

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

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

**Wednesday, June 15, 2016
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 at 4:30 p.m. and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

A moment of silence for victims of Orlando, FL mass shooting on June 12, 2016 was observed.

Roll call showed the following.

Trustees Present: Allen E. Cooke
Perry A. Jaynes
Jonathan A. Myers

Trustee(s) Absent: Nikki A. Bogart
B. Dirk Porter

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

Staff members present included Lorna Konsis and Gary Wilford.

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

Agenda item number five was the Approval of the Minutes from the May 18, 2016, Regular Meeting. President Myers asked for any corrections to these minutes.

With no corrections, *Trustee Cooke moved to approve the May 18, 2016, Regular Meeting Minutes. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Item number six a. Audience Comments. Executive Director Konsis introduced Champaign County Forest Preserve District Executive Director, Dan Olsen. Dan gave an update on Phase I, Kickapoo Rail Trail construction that includes Urbana to St. Joseph. Currently, tree removal is being done and change orders need to be added to the construction documents to address drainage culverts. He also gave a summary of the Kickapoo Rail Trail groundbreaking ceremony that was held on May 22, 2016.

Next, Executive Director Konsis read a proclamation for a distinguished service award presented to Doug Ireland, in the audience. Doug is the manager of Cycles Plus in Danville, IL, and Chairman of the Kickapoo Rail Trail East Portal Funding Committee. He has worked tirelessly on promoting fundraising events through his business and initiating the Duathlon, now in its second year and scheduled for next weekend. All proceeds are earmarked for the trail. Doug had several friends and relatives in attendance, those present applauded and the Board thanked Doug for his work.

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 Jaynes moved to approve the Current List of Bills from May 2016 in the amount of \$23,951.66, which included check #'s 35461 -35490; the Manual Checks for May 2016 in the amount of \$49,053.35 which included check #'s 35280 – 35294, 35297 – 35300, 35357 – 35377, and 35443 - 35453; the General Journal Entries for May 31, 2016; and the May 2016 Budget Report. This was followed by a second from Trustee Cooke.*

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

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

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

Agenda item number seven e. Executive Director Konsis reported the grand total of cash and investments as of June 15, 2016, was \$445,255.00. This compares to \$398,005.00 from the previous year. He asked if there were any questions from the Trustees regarding any of the investments. There were none.

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

Item eight a. Approve Prevailing Wage Ordinance. Executive Director Konsis explained prevailing wage is mandated by the State of Illinois and must be approved through an ordinance each year. The Trustees were provided with a copy of Ordinance No. 138 regarding the period of coverage for prevailing wage act for the V.C.C.D. There were no changes from last period other than dates.

With no questions, *Trustee Jaynes moved to approve Ordinance No. 138 regarding prevailing wage for the period covered of June 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. This was followed by a second from Trustee Cooke. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Item eight b. Approve Specifications for General Liability Insurance. Executive Director Konsis stated that the only change from the previous year was the deadline for submission of bids. He requested that it be extended one month to August 17, 2016.

With no questions, *Trustee Jaynes moved to approve the specifications for the General Liability Insurance. This was followed by a second from Trustee Cooke. All in favor, motion carried.*

Item eight c. Act on Request for Tax Sale from City of Hoopetston. Executive Director Konsis reported he had received notice from the City of Hoopetston regarding possible sale of tract #03-11-301-002-0080, the former Essex Building. A letter is required from each taxing district agreeing with the sale to the City for the minimum bid. Executive Director Konsis has no issue with this request.

With no questions, *Trustee Cooke moved to approve the sale of the former Essex Building to the City of Hoopetston. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

President Myers directed Executive Director Konsis to draft a letter stating such.

Agenda item number eight d. Update Resolution 14-1; Dynegy Coal Ash Storage Pits. Resolution 14-1 regarding the coal ash pit closure plan was approved by the V.C.C.D. Board in June 2014. Executive Director Konsis explained that Resolution 16-3 regarding Dynegy's responsibilities for cleanup of the current coal ash pits has been updated to be sent to the current Illinois State administration. This resolution is in support of the Eco Justice Collaborative's efforts to place this very important liability with Dynegy to execute immediately and responsibly instead of placing it upon the taxpayers.

The Trustees present were in total agreement; *Trustee Cooke moved to approve Resolution 16-3, Concerns of the Coal Ash Storage Pits Bordering the Middle Fork National Scenic River in Vermillion County. This was followed by a second from Trustee Jaynes. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Agenda item number nine was Representative Reports.

Agenda item nine a: IACD Report. IACD President Jamie Pasquale reported that the next quarterly meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2016 at Starved Rock State Park. This concluded the IACD Report.

Agenda item nine b; V.C.C. Foundation Report. Executive Director Konsis stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 17, 9:00 a.m., Forest Glen Preserve.

This concluded the VCCF Report.

Agenda item nine c: IAPD Report. Executive Director Konsis had no report.

Agenda item nine d: V.C.C.D. Revenue Producing/Expense Reduction Committee Report. President Meyers had no report.

Agenda item nine e: Health Insurance Committee Report. Chairman, Trustee Jaynes reported that, because of the Affordable Care Act, huge increases are expected next year. He has heard of increases anywhere from 40% - 60%. However, insurance companies and providers are still not making a large profit. He has heard rumors that insurance companies such as Humana and Sigma will fold. Hospitals may merge or be bought out. No information is available yet for Coventry, the District's current provider. He will be in contact with Gordon Thoennes, Dimond Brothers.

