

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

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

**Wednesday, June 17, 2020  
4:30 p.m.  
Gannett Outdoor Education Center  
Forest Glen Preserve  
Westville, IL**

President Schroeder 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: Michael P. Arbuckle  
Randy A. Johnson  
Charles B. Schroeder  
Doug R. Staske

Trustee(s) Absent: Shelley K. McLain

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

No staff members were present.

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

President Schroeder asked for amendments to the agenda.

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

Agenda item number five. Approval of the Minutes from the May 20, 2020, Regular Meeting.

*With no corrections, Trustee Staske moved to approve the May 20, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Johnson. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

Item number six. Audience Comments. President Schroeder stated each person has a maximum of three minutes, total maximum of 30 minutes for all audience comments. No audience present.

Agenda item number seven, the Treasurer's Report. President Schroeder asked if there were any questions on items seven a through d. This included the bills, checks and journal entries for May 2020.

Executive Director Pasquale stated that bills have been light; the District is just now beginning to incur some expenses.

The Trustees commented on the decreased annual building and shelter rental income due to closure and cancellations of the District's rental buildings & shelters since March 16, 2020. The boat license fees year to date income was also a little low, but Executive Director Pasquale expects that to exceed the year end budget.

With no other questions or discussion, *Trustee Johnson moved to approve the Current List of Bills from May 2020 in the amount of \$7,391.97, which included check #'s 40932 – 40946; the Manual Checks for May 2020 in the amount of \$39,217.74 which included check #'s 40852 – 40878, 40773, and 40788 – 40813; May 2020 in the amount of \$36,640.19 which included check #'s 40852 - 40878 and 40891 - 40904; and the General Journal Entries for June 17, 2020. This was followed by a second from Trustee Arbuckle.*

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

Trustee Johnson	-	yes
Trustee Arbuckle	-	yes
Trustee Staske	-	yes
President Schroeder	-	yes

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

Agenda item number seven e. Report on Cash and Investments. Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox reported that as of June 17, 2020, the NOW checking account balance is \$157,815; Illinois Funds Investment Pool balance is \$230,295, the Illinois Funds Money Market Fund totaled \$5,390. First Farmers Bank Money Market Passbook account balance remained at \$248,860; Central Illinois Bank Money Market passbook account balance is \$145,110. The Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) balance is \$5,725. First Saving Bank NOW account balance is \$98,660; the NOW account at Catlin Bank balance is \$50,060. The 3 mo. CD at Central Illinois Bank at .85% interest balance is \$103,410; 3 mo. CD [Whittaker Funds] at Iroquois Federal reinvested at 1.0% interest balance is \$85,000; the 3 mo. CD [Wagner Funds] at Iroquois Federal reinvested at 1.0% interest balance is \$100,170.

The grand total of cash and investments for June 17, 2020: \$1,230,515. This compares to \$971.821. in June of 2019.

President Schroeder asked if there were any questions regarding the Cash and Investment Report for June 2020.

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

Item eight a. Approve specifications for sale of train car. Executive Director Pasquale composed the terms of sale for the train car. Susan Biggs Warner has been in contact with a salesman in Texas who deals in this type of merchandise and he had placed the description and photos of the car on his website. Through his advertisement, Susan has spoken with 7 or 8 interested parties from all over the United States and Canada. She had not received any interest from the Monticello Railroad Museum.

Trustee Staske asked if any buyers were interested for the purpose of scrapping the car for cash.

Executive Director Pasquale responded that he didn't know of any, and would check with Bryant's as to the salvage value.

Trustee Staske added that he was not in favor of scrapping the train car.

Trustee Staske was concerned regarding damage to the park road system during transport of the car off-site.

Executive Director Pasquale stated that he didn't remember the weight of the car, but couldn't recall any damage to the roads during the transportation into the park.

Discussion ensued.

Trustee Arbuckle stated that the Board has a fiduciary responsibility to the Vermilion County taxpayers to get the most money from the train car as possible.

