

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

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

**Wednesday, May 17, 2017  
4:30 p.m.  
Kennekuk Environmental Education Center  
Kennekuk County Park  
Danville, IL**

President Myers called the May 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.

Roll call showed the following to be physically present at said location.

Trustees Present: Perry A. Jaynes  
Jonathan A. Myers  
Charles B. Schroeder

Trustee Present via teleconference: Allen E. Cooke

Trustee(s) Absent: B. Dirk Porter

In attendance were Executive Director Konsis; Jamie Pasquale, Associate Director and Amy Steeples, Recording Secretary.

Staff members present included Lara Darling, Jeff Lete, Charlie Rhoden, and Gary Tyrl.

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

President Myers asked for amendments to the agenda.

*With no corrections, Trustee Schroeder moved to approve the agenda as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Agenda item number five was the Approval of the Minutes from the April 19, 2017, Regular Meeting.

*Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the April 19, 2017, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Cooke. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Item number six a. Audience Comments. Lara Darling asked the Trustees if any wished to rsvp for the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, Tuesday, May 23, 6:00 p.m. She needs to know tonight, or early tomorrow morning.

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

With no questions or comments, *Trustee Cooke moved to approve the Current List of Bills from April 2017 in the amount of \$17,892.59, which included check #'s 36914 -36938; the Manual Checks for April 2017 in the amount of \$59,018.90 which included check #'s 36769 – 36782, 36809 – 36819, and 36844 – 36865; the General Journal Entries for April 30, 2017; and the April 2017 Budget Report. This was followed by a second from Trustee Schroeder.*

President Myers requested a roll call vote. The results as follows:

Trustee Cooke	-	yes
Trustee Schroeder	-	yes
Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
President Myers	-	yes

The vote was 4 – 0 in favor, motion carried.

Agenda item number seven e. Executive Director Konsis reported the Illinois Funds Investment Pool includes the May allocation of the Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax in the amount of \$35,000.00. The grand total of cash and investments as of May 17, 2017, was \$609,175.00. This compares to the grand total of \$563,535.00, May 2016.

President Myers asked if there were any questions from the Trustees regarding any of the accounts or investments. There were none.

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

Item eight a. An Ordinance providing for the issue of General Obligation Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source), Series 2017, of the District, for the purpose of financing the acquisition, preservation and maintenance of wild land, other open land, scenic roadways and pathways for the education, pleasure and recreation of the public, and for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds if the pledged revenues are insufficient to make such payments, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

The ordinance was included in the Trustee's board packets. President Myers summarized that this ordinance in effect was for the purpose of pledging the District's income to the repayment of the bond.

Kevin Wills, First Midstate Representative stated that there are two revenue streams involved. First, the identified cash flow stream, such as CPPRT or any lawful revenue source; and second, the filing of an ordinance for the extension of additional property tax, only when the pledge revenue is insufficient.

The filing of such an ordinance is to be done each fall, without fail, as a backup plan.

With no questions, *Trustee Cooke moved to approve the Ordinance providing for the issue of the General Obligation Bonds, Alternative Revenue Source, Series 2017. This was followed by a second from Trustee Schroeder.*

President Myers requested a roll call vote. The results:

Trustee Cooke	-	yes
Trustee Schroeder	-	yes
Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
President Myers	-	abstain

The vote was 3 – 0 in favor, 1 abstention, motion carried.

Item eight b. Presentation and approval of final budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Executive Director Konsis presented the amendments, in detail, made to Ordinance No. 141 since it was placed on review. *See attached.*

The total for Capital Improvements increased in total to \$86,400.00 from \$83,700.00. The grand total for estimated expenditures decreased to \$1,169,000.00 from \$1,170,000.00.

Executive Director Konsis noted that the 2016-2017 budget margin of error was only 3% overall.

President Myers asked if there were questions.

With no questions, *Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the Budget and Appropriations Ordinance No. 141 for 2017-2018 Fiscal Year. This was followed by a second from Trustee Schroeder.*

President Myers asked for a roll call vote. The results:

Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Schroeder	-	yes
Trustee Cooke	-	yes
President Myers	-	yes

The vote was 4 – 0 in favor, motion carried.

Item eight c. Approve purchase of used 2014 excavator for \$60,000. Associate Director Pasquale offered to give details; the Board found it unnecessary.

With no questions or comments, *Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the purchase of the 2014 excavator chosen by Associate Director Pasquale for \$60,000.00. This was followed by a second from trustee Schroeder.*

President Myers requested a roll call vote. The results:

Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Schroeder	-	yes
Trustee Cooke	-	yes
President Myers	-	yes

The vote was 4 – 0 in favor, motion carried.

Trustee Cooke left the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Agenda item number nine was Representative Reports.

Agenda item nine a: IACD Report. Associate Director Pasquale reported that he did not attend the IACD Meeting, and Executive Director Konsis gave the report. Executive Director Konsis stated that the meeting was held April 20, at the IDNR building in Springfield. The IACD liaison is Ed Cross, Director of Communications. Ed worked for a local television station and covered IDNR activities. He gave an overview of the current status of IDNR and the implications of the Illinois budget. There was also an IACD quarterly meeting that included District reports. Plans are in the works for a 2018 Conference. There is a conference committee meeting next Friday which Lara Darling will be attending.

Agenda item nine b; V.C.C. Foundation Report. Amy Steeples briefly reported that the next meeting will be June 9, 9 a.m., Kennekuk Education Center. Agenda items will be Cheeseburger & Fun event planning and Lorna Konsis memorial plans.

