

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

**October 17, 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 September 19th Regular Public Meeting.**
- III. TREASURER’S REPORT AND MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS**
  - 1. Approval of Treasurer’s Report for October, 2012**
  - 2. Approval of September 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. Other**
- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
  - 1. Insurance**
  - 2. Grove Branch Agreement**
  - 3. Tax Levy**
  - 4. Ameren Illinois Rivers Project**
  - 5. Farm Lease**
  - 6. Staff Reports**
  - 7. Other**
- VII. COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES**
- VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for the purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06**
- IX. ADJOURNMENT**

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

October 17, 2012

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

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

Board Members absent: None

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting of September 19, 2012. Trustee Horn SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

Trustee Leonard MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report and Monthly Disbursements in the amount of \$135,654.41 and additions to disbursements in the amount of \$12,959.10. 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: No comments.

PRIOR BUSINESS:

1. Other: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Insurance:

Director Merner reviewed the spreadsheet covering the cost share premium analysis for 15%, 20% and 25% that was included in the Board packet. Director Parish asked if an analysis could be made based on dependent coverage only with employee paying 5%, 10% or 15% of dependent coverage. Staff will perform the analysis and provide information to the Board for review at the November Board Meeting. The Board briefly discussed wellness options requesting staff to research possibilities and report options back to the Board.

2. Grove Branch Agreement:

Director Merner gave an update on her meeting with Jim Shafter regarding the Grove Branch shooting range. It appears that they will be exploring other options for the shooting range. Trustee

Horn raised question as to whether or not the client would be willing to fund other projects for the District. Director Merner informed the Board that the client does not solicit suggestions but rather contacts individuals if he has something in which he wants to fund.

3. Tax Levy:

Director Merner informed the Board that the Tax Levy Ordinance must be filed by the last Tuesday in December. In order to ensure that the deadline is met, the Tax Levy was being presented to the Board early for review. There was no significant increase in the Levy from the previous year. Trustee Parish questioned if the Board could approve the Tax Levy at this meeting and Director Merner confirmed that it could be voted upon at this meeting.

Trustee Parish MOVED to adopt the Tax Levy as presented. Trustee Horn SECONDED the Motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Trustee Parish, "AYE"; Trustee Stahl, "AYE"; Trustee Elliott, "AYE"; Trustee Horn, "AYE"; Trustee Leonard, "AYE". Motion carried.

4. Ameren Illinois Rivers Project:

Director Merner reviewed the meeting hosted by Ameren about this project to improve infrastructure. We learned that the routes to be submitted to the regulatory agency would not affect any of the District's Conservation areas. The routes have been filed and notification will go out in November.

5. Farm Lease:

Paul Marien summarized the lease agreement on 28 tillable acres at Grove Branch Conservation Area with the tenant. Paul had proposed to the tenant that the District increase the rent from \$90.00 an acre to \$225.00 (which is current market value). The tenant in turn proposed \$180.00 an acre due to limiting factors. The current lease is a year to year agreement. Staff recommends not changing any restrictions in the lease language and increasing the rent to \$180.00 per acre and entering into a three-year lease with the tenant. Discussion followed concerning other options for the land, such as planting prairie grass.

Trustee Parish MOVED to approve the farm lease at \$180.00 an acre for a three-year lease adding into the lease agreement that the tenant is to report yields and provide receipts for expenses incurred for farming the land. Trustee Leonard SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present except for one voted, "AYE". Trustee Horn opposed. Motion carried.

6. Department Reports:

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

7. Other: No other business.

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A MOTION was made by Trustee Stahl and SECONDED by Trustee Leonard to hold an Executive Session for a discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried. Time: 8:08 p.m.

The Executive Session was adjourned and the Board returned to open session at 8:13 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 October 17, 2012, Executive Session. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Trustee Stahl MOVED to adjourn the Regular Public Meeting at 8:15 p.m. Trustee Parish SECONDED the Motion. All members of the Board present voted, "AYE". Motion carried.

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PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

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SECRETARY