

**Vermilion County Conservation District
Headquarters: Kennekuk County Park
Danville, IL**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Wednesday, December 10, 2014
4:30 p.m.
Kennekuk Environmental Education Center
Kennekuk County Park
Danville, IL**

President Bogart called the December Regular Meeting of the Vermilion County Conservation District Board of Trustees to order at 4:30 p.m. and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Roll call showed the following.

Trustees Present: Nikki A. Bogart
Allen E. Cooke
Perry A. Jaynes

Trustee(s) Absent: Jonathan A. Myers
B. Dirk Porter

In attendance were Ken Konsis, Executive Director; Jamie Pasquale, Associate Director; Amy Steeples, Recording Secretary; Gordon Thoennes, Dimond Brothers Insurance; Larry Owen and Debbie Roberts, Owen Financial Services.

Staff members present included Susan Biggs Warner, Lorna Konsis, Charlie Rhoden and Gary Wilford.

First order of business, agenda item number four, was the Adoption of, or Amendments to the Agenda.

Trustee Cooke moved to approve the agenda as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion to approve the agenda carried.

Agenda item number five was the Approval of the Minutes from the November 19, 2014, Regular Meeting. President Bogart asked for any corrections to the minutes. She contacted Amy Steeples earlier, to make corrections to: page 3, item 8 a. paragraph 2, article 4 should state "incurred by the lessor"; page 4, paragraph 8, last sentence to be reworded, "Action on approving the Workman's Compensation premium will be an agenda item on the December agenda."; and rephrasing of her comments at the close of the meeting on page 8. These corrections were made and new copies are distributed to the Trustees now.

Trustee Cooke moved to approve the November 19, 2014, Regular Meeting Minutes as amended and presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.

Item number six a. Audience Comments. There were none.

Agenda item number seven, the Treasurer's Report. President Bogart asked if there were any questions on items seven a. through d. There are two expenditure items from Cooke Business Forms/Products which require removal from the voucher and manual check listings, respectively. This is due to Trustee Cooke's vote abstention regarding conflict of interest, and there are three trustees present.

With no other questions or comments, Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the Current List of Bills from November 2014 in the amount of \$10,727.89, which included check #'s 32811, 32813 - 32837; the Manual Checks for November 2014 in the amount of \$48,031.28 which included check #'s 32727, 32729 – 32743 and #'s 32769- 32800; the General Journal Entries for November 30, 2014; and the November 2014 Budget Report. This was followed by a second from Trustee Cooke.

With no more questions, President Bogart requested a roll call vote. The results:

Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Cooke	-	yes
President Bogart	-	yes

The vote was 3–0. Treasurer's Report, items seven: a – d were approved as amended. Motion carried.

Agenda item number seven e. Executive Director Konsis reported the grand total of cash and investments as of December 10, 2014, is \$653,760.00, which compares to \$679,800.00, at the same time last year. The accounts receivable are \$13,600.00 from Phases of the Moon, and \$27,640.00 for farm cash rent.

Trustee Jaynes questioned when the farm cash rent was usually received.

Executive Director Konsis responded that crops were harvested a little late; typically payment is received in late December. The District receives \$300.00 per acre; this is the first installment.

Trustee Cooke moved to approve the December 10, 2014, Report on Cash and Investments as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes.

President Bogart requested a roll call voice vote. The results:

Trustee Cooke	-	yes
Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
President Bogart	-	yes

The vote was 3–0. Treasurer's Report, item seven e was approved. Motion carried.

Agenda item number eight, Specific Items of Business to be Transacted.

Item eight a. Enterprise Zone Resolution. A representative from Vermilion Advantage was invited to attend the meeting, with no one present; Executive Director Konsis explained that a new resolution would go into effect on January 1, 2016, if Danville/Vermilion County is selected as a designated Enterprise Zone location. If they are not, then the existing Zone will cease to exist at that time. A copy of the document was included in the Trustees' packets.

With no questions, Trustee Cooke moved to approve the resolution for the extension of the Danville/Vermilion County Enterprise Zone. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes.

With no more questions, President Bogart requested a roll call vote. The results:

Trustee Cooke	-	yes
Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
President Bogart	-	yes

The vote was 3–0. Motion carried.

Agenda item eight b. Presentation and Quotes for 2015 Employee Health Insurance. Executive Director Konsis explained that the Trustees were given information regarding the current Coventry insurance coverage.

Larry Owen was recognized and explained that it is not possible to underwrite another plan due to the health claims that were made the past year. The Trustees were given a packet of information regarding the different plans available. He explained his choice for the District, the Health Alliance HMO HSA 2000a Silver, and gave details of the plan. The approximate premium would be \$16,376.00 per month.

Gordon Thoennes was recognized and presented an HMO 3000a plan and an HMO 5000b Silver plan and explained how each would affect the employees and the District. He suggests a plan with a higher deductible, and not charging the employees a premium; rather than trying to charge them a portion of the premium with the coverage remaining the same. Trying to do what is best for the whole population, not just the select few; the HMO 3000a premium quote is \$15,006.82 per month. However, he recommends the HMO 5000b Silver plan for a monthly premium of \$14,962.73.

