

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

December 19, 2012

PURSUANT to written notice given all members of the Board, the above meeting was called to order by 1st President Elliott, at 7:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: President Elliott, 1st Vice-President Horn, Secretary Leonard, Treasurer Stahl, and 2nd Vice-President, Darrel Parish.

Board members absent: None

Trustee Leonard MOVED to approve the Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting of November 14, 2012, as amended. Trustee Parish SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

David Horn asked Board approval to amend the November 14th minutes on page 3 under Trustee Comments to read: Trustee Horn shared a research article with the Board **pertaining to decision to continue to farm 28 tillable acres at Grove Branch for the next three years instead of examining other alternatives, including conversion to perennial grassland.**

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report and Monthly Disbursements in the amount of \$158,486.24 and additions to disbursements in the amount of \$31,170.90. Trustee Horn SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Stahl, "AYE", Trustee Elliott, "AYE", Trustee Horn, "AYE"; and Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

PRIOR BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Appointments to the Macon County Conservation Foundation Board:

Director Merner reviewed letter from Nora Duncan, President of the Macon County Conservation Foundation Board, recommending Mark Stahl, Mark Moore, and Norm Greenberg for another three-year term on the Foundation Board.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the Foundation Board's recommendation that Mark Stahl, Mark Moore, and Norm Greenberg be re-appointed for another three-year term. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

2. Approve Agreement with the Gerber State Bank-Rannebarger Trust:

Director Merner reviewed the agreement between Gerber State Bank and the Macon County Conservation District for work to be completed on the erosion control project at Friends Creek Conservation Area. The lowest quote received from the Bank to have the work completed was from Vieback Land Improvement at \$16,600. The cost will be split between the Bank and the Conservation District. Additionally there is a cost share for each party from the Lake Decatur Watershed fund, resulting in a cost to the District of \$3,300.

Trustee Parish **MOVED** to accept the agreement with Gerber State Bank-Rannebarger Trust for the erosion control project at Friends Creek Conservation Area. Trustee Stahl **SECONDED** the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Stahl, "AYE", Trustee Elliott, "AYE", Trustee Horn, "AYE"; and Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

3. Pay Request – Oglesby Mansion Roof:

The project to repair the roof on the east porch of the Oglesby Mansion is 90% complete. Staff reported that the job was done very well. Staff recommends payment in the amount of \$7,560 to Meyer Roofing Company.

Trustee Stahl **MOVED** to approve the payment to Meyer Roofing Company in the amount of \$7,560 for the repair of the roof on the east porch of the Oglesby Mansion. Trustee Leonard **SECONDED** the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Stahl, "AYE", Trustee Elliott, "AYE", Trustee Horn, "AYE"; and Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

4: Approve Holiday Schedule:

Staff recommends approving the District's Holiday Schedule for all the holidays that are traditionally recognized by the Conservation District:

TUESDAY	NEW YEAR'S DAY	JANUARY 1
MONDAY	MLK JR. DAY	JANUARY 21
MONDAY	PRESIDENT'S DAY	FEBRUARY 18
FRIDAY	GOOD FRIDAY	MARCH 29
MONDAY	MEMORIAL DAY	MAY 27
THURSDAY	INDEPENDENCE DAY	JULY 4
MONDAY	LABOR DAY	SEPTEMBER 2
MONDAY	COLUMBUS DAY	OCTOBER 14

MONDAY	VETERANS DAY (Observed)	NOVEMBER 11
THURSDAY	THANKSGIVING DAY	NOVEMBER 28
FRIDAY	THANKSGIVING	NOVEMBER 29
WEDNESDAY	CHRISTMAS DAY	DECEMBER 25

Trustee Horn MOVED to approve the Macon County Conservation District’s annual holiday schedule as proposed. Trustee Stahl SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, “AYE”. Motion carried.

5. Award Carpet Installation Contract-Nature Center:

Invitations to receive quotes for carpet removal and replacement of the North Wing in the Rock Springs Nature Center were sent out to area vendors. Flooring America submitted a quote for \$14,900 and Goods Floor Store submitted a quote for \$13,947.69. The current pattern was not available so both vendors bid on other patterns. Flooring America’s product is more “green” than the product proposed by Goods and is a better match to the existing carpet. The current carpet is the original carpet to the building. Staff recommends accepting the proposal from Flooring America in the amount of \$14,900 as the carpet will come in squares, enabling them to replace areas when needed. Jeff is to confirm with Flooring America that the District will receive extra squares when ordered for future replacement purposes.

