandt read Goal #6 and Secretary Scacci read Goal #1 aloud.

5.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS I
There were no public comments at this time.

6.0 PRESENTATIONS
6.1 Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves
Rebekah Snyder, Executive Director of the Preservation Foundation of Lake County Forest Preserves spoke about the need for the creation of a fundraising arm in Lake County. Their organization is structured as a charitable 501c3 non-profit foundation. The voting members of their Board are members of the Board of Commissioners and they are a public body. After ten years in existence they have now formed committees made up of non-voting volunteers that are treated the same as if they are board members. They are focused on unrestricted gifts and planned gifts as well as special project funding.

The staff are the Development Division and reports to the Executive Director of the Lake County Forest Preserves District and all salaries and expenses are paid through the Forest Preserve District. Every cent goes to the projects the donors want since all of the expenses are paid by the agency. Currently their gifts of conservation land are exceeding their goal. They have decided to change the goals from dollars to specific projects and activities. All funds go to the Lake County Forest Preserve District at the end of the fiscal year.

7.0 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS & REPORT
7.1 Trustee Reports on Conferences & Meetings Attended
7.1a Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
Trustee Campbell reported that most recent meeting was a noon network on invasive species.

7.1b Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins reported that CMAP was closer to issuing the draft 2050 plan and they are currently reviewing four different topic pieces of the plan.
7.1c Chicago Wilderness
Executive Director Kessler as Vice Chair of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance reported that the first meeting of the new Steering Committee was set to meet the following week with the next Executive Council meeting in April.

7.1d Agricultural Conservation Easement and Farmland Protection Commission
There had been no meetings of this group.

7.1e McHenry County Farm Bureau
Trustee Henning reported that he had asked about the Farm Bureau’s position of livestock on agricultural land and clarified that they support livestock on land zoned for agriculture as a matter of policy.

7.1f IACFPD/IAPD/NRPA
There was no new report on any of these groups.

7.1g McHenry County Conservation Foundation
Trustee Brandt reported that the next meeting was scheduled for the last week of February and that they would be focused on the donor wall.

7.1h McHenry County Council of Governments
The meeting was scheduled for the following week and will be attended by Secretary Scacci and President Barrett and the speaker would be the County States’ Attorney. The previous month’s event included the legislators who spoke about the focus on road projects as well as commerce and industry in the state.

7.1i Green Drinks Crystal Lake
President Pro Tempore Kranz reported that Trustees Scacci and Brandt were also in attendance and that the presentation was on the composting site in Wauconda and had been held at the Crystal Lake Brewery.

7.1j Conservation Congress 2018
Trustee Brandt thanked the staff involved stating that it would not have happened without the help of staff. He had heard a lot of positive feedback and that the event had been inspirational.

Secretary Scacci stated that he thought that this event was better than the previous one and hats off to everyone. He also liked the shorter sessions but would have liked more time to socialize with new contacts and to build on those relationships started in the sessions.
7.1k Other
There were no other reports.

7.2 Finance & Administrative Committee
Secretary Scacci reported that the committee members talked about
everything on the Consent Agenda and the consensus was to move all items
forward and support approval. They also spoke about the budget timeline and
that there would be more discussion later in this meeting.

7.3 Outreach & Advocacy Committee
Trustee Brandt reported that the group had discussed the walkabouts in
the neighborhood near the Pichen Parcel and by Fox Bluff Conservation Areas
and that he had received positive feedback for the attention paid to the
neighbors. He would like to see more outreach to those who do not attend
meetings or programs. ESRI® numbers had been presented and he requested
that maybe a future Committee of the Whole meeting could be focused on
who are our constituents.

He reminded everyone about the upcoming Festival of the Sugar Maples
program the first two weekends in March. He also announced that the
Research Round Up program had been cancelled due to two of the presenters
being unable to make the date.

8.0 COUNTY BOARD LIAISON REPORT
County Board Liaison Nowak was not present to report.

9.0 BOARD BUSINESS - CONSENT AGENDA
Executive Director Kessler announced that a few of the items on the Consent
Agenda were for expenses in FY 2019 but that the bid specifications needed to be
prepared and bids let prior to April 2018 for the best pricing.

9.1 Approval of Minutes
9.1a January 18, 2018
9.1b January 18, 2018 - Committee of the Whole

9.2 Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for January 31, 2018 as
presented.

9.3 Motion to adopt Resolution #18-04 authorizing the execution of the 2018
YCC Grant Agreement with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service
(USFWS).

9.4 Motion to adopt Resolution #18-05 authorizing the execution of an
Intergovernmental Agreement with the County of McHenry to utilize the
Alden Sedge Meadow West Wetland Restoration Project to mitigate
unavoidable wetland impacts as a result of the Randall/Algonquin Road
improvements.

