

**MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES -- REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA**

August 15, 2012 7:00 p.m.

ROCK SPRINGS NATURE CENTER – DECATUR, ILLINOIS

- I. CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING**
- II. SECRETARY’S REPORT**
  - 1. Approval of the Minutes of the July 18th Regular Public Meeting and Public Hearing.
- III. TREASURER’S REPORT AND MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS**
  - 1. Approval of Treasurer’s Report for August, 2012
  - 2. Approval of August disbursements including additions
- IV. COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE**

The Board will receive public comments concerning items on the agenda, as well as communications, petitions, reports from citizens or representatives of other agencies. Such comments should not include discussion of personnel matters, which should be brought directly to the attention of the administration. Each speaker shall be allowed three minutes to address the board.
- V. PRIOR BUSINESS**
  - 1. Policy Regulating the Use of Other Power Driven Mobility Devices
  - 2. Appoint IACD Representative
  - 2. Other
- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
  - 1. Payout-Bethel School Repairs
  - 2. Payout-Rock Springs Nature Center Deck
  - 3. Bid Award-Tractor
  - 4. Bid Award-Oglesby Mansion
  - 5. Engineering Proposals-Bridge Replacement
  - 6. September Board Meeting Date
  - 7. Phase I Environmental Assessment-Willow Branch Purchase
  - 8. Appraisal-Willow Branch Purchase
  - 9. Proposal for Phase I Environmental Assessment
  - 10. Proposal for Appraisal
  - 11. FOIA Request
  - 12. Department Reports
  - 13. Other
- VII. COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES**
- VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body.**
- IX. ADJOURNMENT**

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

August 15, 2012

PURSUANT to written notice given all members of the Board, the above meeting was called to order by President Elliott, at 7:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: President Elliott, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Horn, Secretary Leonard, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Darrel Parish.

Board members absent: Treasurer Stahl

Trustee Horn MOVED to approve the Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting of July 18, 2012, Trustee Parish SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report and Monthly Disbursements in the amount of \$186,740.69 and additions to disbursements in the amount of \$25,275.37.

Trustee Horn SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; and Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

A representative from the Macon County Sheriff's Office, Lt. Auten, spoke regarding a request that the District had received regarding the donation of 78 acres in exchange for grant funds. He reminded the Board of the long-standing working relationship between the Sheriff's Department and the District and encouraged the Board to work with them on this request. He explained that the location is ideal for their shooting range and expressed to the Board that the Department is in need of a classroom. The current lease prohibits the building of any permanent structures. Director Merner informed the Board that it is the law that Conservation Districts cannot give up ownership of property. Our attorney researched this issue and it is not even possible for Conservation Districts to swap land. The Board is to further discuss the situation, and Director Merner will respond with the Board's Decision.

PRIOR BUSINESS:

1. Policy Regulating the Use of Other Power Driven Mobility Devices:

Director Merner informed the Board that John McGovern with Recreation Accessibility Consultants is currently out of the country. Once he returns from Germany, they will meet to discuss the policy and she will report back to the Board.

2. Appoint IACD Representative:

Trustee Leonard volunteered to serve as the IACD Representative. Trustee Parish MOVED that the Board appoint Trustee Leonard as the Board's IACD Representative. Trustee Horn SECONDED the motion. All members of the Board present voted "AYE." Motion carried.

## NEW BUSINESS:

### 1. Payout-Bethel School Repairs:

Paul Boll Painting and Decorating Company completed the painting and repairs to Bethel School. Final payment request has been submitted and needs authorization from the Board in the amount of \$1,550.00

Trustee Horn MOVED to approve the payment of \$1,550.00 for the final Bethel School payout. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; and Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

### 2. Payout-Rock Springs Nature Center:

Christy-Foltz completed the deck project on the west side of the Nature Center. All required work has been completed and Christy-Foltz has submitted a pay request for the entire amount of the project including the change order. Staff requests authorization to make payment of \$42,991.00 to Christy-Foltz, Inc. for the completed work.

Trustee Leonard MOVED to approve the payment of \$42,991.00 to Christy-Foltz, Inc., for the completion of the Rock Springs Nature Center deck. Trustee Horn SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; and Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

### 3. Bid Award - Tractor:

Paul Marien expressed to the Board that the District was in need of a larger tractor for doing jobs of loading, digging and mowing and solicited bids for purchase of a new tractor. The low-bidder's engine and horse power ratings did not meet specifications. Therefore, the staff recommends awarding the bid to Heath's Inc., for the purchase of a John Deere 5115M Tractor with cab, mechanical front wheel drive, loader bucket and pallet forks. Paul has also researched the trade-in value and found it to be consistent with the resale of that model and year. Funds have been budgeted for this purchase. Paul informed the Board that they have purchased from Heath's in the past and they are pleased with their service.

