

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

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

**Wednesday, June 19, 2019
4:30 p.m.
Gannett Outdoor Education Center
Forest Glen Preserve
Westville, IL**

President Myers called the June 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.

Agenda item number three, Roll Call showed the following to be present.

Trustees Present: Randy A. Johnson
Shelley K. McLain
Jonathan A. Myers

Trustee(s) Absent: Charles B. Schroeder
Doug R. Staske

In attendance was Executive Director Pasquale, Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox, and Amy Steeples, Recording Secretary.

Staff members present included: Cole Craft, Mike Kotcher, 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.

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

Agenda item number five. Approval of the Minutes from the May 15, 2019, Regular Meeting.

With no corrections, Trustee Johnson moved to approve the May 15, 2019, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee McLain. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.

Item number six. Audience Comments. President Myers stated each person has a maximum of three minutes, total maximum of 30 minutes for 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. This included the bills, checks, journal entries & budget reports for May 2019.

With no questions or discussion, *Trustee Johnson moved to approve the Current List of Bills from May 2019 in the amount of \$16,032.61, which included check #'s 39898 – 39921; the Manual Checks for May 2019 in the amount of \$289,624.09 which included check #'s 39753 - 39765, 39783 – 39787, 39809 – 39828, and 39854 – 39855; the General Journal Entries for May 31, 2019; and the June 2019 Budget Reports. This was followed by a second from Trustee McLain.*

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

Trustee Johnson	-	yes
Trustee McLain	-	yes
President Myers	-	yes

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

Agenda item number seven e. Report on Cash and Investments. Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox reported the June 19, 2019 report states that the NOW checking account balance is \$105,170; Illinois Funds Investment Pool totaled \$240,390, the Illinois Funds Money Market Fund balance is \$5,300. First Farmers Bank Money Market Passbook account balance is \$191,060; Central Illinois Bank Money Market Passbook account balance is \$48,670. HRA has a balance of \$4,200. First Savings Bank NOW account balance is \$108,295. The 12 mo. CD at Central Illinois Bank at 2.25% interest balance is \$101,100. The 3 mo. CD at Iroquois Federal at 2.34% interest has a balance of \$102,315 [Whittaker Funds]. The other 3 mo. CD balance, also earning 2.34% interest, is \$140,590 at Iroquois Federal at 2.34% [Wagner Funds].

The grand total of cash and investments: \$1,047,090. less bond funds of \$75,268.23 remaining is \$971,821.27. This compares to \$845,355. in June of 2018.

President Myers inquired when the District expected the first installment of real estate taxes.

Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox responded, "Usually in July."

Trustee McLain commented that the District is much better off now than in June of 2016.

President Myers stated that there had been a concerted effort to build up fund balances so that capital improvements could be done.

There were no other questions or comments.

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

Item eleven a. Open sealed bids for road seal coating and award/approve bid. Executive Director Pasquale stated, "As anticipated, we have one bid, Daniel L. Ribbe Trucking." The bid was for \$51,768.80; the budgeted amount was approximately \$48,000.

Trustee Johnson asked how many miles the project covered.

Executive Director Pasquale responded that the specifications were in square feet, describing the project.

With no other questions or comments, *Trustee Johnson moved to approve the bid from Daniel L. Ribbe Trucking for the road sealing project as stated in the amount of \$51,768.80. This was followed by a second from Trustee McLain.*

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

Trustee Johnson	-	yes
Trustee McLain	-	yes
President Myers	-	yes

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

There was no reason for Executive Session.

Agenda item nine a. VCCF Report. Amy Steeples reported that the Trustees were given a copy of the VCCF June 2019 Treasurer's Report and the 2019 VCCF Budget. These were approved at the June 14th meeting. Any questions may be directed to Michael Puhr, VCCF Treasurer.

Cheeseburgers and Fun event flyer was given to each Trustee. Proceeds from the event are designated for Kickapoo Rail Trail expenses. Julie Colby, VCCF Associate Director will be manning a table at the event. The next VCCF meeting will be July 26, 9 a.m., Kennekuk Education Center.

This concluded the VCCF Report.

Agenda item nine b. VCCD Education, Maintenance and Land Management Report. The reports were included with the Trustee's packets.

Trustee McLain asked how often the TiPi's are rented.

Amy Steeples responded that there is one reserved this evening, and have been reserved maybe five times so far this year. They were donated to us, and are available Memorial Day through late fall. They have been used for educational purposes as well.