Trustee Jaynes recommends putting together a committee and meeting separately to look at the options to come to a long term solution.

Discussion ensued.

Trustee Jaynes moved to table the selection of a 2015 employee health insurance plan until a special meeting could be scheduled. This was followed by a second from Trustee Cooke.

Trustee Porter arrived at 5:33 p.m.

Discussion regarding a special Board of Trustees Meeting for the purpose of discussing insurance ensued, and one will be scheduled before the end of December.

With no more discussion, President Bogart asked for a vote to table the insurance plan approval. *All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Agenda item number eight c: Open Sealed Bids for 2015 Workman's Compensation Insurance. Executive Director Konsis stated that one bid was received from Illinois Public Risk Fund. He asked Gordon Thoennes to present the bid.

Gordon stated that the premium for 2015 is quoted at \$15,150.00. The increase of \$150.00 is due to changes in salaries. There will be a rebate of \$1,403.00, pending application.

With no further questions, *Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the bid of \$15,150.00 from Illinois Public Risk Fund for the Workman's Compensation Insurance. This was followed by a second from Trustee Porter.*

President Bogart requested a roll call vote. The results:

Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Porter	-	yes
Trustee Cooke	-	yes
President Bogart	-	yes

The vote was 4–0. Motion carried to accept workman's compensation insurance bid from Illinois Public Risk Fund.

Agenda item number eight d: Presentation of 2014 Building Rental Statistics for Forest Glen. Lorna Konsis was recognized and gave the Trustees a copy of the report. Lorna explained that the Kennekuk report would be given in January due to the very recent hiring of a secretary at Kennekuk.

Lorna reported that income remained somewhat steady, with a slight increase due to a few more weddings. Weddings have an extra fee of \$100. Approximately 75-76% of the rentals at Forest Glen are family gatherings. She does not recommend any building reservation fee increases this year.

The Board thanked Lorna for her report.

Agenda item number eight e. Approve 2015 V.C.C.D. User Fee Schedule. Executive Director Konsis referenced the current and proposed fee schedules in the Trustee's notebooks. The staff and he have no recommendations for increases this year.

With no questions, *Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the 2015 V.C.C.D. User Fee Schedule as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Cooke. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Agenda item number eight f. Approve 2015 Board Meeting Calendar. After review of the schedule given to the Trustees, it was decided to move the September 16 meeting location

from Kennekuk to Forest Glen to avoid conflict with the Phases of the Moon Festival. The October 21 meeting location will be moved from Forest Glen to Kennekuk.

With no questions, *Trustee Cooke moved to approve the 2015 V.C.C.D. Board Meeting Calendar as amended. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Agenda item number eight g. Discuss/Amend Ordinance for Use of Golf Carts, Drones, and 5K Benefit Events. Executive Director Konsis wished to amend Ordinance No. 89 to clarify the use of these items, and to set a policy for benefits held in the parks. The Trustees were provided with a copy of the proposed amendments. *See attached.*

With no questions, *Trustee Cooke moved to approve the amendments to Ordinance No.89; Chapter IV, Section 1; Automobiles; Chapter III, Section 13 Benefit 5K Runs; and Chapter III Section 14 Use of Drones, as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Agenda item number eight h. Memorandum of Understanding Between V.C.C.D. and IDNR Concerning the Kickapoo Rail Trail. Executive Director Konsis explained that the match fee of \$658,000 procured for the trail is still \$180,000 short. This has to be met before IDOT will allow access to the trail. Fundraising on both sides continues and they believe the goal will be met. This intergovernmental agreement for the Kickapoo Rail Trail Vermilion County Segment needs to be signed, so that progress is shown on the development of the Trail.

Executive Director Konsis has given this agreement to Attorney Gil Saikley for review, and it was approved.

With no questions or discussion, *Trustee Porter moved to approve the Kickapoo Rail Trail Memorandum of Understanding between the V.C.C.D. and IDNR. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes.*

President Bogart requested a roll call vote. The results:

Trustee Porter	-	yes
Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Cooke	-	yes
President Bogart	-	yes

The vote was 4–0. Motion carried.

Agenda item number eight i. Selection of Engineering Firm for Kickapoo Rail Trail. Executive Director Konsis stated that both Fehr Graham and Farnsworth Associates are equally capable. Approximately \$6,000 separates the bid. Farnsworth was recommended by Executive Director Konsis during the selection committee meeting; however CCFPD is tied to Fehr Graham. CCFPD decided to select Fehr Graham, and on the Vermilion County side Farnsworth will be chosen.

Trustee Cooke moved to approve Farnsworth as the engineering firm for the Kickapoo Rail Trail. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes.

Trustee Porter stated that in his opinion from experience, mixing engineering firms does not work well. If the firms do not have to work together, and the only place they have to meet is where the trail touches, it may be alright.