Trustee Horn MOVED to accept the bid from Flooring America in the amount of \$14,900 for carpet removal and replacement in the North Wing of Rock Springs Center. Trustee Stahl SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, “AYE”. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, “AYE”; Trustee Stahl, “AYE”, Trustee Elliott, “AYE”, Trustee Horn, “AYE; and Trustee Leonard, “AYE”. Motion carried.

6. Bodine Environmental-Assessment Results

Staff reviewed the assessment submitted by Bodine Environmental Services for the 65 acres purchased. Staff reported that the letter doesn’t do justice to the amount of information that was gathered during this process. The cost for the assessment was approximately \$3,200. Staff reported that there is no reason to go to Phase II as the District was given a “clean bill of health” on the property.

7. Campground Report:

Paul Marien summarized the campground report provided to the Board and emphasized to the Board that the expenses for the Campground also included the picnic area as there was no way to separate out the costs. The expenses reported were for April 1st through November 1st. Compared to previous years, the revenue was comparable. Staff emphasized that the expenses exceeding the revenues is typical for the campground. Paul reported that there were fewer campers but the campers were staying longer and more electric sites were used verses non-electric due to the intense heat and drought this summer. Staff recommends keeping the camping fees and regulations

the same for next year. Trustee Horn questioned marketing and how the campers are hearing about the campground. Staff reported that word of mouth seems to work the best. Trustee Horn suggested adding a question in the paperwork as to how the campers heard about the campground. Staff reported that they would add this to the campground paperwork that is sent out to the campers.

8. Audit Proposals:

Invitations to submit proposals for a three-year contract for the District audit and a one-year contract for the Foundation 990 and audit were sent to area accounting firms. May Cocagne & King and Knutte & Associates submitted proposals. May, Cocagne & King submitted proposal for the District for 2014, 2015, and 2016 for \$13,100, \$13,750 and \$14,500 respectively. The staff recommends accepting the proposal from Knutte & Associates for Fiscal Years ending March 2014, 2015 and 2016 for \$9,500, \$9,700, and \$9,900 respectively.

Trustee Parish questioned the travel expenses since Knutte & Associates were located in the Chicago area. Staff commented that the proposal is all inclusive.

Trustee Parish MOVED to accept the proposal from Knutte & Associates for the District's annual audit for Fiscal Years ending March 2014, 2015 and 2016 in the amount of \$9,500, \$9,700, and \$9,900 respectively. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE", Trustee Stahl, "AYE", Trustee Elliott "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE; Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

9. Nomination Committee:

Trustee Elliott informed the Board that the 1st Vice-President Horn and Darrell Parish will serve on the nomination committee. The Board members can make recommendations to the committee for trustee candidates to replace Trustee Elliott when her term ends next year. Recommendations need to be made no later than April 1, so a letter can be sent out by May 1st with the nomination.

10. Staff 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 reported that the individual from whom the land was purchased inquired if she could rent the pasture land from the District until her new pasture is ready. She has three horses and fainting goats. Director Merner and Paul Marien have conducted some research on the matter and concluded that the rent would be approximately \$48.00 per animal per month. Staff is to speak with the individual to find out what she is wanting and will report back to the Board. The gentleman who has been farming the agricultural portion of this property asked if it would be available to farm in 2013. Staff research indicates that \$250 per acre is a fair price to cash rent the property. The board concurred that staff should approach Mr. Burns and report back to the Board.

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES:

Trustee Leonard complimented the “Oglesby Tea” that was held in December and how delightful it was to attend. Trustee Parish also commented on how nice the “Heritage and Holly” tour was as well.

Trustee Horn shared a research article with the Board pertaining to decision to continue to farm 28 tillable acres at Grove Branch for the next three years instead of examining other alternatives, including conversion to perennial grassland.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Trustee Stahl MOVED to adjourn the Regular Public Meeting at 8:40 p.m. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, “AYE”. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

SECRETARY