

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

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

**Wednesday, June 20, 2018
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.

Roll call showed the following to be present.

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

Trustee(s) Absent: Shelley K. McLain

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

Staff members present included: Cole Craft, Kim Fox, Lara Darling, 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. There were none.

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

Agenda item number five. Approval of the Minutes from the May 23, 2018, Regular Meeting.

With no corrections, *Trustee Johnson moved to approve the May 23, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Schroeder. 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.

Hearing none, public comments were closed.

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 2018 in the amount of \$19,985.93, which included check #'s 38641 -38668; the Manual Checks for May 2018 in the amount of \$58,239.61 which included check #'s 38457 – 38474, 38529 – 38540, and 38580 – 38587; the General Journal Entries for May 31, 2018; and the May 2018 Budget Report. This was followed by a second from Trustee Johnson.*

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

Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Johnson	-	yes
Trustee Schroeder	-	yes
President Myers	-	yes

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

Agenda item number seven e. Interim Executive Director Pasquale reported that the NOW checking account balance is \$90,800.00; Illinois Funds Investment Pool totaled \$124,830.00; the Illinois Funds Money Market balance is \$5,185.00. First Farmers Bank balance is \$200,330.00; and Central Illinois Bank has a balance of \$200,175.00. The HRA has a balance of \$3,725.00. First Savings Bank account balance is at \$199,465.00. The balance remaining of the \$1M Bond Fund is \$187,200.04.

The grand total of cash and investments less bond funds is \$637,309.96. This compares to \$659,401.00 in June of 2017.

President Myers asked if there were any questions from the Trustees regarding any of the accounts or investments.

President Myers asked that interest rates be reviewed and any short term accounts be moved to gain a better interest rate. The cash balance is relatively high and an extended term investment could be made to increase to a higher rate and gain revenue for the District.

Interim Executive Director Pasquale commented that had not been done in past years due to the District's cash flow. At this time, this is not an issue.

Kim Fox, in attendance, agreed to call institutions to check current rates.

The Board was in agreement.

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

Item eight a. Approve Prevailing Wage Ordinance No. 146. President Myers explained that this was a formality to approve this resolution ordinance each year.

Trustee Jaynes moved to approve Ordinance No. 146, Prevailing Wage Resolution for 2018 as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Johnson.

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

Trustee Jaynes	-	yes
Trustee Johnson	-	yes
Trustee Schroeder	-	yes
President Myers	-	yes

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

Item eight b. Discussion/Action on Legal Correspondence Received. There was no additional correspondence.

No Executive Session.

Agenda item nine a: VCCF Report. President Myers asked Trustee Schroeder to give a report since he attended the June VCCF meeting.

Trustee Schroeder stated that he gave the Foundation Board a chronological report of what had transpired this spring; explaining how and why the VCCD Board arrived at their decision not to agree to go along with the Foundation's proposal to lease and accept the donations to build the addition to the education center. They appreciated his remarks. He will attempt to attend future VCCF meetings as his schedule allows.

This concluded the VCCF Report.

Agenda item nine b; IAPD Report. Interim Executive Director Pasquale had nothing new to report.

Agenda item nine c: VCCD Education Report. The Trustees were provided with this report in a mailing. Interim Executive Director Pasquale reported that interviews were conducted for the Education Supervisor position and Lara Darling was chosen. The board congratulated her.

Lara reported that summer camps were doing very well this year, registration numbers have increased.

President Myers asked what the District 118 Outdoor Education programming was all about.

Interim Executive Director Pasquale responded that they were trying to model it after a program DACC was offering on a smaller scale. Not attempting to duplicate the District's programming.

Agenda item nine d: VCCD Maintenance and Land Management Report. The Trustees were provided with these reports in the mail.

This concluded Representative Reports.

Agenda item ten: Report from the Interim Executive Director. Interim Executive Director Pasquale began with the updated internet service at Forest Glen. Midwest First is our new provider of reliable, high speed, unlimited service there. A 40' tower was dismantled at Lake Vermilion and reassembled, by our staff, near the Lorna Konsis Visitor Center. Midwest First installed a receiver on the tower that is hard-wired to a modem inside the center; service is transmitted to the maintenance and ranger station via a fiber optic line that was installed two years ago for the phone system.

