

**McHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 2020**  
**SPECIAL CALL**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

The Special Call Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the McHenry County Conservation District was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Scacci on the morning of Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at the Brookdale Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, Illinois.

**2.0 ROLL CALL**

2.1 Roll Call

Trustees Present: Vern Scacci, President  
 Dave Brandt, Vice President  
 Carolyn Campbell, Secretary  
 Pat Fritz, Trustee  
 Bill Cook, Trustee  
 Linda Thomas, Trustee

Trustee Absent: John Henning, Treasurer

Counsel & Staff Present: Scott A. Puma, Legal Counsel  
 Elizabeth S. Kessler, Executive Director  
 Andy Dylak, Director of Administration & Finance  
 Anne Basten, Executive Assistant  
 Val Siler, Land Preservation Manager  
 Amy Peters, Planning Manager  
 Sarah Rummel, Landscape Architect

Others Present: Kim Hankins, Trustee Emeritus  
 Paula Yensen, McHenry County Board Member  
 Carl Edstrom, Crystal Lake

President Scacci read a prepared statement regarding the timeline for what he called an Executive Director Assessment which started in May 2019 through the present time and that he had been told by four lawyers that it would be inappropriate for staff to be involved in the hiring of the consultant.

**3.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

County Board Member Yensen, Lake in the Hills, stated that she represented County Board Members Kelli Wegener, Suzanne Ness, and herself and read a prepared statement on concerns about the Culture Assessment and which asked what was the purpose and intention of the assessment. The statement also commented on the lack of transparency to the public of what was being voted on. The statement respectfully asked that the decision be postponed.

#### 4.0 NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### 4.1 Consideration of Resolution #20-15 Awarding a Professional Services Agreement with McGrath Human Resources Group of Wonder Lake, IL for a Cultural Assessment Study of McHenry County Conservation District for \$4,500

President Scacci asked for a motion to remove the issue from the table so that it could be discussed.

*A motion was made by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Fritz, to remove Resolution #20-15 awarding a Professional Services Agreement with McGrath Human Resources Group of Wonder Lake, IL for a Cultural Assessment Study of McHenry County Conservation District for \$4,500 from the table. A roll call vote gave the following results: Fritz=yes, Cook=yes, Brandt=no, Thomas=yes, Campbell=yes, Scacci=yes.*

Motion passed 5 to 1. Secretary Campbell stated that she voted in favor to support more discussion.

President Scacci then led the discussion and shared that Attorney Puma had contacted Dr. McGrath to make some changes to the contract.

Vice President Brandt shared his frustration about the Board not working together on the process and the firm to be hired.

President Scacci explained that Dr. McGrath will keep all conversations confidential and she will meet with each board member individually to determine what they would like to find out.

Trustee Cook stated that there is no reason for the President to identify who he spoke with in conversation and that the Administrative Team should be proud of accomplishments but that it still should be reviewed on a regular basis.

Secretary Campbell agreed that this group have talked about a review process for some time but had not come to a consensus or agreement on what format to follow. She noted that reviewing the Executive Director and doing a culture assessment are two different things. She agreed that President Scacci had been asked to bring in a firm to present options but when they came in January, there was only one option. The issue is the process and the tool chosen and that this group needs to work together.

President Scacci stated that he tried his best to talk to all members of the board to keep them engaged and up to date. He asked for a proposal for the situation as he saw it and agreed it should be a consensus of the board.

*A motion was made by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Fritz, to adopt Resolution #20-15 awarding a Professional Services Agreement with McGrath Human Resources Group of Wonder Lake, IL for a Cultural Assessment Study of McHenry County Conservation District for \$4,500. A roll call vote gave the following results: Brandt=no, Campbell=no, Cook=yes, Fritz=yes, Thomas=yes, Scacci=yes.*

Motion passed 4 to 2.

#### 5.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

*At 8:56 a.m., a motion was made by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Fritz, to go into Executive Session pursuant to Exception 2C1 (Personnel - Legal Counsel) and 2C11 (Pending Litigation) of the Open Meetings Act. A roll call vote gave the following results: Thomas=yes, Fritz=yes, Brandt=yes, Campbell=yes, Cook=yes, Scacci=yes.*

Motion passed unanimously.

**6.0 RECONVENE**

The Special Call Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the McHenry County Conservation District was reconvened to order at 11:41 a.m. by President Scacci on the morning of Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at the Brookdale Administrative Offices, 18410 US Highway 14, Woodstock, Illinois.

**6.1 Roll Call**

Trustees Present: Vern Scacci, President  
Dave Brandt, Vice President  
Carolyn Campbell, Secretary  
Pat Fritz, Trustee  
Bill Cook, Trustee  
Linda Thomas, Trustee

Trustee Absent: John Henning, Treasurer

Counsel & Staff Present: Elizabeth S. Kessler, Executive Director  
Anne Basten, Executive Assistant

**ADJOURN**

At 11:45 a.m., a motion was made by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Thomas, that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. March 4, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Campbell  
Carolyn Campbell (Mar 31, 2020)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carolyn Campbell, Secretary

Mar 31, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date




# 3.4.2020 Special Call Meeting Minutes File

Final Audit Report

2020-03-31

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