Discussion ensued.

Trustee Jaynes stated that some companies that he represents are cancelling policies with him, and giving employees a stipend that employees may use to purchase their own insurance coverage. He wishes to meet with V.C.C.D. employees as part of an insurance committee. It is an important to work together as a team.

Executive Director Konsis will ask employees to serve on this committee.

Tax levy and bonding opportunities were also discussed.

This concluded Representative Reports.

Agenda item ten: There was nothing for executive session.

Agenda item eleven. Report from the Education Supervisor. Gary Wilford reported that right now, summer programs are in full swing.

The Forest Glen Hunting Program is doing well with lottery ticket sales. The goals of the hunting program are being met; reduction of the herd is on target. There are still too many deer in the park. The program was to run for five years, and then reviewed for continuance or termination. It is in its third year.

This concluded the report from the education supervisor.

Agenda item twelve: Report from the Associate Director. Associate Director Pasquale reported that the Lake Vermilion concession is open for the season and lake patrol is in force. Weekends have been busy.

Amanda Butler, archaeologist, is currently working at the Collins Site, Kennekuk. This is her second venture there and will be working for six weeks. In the future, plans are to make permanent access to the site.

Work continues on the Kennekuk wood shop. It will be approximately 2-3 weeks before power is established there. Again, the shop expenses are paid by private donation. To date, around \$7,000 has been spent.

Work on the Lake Mingo Dam gates will begin soon. Temporary barriers will be placed and the two remaining gates will be sandblasted and repainted.

President Myers asked about the dam inspection schedule.

The state had contacted Associate Director Pasquale regarding an inspection due to missing documents at the state office. Associate Director Pasquale answered that he emailed the state inspector, and we are in compliance for two more years.

This concluded the report of the Associate Director.

Agenda item thirteen: Report From Executive Director. Executive Director Konsis began with the Kickapoo Trail. In addition to Dan Olson's report, V.C.C. Foundation Chairman Thoennes, Lorna Konsis and he attended the Champaign County Forest Preserve District's groundbreaking ceremony on May 22. Also present was Danville Mayor Eisenhower, Oakwood Mayor Jennings, and Foundation Director Kevin Green and his wife.

After a year of intense planning and bi-monthly meetings, the V.C.C.D.'s 50th celebration is over. Executive Director Konsis is proud of everyone, committee member or not, who made this happen. It doesn't matter how the District came out financially, the main thing was that the District did something. This was owed to our original Board Members, former Executive Directors, along with Ron Pennock, Lee Wright, and Marilyn Campbell. Executive Director Konsis challenges the current young district employees, and the ones to soon follow, to keep the rich tradition of the V.C.C.D. moving forward, no matter what difficulties may be faced.

The Lake Vermilion cleanup was held June 3rd, with 25 volunteers in attendance; Illini Bass Club/D.A.R.E. Kid's fishing tournament on June 4th, with about 40 kids in attendance. Upcoming events include: Spinners & Weavers Demonstration at Forest Glen on July 9th; French and Indian War Re-enactment on July 16-17; and the Forest Glen Archery Hunt drawing on July 17.

Lake Vermilion has been stocked with fish. The amount of \$11,000 was received for reimbursement of dock repair.

Several energy efficient windows were installed in the Forest Glen Staff Office and Kennekuk Visitor Center; a bid for replacement of the Pioneer Barn roof has been accepted; Kennekuk entrance drive seal coat work is scheduled with Ribbe Co.; and Forest Glen road patching is scheduled with the Vermilion County Highway Dept. Richard Bridgman, whose property runs along the old access road at Kennekuk, was contacted about the secondary entrance road, Kennekuk, and is willing to work with us regarding construction.

Executive Director Konsis will be the speaker at the Golden K Kiwanis on June 20.

A staff orientation and safety meeting was held June 7. This is a requirement of the Workman's Compensation insurance and OSHA.

The next meeting is Wednesday, July 20, 2016; 4:30 p.m.; Environmental Education Center, Kennekuk County Park.

Executive Director Konsis asked the Trustees how they would like him to proceed with the presentation of tax levy documents. If we go over the 5%, we will have to publish it with the black box around the notice in the newspaper.

Discussion regarding bonding ensued, the Trustees asking Executive Director Konsis to put together bond information, with President Myers input; in addition to the tax levy information. The Executive Director agreed to work with President Myers on drafting the levy.

The August meeting will include Trustee Officer Elections and introduction of the new Trustee who will replace Nikki A. Bogart, whose term is expired.

Executive Director Konsis asked if the Board wanted to advertise for bidding for CPA services. There is no policy regarding this, it is the Board's pleasure.

The Board was in agreement not to bid out CPA services this year.

There were no other questions or comments.

Agenda item fourteen: President's and Trustee's Comments. President Myers stated that he enjoyed the 50th Anniversary Banquet. Gary Wilford did a wonderful job as emcee, the video turned out fantastic, and program was fantastic.

Trustee Cooke had a great time at the banquet and thought the stage display was wonderful. He commented that everyone did a great job and congratulated the staff.

Trustee Jaynes commented that also thought the banquet and program were great. He enjoyed the Birds of Prey Program very much.

With no further discussion, and all business transacted, *Trustee Jaynes moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:33 p.m. This was followed by a second from Trustee Cooke. All in favor by acclamation. Meeting adjourned.*

Nikki A. Bogart
Secretary
V.C.C.D. Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Allen E. Cooke
Second Vice President
V.C.C.D. Board of Trustees