



7210 Keystone Road, Richmond, IL, 60071
815.678.4532, ext. 8204 | mchenryconservation.org

MCHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2021

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Semel called the March 9, 2021 meeting of the McHenry County Conservation Foundation to order at 6:32pm. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Open Meetings Act, I as President of the McHenry County Conservation Foundation have determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent at this time because of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic and Governor Pritzker's related disaster declaration. Director Dreher made the motion for the meeting to be virtual, Director Gorman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken - President Semel - yes, Vice-President Ivers - yes, Secretary Eisbrener - yes, Director Althoff - yes, Director Gorman - yes, and Director Dreher - yes. All were in favor.

2.0 INTRODUCTORY ROLL CALL

2.1 Roll Call

Brad Semel, President (Remote)
Kevin Ivers, Vice-President (Remote)
Martie Gorman, Director (Remote)
Ray Eisbrener, Secretary (Remote)
Dennis Dreher, Director (Remote)
Pamela Althoff, Director (Remote)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shawna Flavell, Executive Director of McHenry County Conservation Foundation (On Site)
Yvonne Semel, Administrator (Remote)
Elizabeth Kessler, Advisor, Executive Director of McHenry County Conservation District (Remote)
Linda Thomas, Liaison, McHenry County Conservation District (Remote)

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Kim Becker, Treasurer

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments at this time.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 4.1 January 12, 2021 - Regular Meeting - Vice-President Ivers made the motion to accept the January 12, 2021 - Regular Meeting minutes, Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 4.2 January 12, 2021 - Executive Session - Director Gorman made the motion to accept the January 12, 2021 - Executive Session minutes, Vice-President Ivers seconded the motion. All were in favor.

5.0 OFFICER'S REPORTS

- 5.1 President's Report
 - 5.1a 2020 Board Appointments
The McHenry County Conservation District Trustees approved the reappointment of Kevin Ivers and Ray Eisbrener.
- 5.2 Treasurer's Report
 - 5.2a Financial Review
In the absence of Treasurer Becker, President Semel gave the profit and loss reports for January and February 2021.
 - 5.2b Current Account Activity
President Semel asked if anyone had any questions about the balance sheet. He commented that most of the funds in the Blackhawk account will be drawn down to use in the upcoming land acquisition.

6.0 DIRECTOR AND BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

- 6.1 McHenry County Conservation District Report: District Liaison Thomas
The Conservation Police Department was named a finalist for the 2021 Destination Zero Officer Wellness Award by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. Advisor/MCCD Executive Director Kessler received the Illinois Parks and Recreation Association's Robert Artz Lifetime Achievement Award honoring those whose service has created awareness of the importance of parks and recreation. The Festival of Sugar Maples event was given high reviews. The District's FY 2021 Budget was presented to the County's Finance & Audit Committee and an online security training class was taken by District Board Members. Director Dreher inquired about the District's budget. He wondered if there was a budget summary and statement regarding adequacy of funding.

7.0 BOARD BUSINESS

- 7.1 Authorization to destroy the Verbatim Recordings of Executive Session Meetings from between November 27, 2018, May 14, 2019 and October 13, 2020 in Compliance with the Open Meetings Act.
Executive Director Kessler noted that the October 13, 2020 Verbatim Minutes should continue to be held and not destroyed at this time since it does not meet the 18-month time requirement. The Foundation is not required to follow the Open Meetings Act, but this formality is being followed for full transparency of Board actions. Vice President Ivers made the motion to destroy the Verbatim Recordings of Executive Sessions Meetings from between November 27, 2018 and May 14, 2019 in Compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 7.2 Authorization to Release the Executive Session Meeting Minutes from June 11, 2019; January 28, 2020; and April 14, 2020 to the Public Domain in Compliance with the Open Meetings Act.
Vice President Ivers made the motion to Release the Executive Session Meeting Minutes from June 11, 2019; January 28, 2020; and April 14, 2020 to the Public Domain

in Compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Secretary Eisbrener seconded the motion. All were in favor.

7.3 Adoption of Proclamation Celebrating the McHenry County Conservation District's 50th Anniversary (1971-2021).

President Semel commented that he felt that it was important that the Foundation acknowledge the District and their accomplishments over the past 50 years. Director Dreher made the motion for the Adoption of Proclamation Celebrating the McHenry County Conservation District's 50th Anniversary (1971-2021). All were in favor.

8.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

8.1 District Project Updates

President Semel requested a spreadsheet of projects that have been approved and invoices be created to keep track of projects going forward. MCCF Executive Director Flavell said she has this spreadsheet and wondered if the Board wanted to see that at each meeting. The Board was in agreement they would like it provided.

8.2 Upcoming Event Updates

8.3 Review of Suggested Edits to QuickBooks Budget Categories

MCCF Executive Director Flavell developed a list of categories for QuickBooks to streamline entries and asked that the Board review the changes by the end of the month. She would like to make the changes by the end of this fiscal year.

9.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

9.1 Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Exception 2C1 (Personnel) and 2C6 (Purchase or Lease of Property) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1 et.seq.)

President Semel presented the motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Exception 2C1 (Personnel) and 2C6 (Purchase or Lease of Property) of the Open Meetings Act (5ILCS 120/1 et.seq.). Director Gorman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken - President Semel - yes, Vice-President Ivers - yes, Secretary Eisbrener - yes, Director Althoff - yes, Director Gorman - yes, and Director Dreher - yes. All were in favor. Liaison Thomas left the meeting at this time and did not return.

Regular Session adjourned to Executive Session at 7:28pm.

10.0 RECONVENE - IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:54 pm the Board came out of Executive Session and reconvened at 8:56 pm by President Semel on the evening of March 9, 2021 via Zoom conference services.

10.1 Roll Call

Brad Semel, President (Remote)
Kevin Ivers, Vice-President (Remote)
Martie Gorman, Director (Remote)
Ray Eisbrener, Secretary (Remote)
Dennis Dreher, Director (Remote)
Pamela Althoff, Director (Remote)

Others Present:

Shawna Flavell, Executive Director of McHenry County Conservation Foundation (On Site)
Yvonne Semel, Administrator (Remote)
Elizabeth Kessler, Advisor, Executive Director of McHenry County Conservation District (Remote)

11.0 ACTION OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

11.1 Authorization Granting Administrative Assistant Semel a 2% Merit Increase, Effective 04/01/2021. Director Althoff made the motion to authorize granting Administrative Assistant Semel a 2% merit increase, effective 04/01/2021. Director Gorman seconded the motion. President Semel abstained. All were in favor.

11.2 Authorization Granting Executive Director Flavell a 2% Merit Increase, Effective 04/01/2021. Director Althoff made the motion to authorize granting Executive Director Flavell a 2% merit increase, effective 04/01/2021. Secretary Eisbrener seconded the motion. All were in favor.

11.3a Ratification of a Contract for the Purchase of +/-160 acres of Real Estate. Vice President Ivers made the motion in reference to the Ratification of a Contract for the Purchase of +/-160 acres of Real Estate. President Semel seconded the motion. All were in favor.

11.3b Vice President Ivers made the motion to authorize Board President Semel to authorize the sale of +/- 40 acres of the property to a conservation buyer. Director Althoff seconded the motion. All were in favor.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Semel asked if there was any other business to discuss. There being none, Director Althoff made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Gorman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken - President Semel - yes, Vice-President Ivers - yes, Secretary Eisbrener - yes, Director Althoff - yes, Director Gorman - yes, and Director Dreher - yes. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at Lost Valley Visitor Center at 6:30pm (if needed).

Respectfully submitted,


Ray Eisbrener, Secretary