

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

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

**Wednesday, September 20, 2017
4:30 p.m.
Gannett Outdoor Education Center
Forest Glen Preserve
Westville, IL**

President Myers called the September 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 present.

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

Trustee(s) Absent: none

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

Staff members present included Susan Biggs Warner, Cole Craft, Nick Jeurissen, and Charlie Rhoden.

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 amendments, *Trustee Arnholt 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 August 16, 2017, Regular Meeting.

Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the August 16, 2017, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Arnholt. 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 Myers asked if there were any questions on items seven a through d.

Trustee Arnholt asked about the telephone bills from Nextell, AT&T, and Call One. Mainly questioning the cell phone charges and who had cell phones. He also wanted to know what the booster charge was.

Associate Director Pasquale responded that the VCCD owns six cell phones and two wifi hotspots for \$402.00 per month. The four employees that have district cell phones pay for one-half the cost. The Atwood Home phone is used for emergencies, since cell service is not available there. The Nextel booster for better online service was added at Kennekuk.

Trustee Arnholt also questioned why the District buys firewood for resale.

Executive Director Konsis stated that there is just not adequate manpower to cut enough for resale demand.

With no other questions or comments, *Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the Current List of Bills from August 2017 in the amount of \$26,826.94, which included check #'s 37582 - 37609; the Manual Checks for August 2017 in the amount of \$61,007.54 which included check #'s 37378 – 37386, 37421 – 37464, and 37500 – 37514; the General Journal Entries for August 31, 2017; and the August 2017 Budget Report. This was followed by a second from Trustee Schroeder.*

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

Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Schroeder	-	yes
Trustee Arnholt	-	yes
President Myers	-	yes

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

Agenda item number seven e. Executive Director Konsis reported that the District is expecting a large CPPRT installment for October.

The grand total of cash and investments as of September 20, 2017, was \$1,385,950.00; less bond funds: \$891,950.00. This compares to the grand total of \$457,800.00, September 2016.

The Vermilion County Treasurer advanced the first installment of taxes collected which was \$578,872.00. This explains the difference in 2017 from 2016.

He noted the Bond Fund detail and expenditure amounts.

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. Approve specifications for Worker's Compensation Insurance. The specifications were reviewed by the trustees. Executive Director Konsis explained that adjustments were made regarding payroll and raises. Policy limits are exactly what the District has currently.

There were no questions, *Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the Worker's Compensation Insurance specifications for January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018.*

Item eight b. Update on Neubert Communications Proposal. Executive Director Konsis received a recent email update from Preston Neubert and shared it with the Trustees.

Trustee Arnholt had spoken with Mr. Neubert and, in his opinion, thought that there were better ways to get this done.

After a brief discussion, Trustee Jaynes suggested that Trustee Arnholt chair a committee regarding internet service. Trustee Arnholt accepted.

President Myers created the Kennekuk Internet Exploratory Committee, with Trustee Arnholt as chairman. He may choose members.

Agenda item number nine was Representative Reports.

Agenda item nine a: IACD Report. Associate Director Pasquale had no report.

Agenda item nine b; V.C.C. Foundation Report. Executive Director Konsis reported that a preliminary financial report showed a \$7,000 net profit for Cheeseburgers and Fun.

President Myers stated that the Lorna J. Konsis Visitor Center dedication went very, very well. There were many people in attendance.

This concluded the VCCF Report.

Agenda item nine c: IAPD Report. Executive Director Konsis had nothing new to report.

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: V.C.C.D. Education. The Trustees had received the report in their board packet mailing. There were no questions.

Agenda item nine f: V.C.C.D. Maintenance. The Trustees were provided with the District maintenance and land management report in their packets. There were no questions.

This concluded Representative Reports.

Agenda item ten: There was nothing for executive session.

Agenda item eleven: Report from the Associate Director. Associate Director Pasquale reported that the Forest Glen road work will be completed and ready for Ribbe to oil and

chip. They completed the parking lot at Heron County Park this morning. Kennekuk road work is complete – office to the Education Center and all the way to the boat ramp. Lake Vermilion road is on hold now, regarding the existing surface.

The geothermal system is installed at the Kennekuk Visitor Center and working great. Associate Director Pasquale plans to compare costs on a year's basis.

The material is purchased to repair the Forest Glen dump station leech field. The roof repair roof project at Neff Grocery Store has been completed. He has met with Joey Thomas, Thomas Excavating, regarding the Willow Creek Dam Repair Project, and they have devised a plan to repair the washout area and then place a permanent spillway with rock and concrete. This will begin next week.

The man-lift has is here; it will extend 40 feet.

This concluded the report of the Associate Director.

Agenda item twelve: Report From Executive Director. Executive Director Konsis reported there had been no word from Carl Gunter regarding the Kennekuk northeast access road.

The Urbana to St. Joseph portion of the Kickapoo Rail Trail was dedicated on August 25th, with approximately 300 people in attendance. They currently are reporting use of the trail by 500 people daily! Dan Olsen, Executive Director of CCFPD, has been named Director of Operations for Champaign Park District. The East Portal Trail Fundraising Committee will meet September 26th, Danville American Legion, 6 p.m. Executive Director Konsis attended the Danville Rail Trail Extension Committee meeting, whose goal is to purchase CSX line from the District's eastern property to Avenue C. This could eventually hook up with the Danville Riverfront through Ellsworth Park.

Met with Bryan Trigg of IDOT who suggested splitting the \$2.2M ITEP grant into two contracts to show some type of activity on the Vermilion County segment. However, match funds need to be found since IDNR money is not released. The V.C.C. Foundation is holding \$10,000 and Executive Director Konsis has applied for a renewal of the Vermilion Healthcare Grant for \$50,000. CCFPD Foundation is still holding money as well.

The Lorna J. Konsis Visitor Center Dedication was fantastic. There were approximately 350 people in attendance with beautiful weather. Special thanks to the V.C.C.F., staff committee of Amy, Susan, Charlie, and Jeff Howard, and the V.C.C.D. Board of Trustees. The Lorna J. Konsis Memorial Foundation is progressing, with the writing of the Articles of Incorporation.

The Solar Eclipse Viewing Party was very successful. An estimated crowd of 300 enjoyed cookies & lemonade, along with a NASA live feed, kid's activity, and 200 pairs of viewing glasses were distributed.

Upcoming events: Revolutionary War Reenactment, Forest Glen September 23-23, Pioneer Craft Day September 23; Civil War School Day, Kennekuk, September 29; Fall Star Party, Kennekuk, October 5; Forest Glen Hayride, October 7 (54 people for the September hayride).

Larry Gilliland's retirement party was held on September 8, his last working day will be Friday September 29, 2017. His start date was June 1, 1970.

Meeting attended: Southern IL University Dean of Agriculture & Forestry Chairman on August 17 & 18 and Vermilion Advantage, August 24; IL /IN Walnut Council Field Day (Cole Craft), August 28; Julius Hegeler, August 30; Dynegy Tour, September 6.

The next V.C.C.D. Board Meeting will be Wednesday, October 18, 4:30 p.m., Environmental Education Center, Kennekuk County Park.

This concluded the Report of the Executive Director.

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

President Myers conveyed his appreciation for all the hard work the staff has done and is and all the projects that they are working on to make the parks look so good.

Trustee Schroeder had no comment

Trustee Jaynes had no comment.

Trustee Arnholt had no comment.

With no further discussion and all business transacted, *Trustee Jaynes moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 p.m. This was followed by a second from Trustee Schroeder. All in favor by acclamation.*

Bob W. Arnholt
Secretary
V.C.C.D. Board of Trustees