

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

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

**Wednesday, July 16, 2014
4:30 p.m.
Kennekuk Environmental Education Center
Kennekuk County Park
Danville, IL**

First Vice President Green called the July Regular Meeting of the Vermilion County Conservation District Board of Trustees to order and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

First Vice President Green welcomed Trustee Jonathan Myers to the Vermilion County Conservation District Board.

Roll call showed the following.

Trustees Present: Nikki A. Bogart
Ken E. Green
Perry A. Jaynes
Jonathan A. Myers

Trustee(s) Absent: B. Dirk Porter

In attendance were Ken Konsis, Executive Director; Jamie Pasquale, Associate Director; Amy Steeples, Recording Secretary; also Barry Shear, Sam Shear, and Ken Krueger, Phases of the Moon organizers.

Staff members present included Lorna Konsis, Charles Rhoden and Gary Wilford.

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

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

Agenda item number five was the Approval of the Minutes from the June 18, 2014, Regular Meeting. First Vice President Green asked for any corrections to the minutes.

Trustee Bogart moved to approve the June 18, 2014, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.

Item number six, Audience Comments. Executive Director Konsis introduced Barry and Sam Shear, and Ken Krueger with Phases of the Moon Music and Art Festival.

Barry explained the reasons the group chose Vermilion County and Kennekuk County Park in particular for its beauty. They have been meeting every other week, and will soon be moving in for good until the event date of September 11. They plan to leave no footprint on the park, everything as it is right now; and asked everyone to check the website frequently for the latest information. They are very excited, and invited the Trustees to ask questions.

First Vice President Green stated that we were looking forward to the event.

There were no other questions or comments, the organizers thanked the Board for their hospitality and left the meeting.

Agenda item number seven, the Treasurer's Report. Vice President Green asked if there were any questions on items seven a. through d.

With no questions, Trustee Bogart moved to approve the Current List of Bills from June 2014 in the amount of \$23,360.33, which included check #'s 32423 - 32459; the Manual Checks for June 2014 in the amount of \$45,727.64 which included check #'s 32314-32334 and #'s 32372 - 32416; the General Journal Entries for June 30, 2014; and the June 2014 Budget Report. This was followed by a second from Trustee Myers.

First Vice President Green requested a roll call voice vote. The results:

Trustee Bogart	-	yes
Trustee Myers	-	yes
Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Vice President Green	-	yes

The vote was 4–0. Treasurer's Report, items seven: a – d were approved. Motion carried.

First Vice President Green asked the Executive Director to give the report on cash and investments for June 18, 2014.

The Executive Director began his report by stating that the District's current checking account balance was \$86,050.00. The Illinois Funds Investment Pool account has a balance of \$46,950.00. The Illinois Funds Money Market account has a balance of \$5,100.00. The Hoopston money market balance remains at \$23,900.00. The Preferred Checking account (Hegeler account) remains at \$2,200.00. The CIB passbook account has a current balance of \$48,400.00. Our Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) has a balance of \$1,900.00. Our First Savings Bank has a balance of \$400, which is the interest from the DCEO grants.

The grand total of cash and investments as of July 16, 2014, is \$214,900.00, which compares to \$248,100.00, at the same time last year.

He asked if there were any other questions from the Trustees. There were none.

Trustee Bogart moved to approve the Report on Cash and Investments for July 16, 2014. This was followed by a second from Trustee Myers.

First Vice President Green requested a roll call voice vote. The results:

Trustee Bogart	-	yes
Trustee Myers	-	yes
Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Vice President Green	-	yes

The vote was 4–0. Report of Cash and Investments dated July 16, 2014 was approved. Motion carried.

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

Item eight a. Trustee Office Elections. First Vice President Green asked for nominations for President.

Trustee Jaynes nominated Trustee Bogart for President. This was followed by a second from Trustee Myers.

First Vice President Green commented that he had fully intended to resign August 1, 2014 from the V.C.C.D. Board of Trustees. He read a statement of explaining this decision.

First Vice President Green asked for a vote for Trustee Bogart for V.C.C.D. Board President. All in favor, motion carried.

Vice President Green asked for nominations for First Vice President. There were none.

Vice President Green asked for nominations for Second Vice President. There were none.

First Vice President Green stated that V.C.C.D. By-Laws do not provide for the division of the office of secretary and treasurer.

Discussion ensued. A nomination for secretary was made and seconded, then withdrawn. It was decided that that secretary/treasurer will be held by one person.