President Myers requested the memorial to be an item for discussion/approval on the June agenda

This concluded the V.C.C.F. Report.

Agenda item nine c: IAPD Report. Executive Director Konsis reported that if any of the Trustees would like to register for IAPD “Boot Camp”, they need to let him know asap. The dates are May 25, 31, or June 1. Registration fee is \$85.

Agenda item nine d: V.C.C.D. Revenue Producing/Expense Reduction Committee Report. President Myers had nothing new to report.

Agenda item nine e: Health Insurance Committee Report. Trustee Jaynes had no report.

This concluded Representative Reports.

Agenda item ten: There was nothing for executive session.

Agenda item eleven. Report from the Education Staff Representative. Amy Steeples reported that now, instead of an oral report there will be a written report sent with the Trustees packets. She handed out the report to each Trustee. The report included: programs/special events, Outdoor School classes, Day Visits, Meetings, Community Events, and Other.

There will be an opportunity during the meeting for any questions regarding the education staff report, or the Trustee may contact the staff member associated with the item.

President Myers asked about Conservation Olympics. Both he and Trustee Jaynes were in attendance.

Lara Darling responded that her first year with the program went very well, only a couple of minor things to improve upon. The new Animal Game went great and we even had media coverage that day.

President Myers commended her on a job well done.

This concluded the education staff report.

Agenda item twelve: Report from the Associate Director. Associate Director Pasquale began with an update on the WHIP at the Jordan Creek property. The last two sections have been sprayed, will be rechecked, and then seeded.

Twin Points Shelter posts have been replaced, new electric lines have been run, and a new roof has been added.

Some of the most needed new equipment has been ordered and has begun to come in. Trucks should be in within the next couple of weeks.

Associate Director Pasquale has tried contacting Ribbe Trucking regarding the Lake Vermilion Parking Lot, but has not heard back from him.

Trustee Jaynes responded that he spoke with T.J. and he has been out to look at the lot, and should have a quote soon.

Associate Director Pasquale commented that something will need to be done to solve a water drainage problem during very heavy rains, from Denvale and the golf course run-off.

The Boat Ramp is open and busy.

Trustee Schroeder asked about the gas pump there.

Associate Director Pasquale answered that it is in working order.

This concluded the report of the Associate Director.

Agenda item thirteen: Report From Executive Director. The Staff Retreat was excellent, serving as the District's annual meeting; the retreat included four speakers, staff reports, and a collection of items for the District's Time Capsule.

The survey of the area for the secondary access showed only one property owner, Carl Gunter. Rick Knight did not charge any more for the additional survey work. An example of the letter that is planned to be sent to the Gunter's is included for the Trustee's review.

Capital project updates include: no word from Ameren regarding the Kennekuk Education Center power upgrade; Kennekuk Visitor Center and Hideaway windows are ordered; Gannett Outdoor Education Center HVAC systems are scheduled to be put in anytime, labor donated by Rocky Doggett; and Forest Glen rock for top dressing pads is 90% completed.

There are two additional set of kitchen wall cabinets ordered from Creative Cabinets for the Kennekuk Education Center. These will be paid by the Foundation.

The Kickapoo Rail Trail East Portal Fundraising Committee met May 10<sup>th</sup>. Doug Ireland resigned as Chairman. New members are Logan Cronk and Julie Colby. The grand opening for the Champaign side is scheduled for mid-July at Main St. in St. Joseph.

The V.C.C.D. Historic Buildings will be open on Sundays, 1-4 p.m., for the public beginning May 28.

Upcoming V.C.C.D. Programs include an Astronomy Star Party on May 31, 7 p.m. at the Kennekuk Education Center. Dr. Jeff Cooke, Swinburne University, Australia will give a presentation, along with Vermilion Dark Skies, and Dr. Carl Wenning, Bloomington, IL will bring his telescope for all to view the night sky. It is a free program.

An Anglo Saxon Living History program is planned for May 20-21 at the Forest Glen Homestead Cabin Area, and the Illini Bass Club/D.A.R.E. Fishing Derby is June 3, 9 a.m. at Horseshoe Pond, Kennekuk. Bass will be stocked in Lake Vermilion as part of a cost share with Aqua Illinois.

Upcoming meetings include: I-Government, June 1; Vermilion Advantage orientation; National Walnut Council, June 11-14 (Cole Craft & Nick Jeurissen); Old Town Preservation, June 15; DACVB, June 21; Golden K Kiwanis, June 19.

Catholic Heart Work Camp volunteers begin June 19 –22.

Kickapoo Adventures Director, Tom Monahan has assembled a text alert with several key people regarding river conditions. The river will be closed at the Bunker Hill Historic Area Access whenever the Executive Director receives the alert from IDNR. An all clear text will also be received.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be Wednesday, June 21, 2017; 4:30 p.m. at the Gannett Outdoor Education Center. Unofficially new V.C.C.D. Board Member will be Bob Arnholt, his term to begin in July. There has been no news regarding a replacement for Allen Cooke's position.

It was determined that there would be no quorum on June 21; therefore, the regular meeting was changed to June 14, 2017.

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

President Myers stated that through the bonding, the Board has provided the District with the tools and resources necessary to take the District through the next 50+ years. In his opinion, the Board is being good stewards of the responsibilities that they have been entrusted with during their terms.

Trustee Jaynes invited Executive Director Konsis to the Kiwanis meeting at Old National Bank on May 18, noon to accept their pledged check.

Trustee Schroeder had no comment.

With no further discussion and all business transacted, *the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.*

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Allen E. Cooke  
Secretary  
V.C.C.D. Board of Trustees