1.0 CALL TO ORDER
The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the McHenry County Conservation District was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by President Scacci on the evening of Thursday, August 15, 2019 at the Brookdale Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, Illinois 60098.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
President Scacci led the Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 INTRODUCTORY ROLL CALL
2.1 Roll Call
Trustees Present: Vern Scacci, President
                John Henning, Treasurer
                Carolyn Campbell, Secretary
                Patrick Fritz, Trustee

Trustees Absent: Dave Brandt, Vice President
                Two Vacancies pending appointment by County Board.

Counsel & Staff Present: James D. Rock, Legal Counsel
                        Elizabeth S. Kessler, Executive Director
                        Andy Dylak, Director Administration & Finance
                        Ed Collins, Director Land Preservation & Natural Resources
                        Anne Basten, Executive Assistant
                        Laura King, Police Chief
                        Val Siler, Land Preservation Manager

Others Present: William Cook, Ringwood
               Linda Thomas, Bull Valley

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS I
President Scacci introduced Linda Thomas of Bull Valley as an applicant for a vacant Trustee position.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS
5.1 Review of the August 20, 2019 Regular Meeting Agenda Items
President Scacci asked if anyone would like to discuss items on the Consent Agenda in further detail.
Item 12.15 Resolution #19-57 regarding participation in the proposed property tax abatement (rebate) incentive program with the City of McHenry and Jessup Manufacturing Corporation, McHenry, IL for the 2019 levy had been requested to be
discussed further during the August 12, 2019 Finance & Administrative Committee meeting and will be discussed later in this meeting.

Item 12.4 5-Year Natural Capital Improvement Plan
Executive Director Kessler asked Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins to go over the phased approach to the Natural Capital Improvement Plan with the revised handout. He noted that the USACE 206 grant project would be coming back under District management in 2020 in addition to the acres listed. There will still be 5,000 acres in agricultural production even after the 419 acres are removed from production after Phase Five of the plan is completed.
President Scacci plans to set up a meeting with Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins to discuss a longer-term plan.
Director of Land Preservation & Natural Resources Collins explained the timing of the mitigation bank grant work.

Item 12.12 Purchase of Two (2) Ford F-150
President Scacci asked if the purchase of two (2) trucks were replacements or if they were adding to the fleet. Director of Operations and Public Safety Kremer explained that these are scheduled replacements but are a cost savings versus the past patrol vehicle type. He also stated that the vehicle parked at the Kennedy Way-Station will also be sold at auction.

Item 12.15 Request for Abatement (Rebate) by City of McHenry for Jessup Manufacturing
President Scacci explained that the total abatement would be about $12,000 in taxes over five years and then the District would start getting about $2,000 in tax revenues after the abatement period concluded. Treasurer Henning stated he had mixed feelings because the District would not be giving up money already being received but it is hard to justify. President Scacci and Trustee Fritz stated they would support the abatement.
Trustee Campbell is not sure at the moment since the District does not have control of the budget and levy due to verbal agreements with the County Board Chairman and the additional tax revenue is needed. However, with the certification of the mitigation bank coming, this will hopefully create additional revenues and with the price being set by the competitive market could result in increased costs to the County which were previously sold at below market value.
Because there was no consensus with the board members present on whether to move forward for a vote on this request at the scheduled August 20, 2019 meeting, the consensus was to continue discussion at the September 19, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting when all board members should be present to provide input.
There was also discussion to state the motion in the affirmative when it is brought back in September for a discussion and as an actionable item.

6.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Executive Director Kessler reminded those present that she would be out on vacation and that Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources Collins would be the Director Designee for the first week and Director of Operations and Safety Kremer would be in charge the second week.
Executive Director Kessler announced that President Scacci would be volunteering at the Great Outdoors Beer Trail event on the upcoming Saturday.
Executive Director Kessler reminded the Trustees that a Special Call meeting on Strategic Planning would be coming up at 5 p.m. on September 5, 2019 and that the tactics would be provided in advance for review and that she would be sharing staff’s plan for reaching out to community influencers.

Executive Director Kessler also shared a document from The Nature Conservancy /FM3 which she received on this same date at the Illinois Association of Conservation and Forest Preserve District Meeting on Conservation and Parks Messaging Recommendations which showed that protecting drinking water was the number one (1) priority issue with Illinois Voters. This supports the message the District has been promoting: Water, Wildlife and Way of Life.

7.0 OTHER
7.1 Executive Director Performance Appraisal Form
President Scacci reviewed that the Board of Trustees had discussed going to a new form and format for evaluating the position of Executive Director. President Scacci and Secretary Campbell shared where they were in the process and asked that each board member evaluate the position based on their interactions and was seeking feedback from the Trustees. The current direction includes developing a 360 feedback for the entire District.
Part 2 of the new form would include 1 to 3 goals and currently includes: creation of the project timeline; budget and funding; and creating a succession plan.
President Scacci envisions a 6-month review but due to the late implementation, this would be conducted after 3 months.

8.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION
At 6:15 p.m., a motion was made by Treasurer Henning, seconded by Secretary Campbell, to go into Executive Session pursuant to Exception 2C5 (Real Estate), 2C6 (Sale or Lease of Real Estate), 2C11 (Pending Litigation), and 2C21 (Review of Closed Session Minutes) of the Open Meetings Act. A roll call vote gave the following results: Fritz-yes, Campbell-yes, Henning-yes, Scacci-yes.
Motion passed unanimously.

9.0 RECONVENE
The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the McHenry County Conservation District was reconvened to order at 6:54 p.m. by President Scacci on the evening of Thursday, August 15, 2019 at the Brookdale Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, Illinois 60098.

17.1 Roll Call
Trustees Present: Vern Scacci, President
John Henning, Treasurer
Carolyn Campbell, Secretary
Patrick Fritz, Trustee

Trustees Absent: Dave Brandt, Vice President
Two Vacancies pending appointment by County Board.

Counsel & Staff Present: James D. Rock, Legal Counsel
Elizabeth S. Kessler, Executive Director
Anne Basten, Executive Assistant

Committee of the Whole Minutes 8.15.2019
Others Present: Bill Cook, Trustee appointment pending by County Board

10.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS II
There were no public comments.

11.0 ADJOURN
A motion was made by Trustee Fritz, seconded by Treasurer Henning, to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote resulted in all ayes.
Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. August 15, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Campbell, Secretary

9-24-19
Date