Trustee Jaynes nominated Trustee Porter for Second Vice President. This was followed by a second from Trustee Bogart.

Trustee Myers nominated Trustee Jaynes for Secretary/Treasurer. This was followed by a second from Trustee Bogart.

Trustee Bogart nominated Trustee Myers for First Vice President. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes.

Trustee Green left the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

Trustee Bogart conducted the meeting from this point.

Trustee Bogart asked to close the nominations; nominations were closed. The slate of officers as follows:

Nikki A. Bogart	President
Jonathan A. Myers	First Vice President
B. Dirk Porter	Second Vice President
Perry A. Jaynes	Secretary/Treasurer

Trustee Myers moved to approve the Vermilion County Conservation District Slate of Officers as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.

Agenda item eight b. Presentation of 2014 Tax Levy. Executive Director Konsis explained that the District is taxing an aggregate sum of \$1M which will be collected the next budget year. It is a \$12,000 increase due to the addition of the wind farms and the estimated assessed valuation. The new appropriation numbers are taken into consideration when figuring because you cannot levy above your appropriation. The District does not levy anything for which a fee is charged.

Our corporate budget is \$1,173,000 and we will levy \$612,000. The \$561,000 difference mainly comes from fees, services, CPPRT, farm income, and special events.

The insurance fund appropriations are \$268,500 and we will levy \$242,000; difference will be from CPPRT.

The IMRF appropriations are \$83,400 and we will levy \$80,000; difference will be from CPRT to reduce the negative fund balance.

The audit fund appropriations and tax levy are the same at \$6,000.

Social security fund appropriations are \$61,000 and we levy \$60,000.

There were no questions. *Trustee Myers moved to approve Ordinance No. 133 Annual Tax Levy for the 2014 Taxes due in 2015. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Agenda item eight c. Approve Specs for CPA Bid. Executive Director Konsis explained that these were the same as the previous year, with these three additions: Audit must be completed by August 1, 2015; Field work shall be done on site; Audit firm shall be available for questions throughout the year.

There were no questions. *Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the specifications for CPA services for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. This was followed by a second from Trustee Myers. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Agenda item eight d. Draft of Lease for Fithian Grain Elevator Complex. Executive Director Konsis stated that the lease between CSX and Lauhoff Grain was originally signed in the 1930's. The railroad owned the land that was occupied by the elevator, thus requiring an annual lease. The current owner is Bunge. Steve Ludwig intends to purchase the elevator [not the land], from Bunge and then enter into a long-term lease agreement with us. He wants to restore it. The current lease is \$1,600/yr.

Discussion ensued regarding the terms of the lease.

The Trustees directed Executive Director Konsis to work with Attorney Gil Saikley to obtain a length of lease of 20-25 years for \$2,000/year, plus CPI compounding with a cap of 2.5% annually; due date of April 1st. To be reviewed every 3 – 5 years.

Trustee Jaynes suggested marketing sections to businesses, organizations, families of the Kickapoo Rail Trail to partner with us in maintaining and for funding.

Agenda item number nine was Representative Reports.

Agenda item nine a: IACD President, Jamie Pasquale reported the next IACD meeting will be July 31, 2014 at Starved Rock State Park. The Executive Director and he will be attending.

Agenda item nine b; V.C.C.D. Foundation Report. Executive Director Konsis reported that the next meeting is Friday, August 1, 9:00 a.m. at the Environmental Education Center. The Cheeseburger & Fun event sponsorship letters have garnered \$2,200 so far. A refrigerated trailer, donated paper products, vegetables, and tent are procured. Associate Director Pasquale installed a power source near the site to eliminate the need for a generator.

The car clubs will meet for the last time on Saturday, July 26; 12:30 p.m., here at the education center.

The Foundation cheeseburger cookout sale begins at 4:00 p.m. Volunteers are still needed; sponsorship forms and informational flyers are in the Trustee's notebooks.

The V.C.C.D. Foundation's 990 tax return has been sent and confirmed by the Comptrollers Office.

There were no questions.

Agenda item nine c: IAPD Report. Executive Director Konsis completed an online survey regarding intentions for future grant requests and land acquisitions.

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 the education staff was busy with Summer Camps and the Library exhibit.