He met with Bob Irvine, Dave Cronk and Andy Price to discuss Aqua Illinois Employee lake passes and rules. An update on the Lake Vermilion Dam Gate Replacement Project revealed that they are planning not to lower the lake level during the project.

Six acres at Kennekuk has been planted with a pollinator mix provided by Pheasants Forever, who covered most of the cost and rental of the planted from Vermilion County Soil & Water.

Received notice from IDOT that the Kickapoo Rail Trail agreement had been executed. The next step is a pre-construction meeting with IDOT, Farnsworth and Cross Construction. Remain hopeful that construction may begin in July.

The Annual Illini Bass Club and D.A.R.E Fishing Derby was held June 2 at Horseshoe Pond, with an attendance of 142 kids. The VCCD stocks the pond with catfish each year before the derby, and prizes are awarded to each participant. The Vermilion County Soil & Water Conservation District also sponsored this event.

The District held a sealed bid sale for excess equipment. There were nine bids for seven items which included three trucks, road grader, mower, tree spade, and a chainsaw. The road grade and chainsaw received no bids, but Interim Executive Director Pasquale found buyers. Total revenue collected was \$6,148.00.

The Lake Mingo Dam inspection is scheduled for this month, weather permitting. Catholic Heart Workcamp volunteers are at Kennekuk this week. Mike Kotcher, in the audience, reported that this group has performed a variety of tasks including painting and trail work.

Summer Camps include Toddling Into Nature, Wonder Bugs, Science in Nature and Pioneer Kids Camp this month. Upcoming events: Public Hayride at Forest Glen on July 7; Spinners & Weavers Demo, Forest Glen on July 14, and French & Indian War Re-enactment, Forest Glen on July 14 & 15.

Until yesterday, Serenity Base Fest was still selling tickets online for the Kennekuk event. It has now been posted as cancelled. Interim Executive Director Pasquale read their posted statement, including they will be giving full refunds.

Interim Executive Director Pasquale commented that, from the statement, it does not seem that they are open to coming back to Kennekuk, but we should keep an open mind. The Board agreed.

The next VCCD Board Meeting will be Wednesday, July 18, 2018; 4:30 p.m., Environmental Education Center, Kennekuk County Park.

There were no other comments or questions.

This concluded the Report of the Interim Executive Director.

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

President Myers presented Trustee Jaynes with a plaque in appreciation for his five years of service on the Vermilion County Conservation District Board, July 2013 to June 2018.

Trustee Jaynes commented that Lara Darling presented a Kickapoo Rail Trail program at the Kiwanis weekly meeting. She did a great job, and the members were still talking about it the following week.

Trustee Schroeder reported that Trustee McLain and he selected members of the Executive Director Search Committee. The members are: Ken Hannan, VCCF; Michael Gast, VCCD Volunteer Corps; Lon Henderson, interview representative and David Harrold, citizen. The plan is to meet, select 4 – 6 applicants for interviews, and then present 2 – 3 candidates before the board. The posting of the job ends June 29; they will meet July 9 and review the applications and set up interviews.

Trustee Schroeder added that during the VCC Foundation meeting, Foundation Directors asked about the Feasibility Study Committee. They are interested and wish to know when the committee will meet.

President Myers responded that will be addressed at the next meeting during Representative Reports, and include both branches of the main committee; the Education Center Feasibility and Education Center Construction. He queried if the VCC Foundation would like representation on this committee.

Trustee Schroeder responded that they would, and thinks it would be good to reach out to them. President Myers concurred.

Trustee Schroeder added that the Executive Director opening was posted in the Commercial News and News Gazette newspapers Sunday, June 17 and will be in the Sunday, June 24 edition. It is also posted on the Vermilion Advantage Job Board and the VCCD website. Amy Steeples added that it was posted for free on Monster.com and Indeed.com as well.

With no further discussion and all business transacted, *Trustee Jaynes moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:07 p.m. This was followed by a second from Trustee Schroeder. All in favor by acclamation.*

V.C.C.D. Board of Trustees