

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

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

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

4:30 p.m.

**Cellular One Classroom
Kennekuk Environmental Education Center
Kennekuk County Park, Danville, IL**

President Schroeder 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.

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

Trustees Present: Randy A. Johnson
Charles B. Schroeder
Doug R. Staske

Trustee(s) Absent: Michael P. Arbuckle
Michael Gast

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

Staff members present included Lara Danzl.

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.

Executive Director Pasquale stated that new trustee, Michael Gast and Trustee Arbuckle was not present, and recommended striking agenda item eight a. Election of Officers.

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

Agenda item number five. Approval of the Minutes from the July 15, 2020, Regular Meeting.

With no corrections, Trustee Johnson moved to approve the July 15, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. This was followed by a second from Trustee Staske. 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 h. This included the bills, checks and journal entries for July and August 2020.

Trustee Johnson asked about check #41081 for \$331.04 to Productivity Plus for Kubota parts listed on the Manual Check Listing.

Executive Director Pasquale responded that was for the Forest Glen front line mower, not any of the new Kubota equipment.

With no other questions or discussion, *Trustee Johnson moved to approve the Current List of Bills from July 2020 in the amount of \$13,619.90, which included check #'s 41066 – 41087; from August 2020 in the amount of \$13,136.90, which included check #'s 41122 – 41135; the Manual Checks for July 2020 in the amount of \$ 508,653.84 which included check #'s 40975 – 40988, and 41007 – 41040; the Manual Checks from August 2020 in the amount of \$79,356.05, which included check #'s 41041 – 41065 and 41088 – 41104; and the General Journal Entries for August 31 and September 30, 2020. This was followed by a second from Trustee Staske.*

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

Trustee Johnson	-	yes
Trustee Staske	-	yes
President Schroeder	-	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 that as of September 16, 2020, the NOW checking account balance is \$145,320; Illinois Funds Investment Pool balance is \$206,100, the Illinois Funds Money Market Fund remained at \$5,395. First Farmers Bank Money Market Passbook account balance is \$148,950; Central Illinois Bank Money Market passbook account balance is \$245,220. The Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) balance is \$2,400. First Saving Bank NOW account balance is \$248,695; the NOW account at Catlin Bank balance is \$230,100. The 3 mo. CD at Central Illinois Bank at .10% interest balance is at \$103,630 and was renewed; 3 mo. CD [Whittaker Funds] at Iroquois Federal at .65% interest balance is now \$85,210; the 3 mo. CD [Wagner Funds] at Iroquois Federal invested at .65% interest balance is at \$100,420.

The grand total of cash and investments for September 16, 2020: \$1,521,440. This compares to \$1,373,072. in September of 2019.

President Schroeder asked if there were any questions regarding the Cash and Investment Report for September 2020. There were none.

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

Item eight a. Election of Officers. Removed from the agenda.

Item eight b. Discuss/Approve Ordinance #155, an ordinance pertaining to the local CURE program. Executive Director Pasquale stated that Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox applied to the CURE [Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency Support] Program, a program allowing reimbursement for expenditures for cleaning supplies, etc. related to the coronavirus pandemic. The program did not cover any administrative nor salary reimbursement costs.

Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox explained that the Federal Fund that was part of the CARES [Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security] Act was being handled by the Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

The amount of \$23,550 was estimated for the period from March to the end of December 2020 and an application submitted. As these items are purchased, they are turned in for reimbursement.

After she applied, she discovered the rules were changed and the District could also apply/reapply for coverage of administrative leave wages. She then re-applied for those expenditures as well.

Trustee Staske asked for detail on the COVID-19 related expenses.

Associate Director of Administration and Personnel Fox responded that masks, gloves, germicide, disinfectant and Newton's sanitizing antimicrobial treatment are not included in the VCCD's budget, therefore, may be submitted for reimbursement through the CURE Program.

With no more comments or questions, Trustee Johnson moved to approve Ordinance #155, An Ordinance Pertaining to the Local CURE Program funded from assistance the State of Illinois received through the U.S. Department of the Treasury. This was followed by a second from Trustee Staske.

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

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

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

There was nothing for Executive Session.

Agenda item nine a. Report from the Executive Director. Executive Director Pasquale reported that the Kickapoo Rail Trail work continues, with more work on the IDNR side. Work has begun on the trestle and he has a few photos to show the trustees.

Trustee Staske noted that the entrance to Kickapoo from the bike trail has been paved.

The contract was awarded for the IDNR trail head parking lot and restroom facility, but he does not know the timeline. The District section of the trail was mowed for the first time.

The White Oak Barn bathroom and kitchen addition has been the focus of late. The two restrooms are useable, but not totally finished. Possibly in two weeks the interior should be done. More exterior work is yet to be completed.

Denmark Road sewer project will start soon. This will only affect boat traffic somewhat, having lane closures, etc. The project is expected to be completed early next year.

Discussion ensued regarding water and sewer lines and Lake Vermilion.

Trustee Staske inquired about the roof replacement progress.

Executive Director Pasquale replied that they are currently working at the Hideaway then will begin on the Visitor Center, which is the last building.

President Schroeder wanted an update regarding the O'Leary's Dining Car removal.

Executive Director Pasquale responded that he had not done anything with that, and no one has inquired about it. He would like to reach out to some people to see what can be done to get the car out of the park. He had also considered stripping it down to the frame and rebuilding it as a caboose.

At this point, a few pictures of the trestle work were projected for all to view.

The next VCCD Board of Trustees Meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, 4:30 p.m.; Forest Glen Preserve.

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

Trustee Staske had nothing to report.

President Schroeder had no comment

Trustee Johnson had no comment.

With no further discussion and all business transacted, *the meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m. All in favor by acclamation.*

Secretary
VCCD Board of Trustees