He handed each Trustee a packet of information the prospective hunters were given and briefly explained the Forest Glen Archery Hunting Program, and stated that sales were not as good this year as last. This year, after all slots are filled, he will call each hunter to make sure that they will fulfill their obligation. If not, another participant will be drawn. Again, the goal is to reduce the herd. There were 29 deer harvested last season. The drawing is July 19, 9 a.m.; Gannett Outdoor Education Center, Forest Glen.

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 reported that the sign-up for hunting at Kennekuk will be next month. Squirrel hunting and dog training will be not be held until after September 15, due to Phases of the Moon Music & Art Festival.

Repairs have been made to the gas line at the Lake Vermilion pump. Lorna Konsis has given him the total sales of gas there to date of \$3,700. All the new buoys have been placed. The aquatic invasive weeds are being treated.

This concluded the Associate Director's Report. There were no questions.

Agenda item fourteen: Report From Executive Director. Executive Director Konsis reported that the final payment for the Kennekuk Environmental Education Center was sent July 7; we now officially own the building. It is scheduled several times by organizations other than our own for meetings, training seminars, and tours. The timber framing has been stained.

Executive Director Konsis was one of the speakers during the official Governor Quinn announcement of the IDNR purchase of the Kickapoo portion of the Kickapoo Rail Trail from the Vermilion County Conservation District. IDNR Director Marc Miller and Governor Quinn offered to help the District in any way with grant opportunities. An Eastern Portal Meeting was held June 20, at the Kennekuk Education Center. Assignments were given for members to contact donors. The next meeting will be July 28, also at the Kennekuk Education Center.

The Trustees have a compilation of meeting notes for Phases of the Moon as of July 3, 2014. The demographics of the festival are for the 25 – 45 age group of upper level income. The music type is classified as jam and bluegrass. There was a security meeting Monday, July 14, involving Rock Solo Security (Nashville, TN), and Pat Hartshorn, Vermilion County Sheriff's Department. This addressed what to expect from the local department and who is going to pay for them. Security personnel must be licensed by the

state. Rock Solo Security will provide 100-150 unarmed security personnel onsite. Staff from them will total 350 people. Vermilion County deputies will be crowd control, with the ability to arrest. They will provide two officers per day and have ten available. Rock Solo Security will be searching vehicles and confiscating any contraband. People who refuse will be denied admittance. Early entry for VIP's will be noon on Wednesday, September 10. Gates are advertised to open at 10 a.m. on Thursday, but they will open at 6 a.m. to keep Henning Road clear. Everyone must be out by 3 p.m. Monday, September 15. A meeting with Nate Pientok, the operations manager of the "Summer Camp" event held in Chillicothe was also held on Monday. Executive Director Konsis explained his involvement with Phases of the Moon and the differences in the two events. He also clarified the volunteer process, trash and recycling plan, lighting, and touched on the emergency/disaster plan. The event is 55 days away!

Catholic Heart Work Camp volunteers were here last Monday through Thursday. These are high school sophomores and juniors from Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, and Wisconsin. They worked at Kennekuk painting the Print Shop, worked at Rotary Point board walk, and cleaned at the Environmental Education Center. They were treated to a pontoon boat ride their last day.

A Haunted Happenings meeting was held and the following decisions were made: haunted trail scenes were reduced from six to four; price will remain at \$10/person, but \$15/person the day of the event. After this year, we will re-evaluate this program to decide whether to have it every two years – keep it the same – or eliminate it.

The Forest Glen July Hayride boasted 27 people. This is the first Saturday of each month, and open to the public for a fee of \$1/person.

Events include: Spinners and Weavers Demonstration at Forest Glen, July 12; French and Indian War Re-enactment, July 19-20 at Forest Glen; free admission for both.

The next V.C.C.D. Board of Trustee meeting is Wednesday, August 20; 4:30 p.m., Kennekuk Environmental Education Center. Planned agenda item will be the audit presentation.

This concluded the Executive Director's Report.

President Bogart asked Executive Director Konsis if he felt everything was going well with Phases of the Moon Festival.

He responded that he did.

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

Trustee Jaynes invited Executive Director Konsis to the next Noon Kiwanis meeting. They want to present a check to him toward their education center pledge.

Trustee Myers stated that he is excited to serve on the V.C.C.D. Board. The parks are special to him; he is here to serve.

President Bogart thanked Executive Director Konsis for the wonderful report. She appreciates the efforts of the District Staff and all the money saving suggestions they bring to the Board.

With no further discussion, and all business transacted, *Trustee Jaynes moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 p.m. This was followed by a second from Trustee Myers. Meeting adjourned.*

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