Executive Director Konsis responded that we are only responsible for the Vermilion County side – there should be no interaction between the firms.

President Bogart asked Executive Director Konsis if he will be micromanaging this engineering project and he agreed.

President Bogart requested a roll call vote. The results:

Trustee Cooke	-	yes
Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Porter	-	yes
President Bogart	-	yes

The vote was 4–0. Motion carried.

Trustee Cooke asked for approval of the two items previously removed from the Treasurer’s Report.

President Bogart asked for approval of Cooke Business Products and Cook Business Forms items.

Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the amount of \$758.11, check # 32812 from the Current List of Bills from November 2014; and check #32728 in the Manual Check Report for November 2014 in the amount of \$52.50. This was followed by a second from Trustee Porter.

President Bogart requested a roll call vote. The results:

Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Porter	-	yes
Trustee Cooke	-	abstain
President Bogart	-	yes

The vote was 3–0, 1 abstention. Motion carried.

Agenda item number nine was Representative Reports.

Agenda item nine a: IACD President, Jamie Pasquale had no report.

Agenda item nine b; V.C.C.D. Foundation Report. Foundation Chairman, Gordon Thoennes reported that the Board reluctantly accepted the resignation of Cheryl Vergin at the December 5, 2014 meeting. They are accepting applications for replacement. Election of officers were held, officers are: Gordon Thoennes, Chairman; Bob Schifo, Vice Chairman; Ken Hannan, Treasurer.

Plans are going forward for the Foundation’s 1st Annual Sportsman’s Banquet on March 14th. All proceeds to benefit the Kennekuk Environmental Education Center.

The next Foundation meeting will be Friday, February 13, 9:00 a.m., Kennekuk Education Center.

This concluded the V.C.C.D.F. Report. There were no questions.

Agenda item nine c: IAPD Report. Executive Director Konsis has received emails concerning the veto session regarding the Freedom of Information Act.

Agenda item ten: There was no executive session.

Agenda item eleven. There were no amendments to the agenda.

Agenda item twelve. Report From the Education Supervisor. Gary Wilford reported that the education staff held the annual end of year meeting to discuss how 2014 programs and educational events could improve and any new programming ideas for 2015.

The Forest Glen Archery Hunt is going well and harvest is exactly the same as it was this time last year at 24. He plans to have a financial report for the January meeting.

There were no questions from the Trustees; this concluded the report from the Education Supervisor.

Agenda item thirteen: Report from the Associate Director. Associate Director Pasquale had updates from the last meeting on business transacted at the November meeting. The batwing mower was ordered from Shaff Machinery; telephone system licensing agreement was signed yesterday, hopefully will begin installation next week and will be completed by December 31st; and a red Ford ¾ pickup truck was ordered from Landmark Ford, at the state bid list for approximately \$20,000.

The siding on the building at Lake Vermilion is being replaced.

This concluded the Report of the Associate Director.

Agenda item fourteen: Report From Executive Director. Executive Director Konsis reported that there have been no Kickapoo Rail Trail meetings since November 19; the fundraising committee will make a presentation to Vermilion Advantage on December 18, Danville City Hall, 7:30 a.m. Trustees are invited to attend; Amy Steeples has emailed meeting information to each.

The amended floor plans for the Kennekuk Environmental Education Center, Phases II & III will be distributed at the January V.C.C.D. Board Meeting. The center continues to be a popular meeting place for organizations and clubs.

The Bunker Hill Historic Area Holiday Open House is Sunday, December 14, 2 – 6 p.m., refreshments include hot cider and cookies. Lara Darling hosts, and Foundation Directors will assist at the Atwood Home and Neff Grocery Store. Kennekuk holiday lights will be lit December 14, 20, 21, 24, 25, 27, 28, and 31.

Executive Director Konsis will meet tomorrow with local fishermen and Sam Van Camp to discuss crappie population issues and solutions. Immediately following the meeting, he will be taking time off for the rest of the month.

A slideshow showcasing Phases of the Moon Festival is complete and will be shown at the January meeting.

The next meeting is Wednesday, January 21, 2015; 4:30 p.m.; Kennekuk Environmental Education Center. Agenda items will include: preliminary budget report and Kennekuk 2014 building rental report.

Trustee Cooke asked Executive Director Konsis if he would be available to attend the Special Meeting.

Executive Director Konsis responded that they could call him.

There were no other questions or comments.

Agenda item fifteen: President's and Trustee's Comments.

Trustee Porter had no comment.

Trustee Cooke had no comment.

Trustee Jaynes had no comment.

President Bogart thanked all the District Staff for their hard work and Amy Steeples for correcting and reprinting minutes from the November 19th meeting.

With no further discussion, and all business transacted, *Trustee Jaynes moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 p.m. This was followed by a second from Trustee Porter. Meeting adjourned.*

Perry A. Jaynes
Secretary
V.C.C.D. Board of Trustees