*With no further questions or discussion, Trustee Johnson moved to approve the specifications of the terms and conditions of the sale of the Pullman Train Car as presented. All in favor, motion carried.*

Item nine b. Discuss/approval of July shelter rentals and reservations. *Regarding the COVID-19 pandemic:* Executive Director Pasquale reported that the District may be ready to allow current rentals and new reservations to occur if IL Governor Pritzker announces that Illinois will move into Phase 4 revitalization of the Restore Illinois Plan. Phase 4 allows for groups of up to 50 people to gather. It is expected that the Governor will have an announcement soon regarding changes that at the earliest, will take effect June 26, 2020.

A report on July rentals was given to the Trustees.

Executive Director Pasquale reported that there are several issues to consider, among them are keeping groups to 50 or less people and the cleaning before and after a group has used the rental.

Discussion ensued.

Trustee Johnson mentioned adding a paragraph pertaining to the number allowed by the State to the rental agreement or contract that is currently used with their signature. There is no contract or agreement currently utilized, so Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox will write a waiver with wording appropriate to Illinois State Guidelines for the building and shelter renter to complete and sign.

Executive Director Pasquale updated the Trustees regarding the campgrounds, shower house, and which park outhouses were open.

Executive Director Pasquale requested a motion be made regarding the reopening of the rental buildings and shelters to the public.

*With no further discussion or comments, Trustee Arbuckle moved to approve the reopening of rental buildings and shelters with a signed waiver from the renter stating that they shall conform to the Illinois State and Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity guidelines set forth at the time of their rental; dependent on an announcement by the Illinois Governor to move to Phase 4. This was followed by a second from Trustee Johnson. All in favor by acclamation, motion carried.*

There was nothing for Executive Session.

Agenda item nine a. Report from the Executive Director. Executive Director Pasquale reported the gas dock located at the Lake Vermilion Dock is now completed and ethanol free gas is available.

The leach field and septic tank was installed at the Forest Glen Visitor Center. The Vermilion County Health Department was very helpful working with us getting the permit to perform the work

ourselves. A new septic tank and leach field was installed at the campgrounds too. A new dual lane dump station is the next project. It will be an updated station with the correct type of equipment designed for campers.

Update of hail damaged roof replacement included complement of the water treatment building, Ranger Station, Shower House, Sycamore Hollow Nature Center, Urbas Classroom, and Edgewood Center. Yet to complete are: Maple Grove Lodge, Forest Glen Maintenance, Hideaway, Kennekuk Visitor Center, and Laury Barn. He has inspected, and it is good work.

Executive Director Pasquale spoke with Larry Vaughn, County Board Chairman, regarding Trustee Shelley McLain. Trustee McLain submitted an application to serve on the Vermilion County Board. If she is appointed to the County Board, she may not be reappointed to the VCCD Board. She was appointed to serve the remaining term of Trustee *Robert Arnholt*; and could be reappointed to a consecutive term beginning July 1, 2020. This will be decided by the Vermilion County Board.

The next VCCD Board of Trustees Meeting will be Wednesday, July 15, 4:30 p.m.; Kennekuk County Park.

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

President Schroeder reported that he saw the article about Camp-In-a-Bag in the newspaper. Nice publicity.

Executive Director Pasquale responded that Lara, with the help of Susan Biggs Warner and Jennifer Krainock have really done a great job promoting the VCCD on Facebook through informative posts and educational videos. One was even picked up by the Associated Press.

Trustee Staske asked when the restrooms and outhouses will be open to the public.

Executive Director Pasquale stated that most outhouses will open once Illinois moves into Phase 4. The decision has not been made regarding flush toilets at Laury Barn.

He next asked about the work on the KRT, at the trestle bridge.

Executive Director Pasquale responded the sections were delivered to Halverson. But he does not think that work is progressing on the trestle. Work is continuing on the KRT. Trustee Staske would like to receive progress reports on the trail.

Trustee Johnson stated that the parks look fantastic.

Trustee Arbuckle had no comment.

With no further discussion and all business transacted, *Trustee Arbuckle moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:11 p.m. This was followed by a second from Trustee Johnson. All in favor by acclamation.*

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Shelley McLain  
Secretary  
VCCD Board of Trustees