Trustee Horn MOVED to approve awarding the bid for the purchase of a John Deere 5115M Tractor with cab, mechanical front wheel drive, loader bucket and pallet forks to Heath's, Inc., in the amount of \$50,393.16. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; and Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

### 4: Bid-Award Oglesby Mansion:

Staff discussed the results of the bids for renovation work on the Oglesby Mansion. Bids were still higher than budgeted, and staff recommends that the Board reject the bids submitted. Director Merner suggested that it may be best to restructure the project and complete the work in stages, one project at a time as money is available. Staff will seek quotes for the roof repair on the east porch and the custom millwork. She also suggested holding off on the west porch and researching different lift options.

Trustee Parish MOVED to reject the bids submitted on the Oglesby Mansion. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

5. Engineering Proposals –Bridge Replacement:

A request for engineering services was distributed to area firms for design and construction of two replacement foot bridges and replacing one hiking trail culvert at Ft. Daniel Conservation Area. Two drastically different bids were submitted: one from H.L. Chastain in the amount of \$20,406.00 and one from BGM in the amount of \$80,000.00. Paul Marien discussed that BGM had built the need for permits into their fee even after he had informed them that the District already has the permits it needs. H.L. Chastain included everything that had been asked from the District. Director Merner informed the Board that four years ago they had applied for a grant to assist with this project and that the District just now received official notification that the grant had been awarded.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve awarding the bid from H.L. Chastain and Associates for engineering services for the Ft. Daniel's project in the amount of \$20,406.00. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; and Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

6. September Board Meeting Date:

After a brief discussion, the Board Members decided that they would leave the next Board meeting as previously scheduled for September 19, 2012. Trustee Elliot will be absent but Trustee Leonard was confident that he would be able to attend the meeting so the Board would have a quorum.

7. Phase I Environmental Assessment – Willow Branch Purchase

Staff recommends accepting a proposal from Bodine Environmental Services, Inc., to perform a phase I environmental site assessment of the 65 acre parcel planned for acquisition next to Willow Branch Conservation Area II in the amount of \$3,260.00

Trustee Horn MOVED to approve the proposal from Bodine Environmental Services in the amount of \$3,260 to perform a phase I environmental site assessment. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; and Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

8. Appraisal-Willow Branch Purchase

Director Merner informed the Board that the Grantor requires an appraisal for this purchase, but she is waiting to hear back from the Grantor with answers to some questions before proceeding. Once she hears back from grantor, she will bring appraisal bids back to the Board. Currently, the plan is to acquire bids from Hickory Point Bank, Soy Capital Bank, and Heartland Ag Services. Full proposal is due mid-September and Kathy will keep the Board informed.

9. FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) Request:

The District is required by the law to inform the Board of FOIA requests received. The District received a request through email from John Lappe with "For the Good of Illinois." The District has complied and responded with his request for the last five years of the annual treasurer's reports.

10. Departmental Reports:

The Board heard reports from Director Merner, Administration Department; Jeff Tish, Program Services Department; Paul Marien, Operations Department and Pam Smith, Administration Department.

11. Other:

Director Merner informed the Board that the District had received information regarding the Illinois Rivers Project from Ameren. This project would create service from Missouri to Indiana, and one route that they are currently reviewing would be along the Elwin Blacktop which may impact Sand Creek. Kathy advised the Board that this will need to be monitored and that it would be wise to attend the public hearings on this matter.

Director Merner also read a letter that was received from Terry Taylor commending the staff and volunteers on their excellent service and friendliness on a recent visit to Rock Springs.

#### COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES:

Trustee Parish opened up the discussion concerning the Sheriff's Department's shooting range. The Board discussed declining the offer as a sale or transfer but left the possibility of creating a new lease open. Trustee Parish MOVED that the District reject the offer as it stands. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE" with the exception of Trustee Horn, who abstained. Motion carried.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Trustee Leonard and seconded by Trustee Parish to hold an Executive Session to discuss the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried. Time: 8:32 p.m.

The Executive Session was adjourned and the Board returned to open session at 8:57 p.m.

#### APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Trustee Leonard and seconded by Trustee Horn to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2012, Executive Session. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Trustee Parish MOVED to adjourn the Regular Public Meeting at 9:16 p.m. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

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PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

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SECRETARY