

## **Journal of Proceedings**

### **REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**June 12, 6:00 pm,**

**Salt Fork Center, Homer Lake Forest Preserve, 2573 S Homer Lake Road, Homer Illinois**

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at the Salt Fork Center, Homer Lake Forest Preserve, Homer, Illinois. Commissioner Kerins called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Commissioner Knott called the roll. The following Commissioners were present: Knott, Kerins, Hundley and Goodman. Commissioner Toalson arrived at 6:14pm.

**REMOTE ATTENDANCE** – None

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Deputy Executive Director, Mike Daab, read a statement from Sam Ihm, employee of the Champaign County Forest Preserves, in favor of the proposed paid caregiver leave. The statement detailed his personal experience with the stress of not having sufficient paid leave time to care for both his wife and their new baby who spent several days in the NICU.

**AGENDA MODIFICATIONS** – None

**PRESENTATIONS** - None

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on May 15, 2025**
- B. Monthly Staff Reports**
- C. Disbursements for Approval**
- D. May Treasurers Report**
- E. Salt Fork Center Roof Replacement**

Commissioner Hundley made a motion to approve consent agenda items A. through E. Commissioner Knott seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Toalson, Kerins, Hundley, Goodman and Knott. Motion carried.

### **FOREST PRESERVE FRIENDS FOUNDATION**

Commissioner Goodman shared FPFF approved support in the amount of \$800 for Summer Splash Concert Series, as well as \$500 to support the Residential Tire Collection Program. The subcommittee of the FPFF is working on bylaw reversions.

### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioners noted positive things about the following items from staff reports and observations:

- Dark Sky trail looks good.
- Prairie looks good, a lot of progress has been made with controlled burns.
- Bridgette is now on the Mahomet Aquifer Council.

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- Get Out of Town Billboards look great – nice job to those who put that together.
- Great news on the golf course and getting some of the events back. Several comments were made about how great the course looks in comparison to UI and other public courses.
- Happy to receive feedback from a Guatemalan family fishing and mentioning kayak and rental boats program.
- Congrats to Stacey on 20 years!

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **A. Executive Director Announcements**

Deputy Executive Director, Michael Daab shared that, again, the golf course and campground are winners of awards. The spillway renovation has begun. Staff recommended setting up a time for Senator Chapin Rose to visit to show how dollars are being spent on that project. The agreement has been signed for the kayak locker for Homer Lake. Michael introduced Rebecca Smith as the new Business and Finance Specialist. The Hawthorne restroom is not closed permanently, but temporarily, because of the vandalism of the restroom involving the use of paper towels. He thanked Andrew for his time on the Board of Commissioners.

## **OLD BUSINESS** - None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Approval of Lake of the Woods Headquarters HVAC Replacement**

Commissioner Hundley moved the board to approve the Lake of the Woods HVAC replacement for \$47321 and authorized the Executive Director to execute the contract. Commissioner Knott seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Toalson, Kerins, Hundley, Goodman and Knott. Motion carried.

### **B. Approval of Discovery Garden Concrete**

Commissioner Goodman moved the board to approve the base bid for concrete and utilities at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve from Deuce Construction for \$249,850 and authorize the Executive Director to execute the contract. Commissioner Hundley seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Toalson, Kerins, Hundley, Goodman and Knott. Motion carried.

### **C. Approval of Volo Easement Request**

Commissioner Toalson moved the board to approve the Volo easement request. Deputy Executive Michael Daab requests to add the language that the Executive Director sign the form. Commissioner Toalson moved the board to approve a temporary construction and permitted easement with volo.net internet at LOW Forest Preserve and Kickapoo Rail Trail, contingent upon review by council and Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Commissioner Hundley

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seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Toalson, Kerins, Hundley, Goodman and Knott. Motion carried.

**D. Approval of Resolution 2025-08 Museum and Education Program Fees**

Commissioner Hundley moved the board to approve Resolution 2025-08 Museum and Education Program Fees. Commissioner Toalson seconded. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Toalson, Kerins, Hundley, Goodman and Knott. Motion carried.

**E. Approval of Personnel Policy Updates Re: Work Schedules, Holiday Pay, Vacation Leave, Insurance, Attendance and Travel Reimbursement**

Commissioner Knotts moved the board to authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute the personnel policy updates. Commissioner Hundley seconds. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Toalson, Kerins, Hundley, Goodman and Knott. Motion carried.

**F. Approval of New Personnel Policy 3-13: Paid Family Leave**

Commissioner Toalson moved the board to approve new personnel policy 3-13: Paid Family Leave. Commissioner Goodman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Toalson, Kerins, Hundley, Goodman and Knott. Motion carried.

**G. Approval of Resolution 2025-09 Honoring Commissioner Andrew Kerins**

Commissioner Toalson moved the board approval of Resolution 2025-09 Honoring Commissioner Andrew Kerins for his 12 years of service at the Champaign County Forest Preserve. Hundley seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The following commissioners voted “yes”: Toalson, Kerins, Hundley, Goodman and Knott. Motion carried.

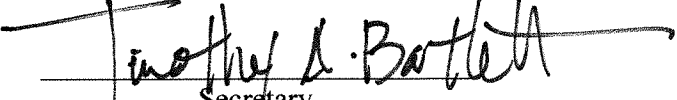
**DISCUSSION** - None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - None

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Kerins made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:43pm. Commissioner Hundley seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

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Secretary  
Board of Commissioners  
Champaign County Forest Preserve District