

**KENDALL COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

MARCH 21, 2017

I. Call to Order

President Gilmour called the meeting to order at 9:00 am in the Kendall County Board Room.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Invocation

Commissioner Prochaska offered an invocation for the meeting.

IV. Roll Call

Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Flowers, Gryder, Hendrix, Kellogg, Prochaska, and Gilmour all were present.

V. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Prochaska. Aye, all. Opposed, none.

VI. Citizens to Be Heard

No public comments were offered by citizens present at the meeting.

VII. Approval of Claims in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$103,579.08.

Commissioner Purcell entered the meeting at 9:03 am.

Commissioner Davidson made a motion to approve claims in an amount not-to-exceed \$103,579.08. Seconded by Commissioner Cullick.

Motion: Commissioner Davidson

Second: Commissioner Cullick

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Flowers, Gryder, Hendrix, Kellogg, Prochaska, Purcell, and Gilmour, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

VIII. Approval of Minutes

Kendall County Forest Preserve Commission Meeting – March 7, 2017

Kendall County Forest Preserve District Finance Committee Meeting – March 15, 2017

Kendall County Forest Preserve District Committee of the Whole Meeting – March 15, 2017

Commissioner Hendrix made a motion to approve the minutes for the Forest Preserve Commission meeting held on March 7, 2017; the Forest Preserve Finance Committee meetings held on March 15, 2017, and the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 15, 2017. Seconded by Commissioner Flowers.

All, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

IX. Motion to Approve the FY 15-16 Audited Financial Statements for the Kendall County Forest Preserve District

Commissioner Hendrix made a motion to approve the FY 15-16 Audited Financial Statements for the Kendall County Forest Preserve District. Seconded by Commissioner Prochaska.

Director Guritz stated that the audit was presented for review at the March Committee of the Whole meeting. The District posted a budget surplus for the year, with a change from a negative to stable outlook for the District's bond rating by Moody's.

Efforts to complete the market sale of the 2017 Series Refund Bonds will begin following approval of the audit.

Commissioner Gryder commended the Board of Commissioners for their hard work in balancing the District's budget. Commissioner Gryder highlighted the District's positive fund balances, 95 days of operating reserves, and \$1.1M savings for the taxpayers from the 2016 Series refunding.

Commissioner Gilmour stated that the audit confirms that the District is heading in the right direction.

Motion: Commissioner Hendrix

Second: Commissioner Prochaska

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Flowers, Gryder, Hendrix, Kellogg, Prochaska, Purcell, and Gilmour, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

X. Resolution #17-03-002 Approval of a Resolution of Support of House Bill 3127 Exempting Forest Preserve and Conservation Districts from Drainage District Annual Assessments and Establishing a Preapproval Requirement for Drainage Districts to Complete Projects Taking Place on Forest Preserve and Conservation District Lands

Commissioner Gryder made a motion to approve Resolution #17-03-002 for support of House Bill 3127 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Hendrix.

Commissioner Kellogg stated that the bill as written is not clear. Based on his research, drainage district law supersedes the proposed legislation if approved, and could lead to additional litigation if adopted.

Commissioner Prochaska stated that the bill is under review in the State House of Representatives subcommittees.

Commissioner Flowers requested clarification that this resolution is only for expression of support for the bill and continued efforts by the legislature. President Gilmour confirmed the interpretation.

President Gilmour stated that the Kendall County Board had already approved a similar resolution.

President Gilmour called the question.

Commissioners Cullick, Flowers, Gryder, Hendrix, Prochaska, Purcell, and Gilmour, aye. Opposed, Commissioners Davidson and Kellogg. Motion carried by a vote of 7 to 2.

XI. Resolution #17-03-003 Approval of a Resolution Authorizing Submission of an IDNR-FHA 2017 Regional Trail Program Grant Application and Request for \$200,000 in Grant Funding, Including Commitment of Required Matching Funds Totaling \$74,863.00, and Payment of a \$300.00 Application Fee for Construction of ADA Parking Lot Improvements and a 1.34 Mile Multi-Purpose Trail Loop at Millbrook South Forest Preserve

Commissioner Hendrix made a motion to approve Resolution #17-03-003 authorizing submission of an IDNR-FHA 2017 Regional Trail Program Grant as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder.

