

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

December 21, 2011

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

Board members present: President Washburn, 1st Vice-President Elliott, Secretary Horn, Treasurer Leonard.

Board members absent: Trustee Stahl.

Trustee Horn MOVED to approve the Minutes of the November 16, 2011, Regular Public Meeting as presented. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Leonard MOVED to approve the Treasurers Report and Monthly Disbursements in the amount of \$124,527.66 and additions to disbursements in the amount of \$14,783.12. Trustee Horn SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard, "AYE" Trustee Washburn "AYE". Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: Dean Padgett, 3245 Susan Drive, Decatur, IL spoke. He stated that six years ago there was a vote to close the campground. Since then he stated a portion of the campsites have had new electrical service installed. He stated that if the Board does not electrify the rest of the sites, after February 2012, he will go public with his goal to have electric added to all of the sites and live up to his old nickname, "Mean Dean".

PRIOR BUSINESS:

1. Sheriff Department Proposal: Nothing new to report.
2. Other: The fencing repair between the conservation district property and the Massey property is complete.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Tax Levy Ordinance: Trustee Horn MOVED to adopt the Tax Levy Ordinance. Trustee Elliott SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard, "AYE" Trustee Washburn "AYE". Motion carried.

2. Appoint Macon County Conservation Foundation Board Members: The Board received a letter from Darrel Parish, President of the Foundation Board, outlining the recommendations of the Macon County Conservation Foundation Board regarding the appointment of persons to fill vacancies on the Board. Trustee Leonard made a motion to appoint Nora Duncan, Darrel Parish, David

Rathje and Kim Tsuda to additional three year terms and appoint Don Kamm to fill a vacant three year term, seconded by Trustee Elliott. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

3. Campground Report: Staff submitted a report outlining the activity and financial position of the campground for the 2011 season. Trustee Horn asked about the recommended policy proposal to require a three day stay on holiday weekends. It was explained that we have had several one night reservations which precludes anyone else from camping on the holiday because campers generally want to be there all three nights and our sites sit empty two of those nights because of single night reservations. This is not an uncommon policy at public campgrounds. Trustee Horn asked if we use facebook to promote the campground, which the district does. He also asked if costs are rising. Paul Marien explained that as the facility is used more, utility costs rise due to demand and staff time is increased due to more cleaning in the comfort station.

4. Approve Holiday Schedule: A list of dates was presented for the Board's consideration. Trustee Horn MOVED to approve the Holiday Schedule, seconded by Trustee Leonard. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

5. Approve Identity Protection Policy: The board received a proposed Identity Protection Policy recommendation from staff. The development of an identity protection policy is mandated by state law. The policy has been reviewed by the attorney. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve the Identity Protection Policy, seconded by Trustee Leonard. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard, "AYE", President Washburn, "AYE". Motion carried.

6. Approve Picnic Shelter Reservation Fees: Staff prepared a recommendation regarding picnic shelter reservation fees and process. Trustee Horn made a motion to approve the Picnic Shelter Reservation Fees and process, seconded by Trustee Leonard. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard, "AYE", President Washburn, "AYE". Motion carried.

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

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES: There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Trustee Leonard and seconded by Trustee Horn to hold an executive session to discuss the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity. All member of the Board present voted "AYE." Motion carried. The meeting reconvened at 8:22.

There was one other item of discussion. The district has received a request to hold a wedding at Rock Springs Conservation Area on the same day as the conservation district's Prairie Celebration. There is not enough room to hold both events. The parties have requested to hold the wedding in the back yard of the guard residence at Sand Creek since Rock Springs is not available. They want the prairie mowed to provide sufficient parking for the wedding guests. They will also have a tent installed which will be erected on Friday and removed on Monday. There are obvious concerns about this request: the entrance is a single lane that does not accommodate two way traffic, we shouldn't cut a natural resource to accommodate parking, there are no restrooms, there is no electricity. Staff suggestion is that we do not approve events for "non-public" areas of the facilities. Trustee Horn stated that events have to match the capacity of the site. The board concurred with staff recommendation. Staff will contact the party about the amenities at Friends Creek Conservation Area, which can accommodate a group of this size.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Trustee Leonard and seconded by Trustee Elliott to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2011 executive session. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Trustee Leonard MOVED to adjourn the Regular Public Meeting at 8:32 p.m. Trustee Elliott SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

SECRETARY