9.5 Motion to authorize the preparation of specifications and letting of bids
for the purchase of native trees and shrubs for several reforestation
projects county wide (Bid #0218.08.01).
9.6 Motion to authorize the preparation of specifications and letting of bids for the FY 2019 HMA (Asphalt) Replacement Projects throughout the construction season between June and October of 2018 (Bid #’s 0218.09.01, 0218.09.02, 0218.07.01).

9.7 Motion to authorize the preparation of bid specifications and the letting of bids to purchase herbicide for various restoration projects (Bid #0218.08.02).

9.8 Motion to authorize the preparation of bid specifications and the letting of bids to contract for the herbiciding of various restoration projects (Bid #0218.08.03).

9.9 Motion to adopt Resolution #18-06 authorizing the execution of the attached Intergovernmental Agreement with the McHenry County College No. 528 Granting a License for Temporary Access and Construction Related to Ridgefield Trace for a Water Service Extension.

9.10 Motion to adopt Ordinance #18-945 accepting the bequest in the amount of $474,432.56 from Lorraine Lid and to place the funds in the Special Revenue Dedicated Account to be designated for a future restoration/preservation project of lasting significance.

A motion was made by Trustee Brandt, seconded by Trustee Henning, to approve the Board Business - Consent Agenda items as presented. A roll call gave the following results: Brandt-yes, Campbell-yes, Scacci-yes, Henning-yes, Kranz-yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

10.0 OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

10.1 Approval of Bills Payable for the Month of January 2018

A motion was made by Secretary Scacci, seconded by Trustee Campbell, to approve the payment of bills as indicated on the Submission of Bills Pending Report for the month ending January 31, 2018. A roll call vote gave the following results: Kranz-yes, Henning-recused, Scacci-yes, Brandt-yes, Campbell-yes.

Motion passes 4 to 0 with 1 recusal by Trustee Henning.

10.2 FY 2019 Budget Priorities & Timeline

A preliminary working draft of a portion of the FY 2019 Tentative Budget had been supplied to the board in advance of the meeting and only provided an overview of the budget for several but not all of the funds. It was noted that interest income had been increased and rents were budgeted as unchanged as corn pricing was similar to the previous year. Program fees will show an increase. Staff is proposing a 2% increase in pay ranges and 2% pay increases for non-bargaining employees with the net impact of $30,000 including the 4/7 increases. Frozen positions have been removed from the budget and a Patrol Officer position has been added while the Sergeant position was removed. The budget also includes the addition of a Social Media Specialist and a Director of Development/Executive Director for the McHenry
County Conservation Foundation, as well as a part-time custodian for all locations.

The Part time GIS Specialist will be moved to the general revenue funds as more work is coming from other departments and not just from Land Preservation and Natural Resources. The seasonal positions will be increased from $9 to $9.50/hour with additional hours included.

The insurance budget decreased due to the reduction of positions. The Contractual & Commodities expenses will be reduced because several projects will be completed in the current Fiscal Year. The capital budget includes two replacement vehicles which may not be purchased depending on the actual vehicle conditions later in the year.

Grant income has been budgeted at $1.7 million with a similar expense line item and is based on expected applications. Debt Service Fund expenses are set statutorily and the debt margin is expanding.

The FY 2019 Tentative Budget will be presented in its entirety in March for adoption by Ordinance. A public hearing has been scheduled for the beginning of the meeting in April.

11.0 PRESIDENT’S REPORT
President Pro Tempore Kranz had nothing additional to report.

12.0 TRUSTEES’ REPORTS
Trustee Brandt thanked Ancel & Glink for their hospitality after a recent conference.

Sergeant Culver received a thank you from Jeff Aufmann.

Secretary Scacci reported that earlier this same day, the McHenry County Horse Club hosted the Sites & Fleet staff for a program on horses and horse trail use so they could better understand what a horse and horse rider see when riding and using the District sites. Sites & Fleet Manager Weborg stated that it was much more than they had expected and that both parties benefited greatly from the education.

13.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS’ REPORT
Executive Director Kessler thanked the staff and Board for their help with Conservation Congress 2018 and offered additional copies of the “Sustaining the Dream - Stewarding the Places We Love” informational piece.

Staff has been preparing information for the Fox Bluff Conservation Area presentations which will occur next Tuesday, February 20 at the Riverview Lodge in Trout Valley and Thursday, February 22 at Prairie View Education Center.
14.0 PUBLIC COMMENT II
There were no public comments at this time.

15.0 ADJOURN

A motion was made by Secretary Scacci, seconded by Treasurer Merkel, to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. January 18, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Vern Scacci, Secretary

Date

3/15/18