Question regarding storm damage was addressed by Executive Director Pasquale. There was not much damage to trees, but there was some damage to every structure roof in Forest Glen and several in Kennekuk County Park. It has been two weeks since the insurance adjustors came to assess roof damage, and he has not heard anything back from them. The newer fleet vehicles were placed in the maintenance shed, but six older ones had to be left outside. If they are totaled, we cannot afford to replace them. Buyback should be low.

This concluded VCCD Education, Maintenance and Land Management Reports.

Agenda item nine c. Kennekuk Environmental Education Center Phase II and III Feasibility Study Committee. Trustee Staske was not present, there was no report.

This concluded Representative Reports.

Agenda item ten: Report from the Executive Director. Executive Director Pasquale reported that he spent the last month working on the Lake Vermilion concession stand and plans for it to be open this weekend. There were several public inquiries regarding removal of the floating concession stand building, but no concrete follow-ups. Executive Director Pasquale found someone who is willing to dismantle the building and reconstruct it for personal use. The dock will stay for now, but it is too big for just the gasoline pump so that will be removed and a smaller one to replace it.

It is estimated that the floating building had stood for 30-35 years. Many improvements have been made over the years.

A section, approximately 1/10 of the Lake Vermilion parking lot has been repaved with asphalt. It is hoped to continue to fix the entire lot, but it is costly.

Construction on the Kickapoo Rail Trail resumed, it is an 80-work day contract and he does not think there was any work done in April or May. He estimates that 19½ work days have been completed and was pleased to see that many trees along the trail survived the clearing process. These will provide much needed shade to users of the trail.

Executive Director Pasquale reported that he attended the Vermilion Advantage Meeting along with Vermilion County Board Chairman Baughn, Mayor Williams, Vickie Haugen, Dannel McCollom and others. Dannel owns 200+ acres of land off South Union Road bordering the Vermilion River and wishes to sell the parcel at a reasonable price to an organization that will protect and respect his wishes regarding management of the land. Dannel is an avid canoeist and outdoorsman and wants to develop primitive campsites there for canoeists. Executive Director Pasquale was asked by Vickie Haugen to bring the acquisition of this parcel of land to the VCC Foundation.

Executive Director Pasquale brought this opportunity to the VCC Foundation; they are not really interested, unless the District wishes to take the lead. At this point, the VCCD does not have the resources to feasibly do anything with this property and he plans to inform Vickie Haugen.

President Myers asked if there was any educational value in the parcel.

Executive Director Pasquale answered, "Possibly, I think there was some farm ground there originally."

Brief discussion ensued.

Executive Director Pasquale will contact Vickie Haugen for more information and report back.

Two programs were given; one to Golden K Kiwanis at Rotary Point, Kennekuk and one to Old Town Preservation Society at Songer Pavilion, Lake Vermilion.

Still waiting to hear back from the insurance adjustor regarding hail damage; it has been two weeks.

Trustee McLain stated that metal roofs are not covered, unless there is a cosmetic insurance policy. She recommended looking into adding it, since it is reasonably priced.

There were no other comments or questions. This concluded the Report of the Executive Director.

Agenda item ten a. Report from the Director of Administration and Personnel. Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox reported that the auditors finished on-site two weeks ago.

She is researching boat access grants. IDNR is opening theirs up July 1 through August 19; this would be a no match type grant and covers parking lots.

Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox will not be in attendance at the July 17, Board of Trustees meeting. She will be on vacation July 12 through July 19.

There were no comments or questions.

This concluded the Report of the Associate Director of Administration and Personnel.

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

President Myers stated that this is his last meeting as a VCCD Trustee. It has been an eventful five years; thanking the Trustees for everything they have done to move the Conservation District forward. He thanked the staff and wanted them to know that in making some tough decisions, the Board really tried to do what was in everyone's best interest with the District at heart. Thanking all for allowing him to serve as Trustee; he appreciated getting to know everyone.

At this point, Executive Director Pasquale presented President Myers with a commemorative plaque in appreciation of his years of service to the VCCD. This was met with a round of applause.

Trustee Johnson commented that he could not thank President Myers enough. He will miss his leadership; running an excellent meeting.

Trustee McLain reiterated Trustee Johnson's comments, stating that President Myers leadership was instrumental in moving the District forward in the right direction.

Executive Director Pasquale stated that a new VCCD Board member had not been appointed yet. However, it would be on their agenda and may not be appointed until July.

Executive Director Pasquale stated he and the VCCD Staff appreciated all the work President Myers has done for the District.

With no further discussion and all business transacted, *Trustee Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:02 p.m. This was followed by a second from Trustee McLain. All in favor by acclamation.*

Shelley McLain
Secretary
VCCD Board of Trustees