Commissioner Hendrix stated that Millbrook South Forest Preserve is one of three forest preserves purchased with grant funds requiring public access and restoration improvements. Director Guritz confirmed that this is the case, and presented comments and feedback received from the public hearing.

Director Guritz stated that inquiries have been made into the ICC and Illinois Railway to discuss the approach for securing permission to connect the proposed trail, or providing vehicular access, across the railroad tracks at Millbrook South. Separately, the Village of Millbrook was contacted to request Village Board feedback on the preferred trail alignment and alternate entrance locations.

Commissioner Purcell inquired into whether sufficient capital funds were available to complete the project. Director Guritz stated that the capital funds are currently available, with remaining funds scheduled to cover costs for remaining capital improvements within the remaining preserve areas required under the grants received. The Land Cash fund balance is also growing, which would provide another source of capital funding to complete the required projects without securing additional bond funds.

Motion: Commissioner Hendrix

Second: Commissioner Gryder

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Flowers, Gryder, Hendrix, Kellogg, Prochaska, Purcell, and Gilmour, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

XII. Motion to Approve Farm Lease Agreement #17-01-004 with Albert Collins, Jr. of Yorkville, Illinois for the Lease of 95-Acres of Property at Henneberry Forest Preserve, with Payment Rendered to the District Following Harvest Based on Grain Elevator Market Price per Bushel on the Date of Harvest for One-Third of the Total Bushel Yield

Commissioner Kellogg made a motion to approve Farm Lease Agreement #17-01-004 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Hendrix.

Motion: Commissioner Kellogg

Second: Commissioner Hendrix

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Flowers, Gryder, Hendrix, Kellogg, Prochaska, Purcell, and Gilmour, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

XIII. Motion to Approve an \$8.00 Per Student Fee for School-Based Field Trip Programs at Ellis House and Equestrian Center, Including an Additional \$2.00 Per Student Fee for Field Trip Program Options (Face Painting, Craft, and Hay Rides)

Commissioner Gryder made a motion to approve an \$8.00 per student fee for school-based field trip programs at Ellis House and Equestrian Center, including an additional \$2.00 per student fee for field trip program options as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Hendrix.

Commissioner Purcell inquired into what the current fee for the program. Director Guritz stated that there is not currently a fee established for field trips to Ellis House and Equestrian Center. The fee is based on charges for similar field trip experiences for environmental education programs. The item is presented due to a request from a parochial school interested in scheduling an end-of-year field trip and picnic to Ellis.

Commissioner Purcell asked if the additional \$2.00 per student fee would be charged for each of the additional program options. Director Guritz confirmed that this would be the case.

Director Guritz also stated that the Ellis field trip options can be combined with environmental education program options to diversify lesson and activity offerings.

Commissioner Purcell complimented District staff on their efforts to diversify education program offerings.

Motion: Commissioner Gryder

Second: Commissioner Hendrix

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Flowers, Gryder, Hendrix, Kellogg, Prochaska, Purcell, and Gilmour, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

XIV. Executive Session

None.

XV. Other Items of Business

Director Guritz reported on progress with the investigation on the integrity of the Hoover Forest Preserve water distribution system. A walk through with the contractor that installed the new water main confirmed that the District's system is separated from the scout camp water lines. A service appointment has been scheduled to examine the settings on the pump control unit in order to properly test system pressure. Director Guritz stated that it is unlikely that the system is leaking. Rather, the issue is likely with the calibration of the pump control unit.

XVI. Citizens to Be Heard

No public comments were offered by citizens in attendance.

XVII. Adjournment

Commissioner Gryder made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Prochaska. Aye, all. Opposed, none. Meeting adjourned at 9:24 am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Guritz
Director, Kendall County Forest Preserve District