

**KINKAID-REED'S CREEK CONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Wednesday, February 14, 2024**

The Board of Trustees of the Kinkaid-Reed's Creek Conservancy District held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 14, 2024. President Barone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at 1763 Water Plant Rd., Murphysboro, Illinois.

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Lisa Byrd	Present
	David Ardrey	Present
	Nate Westphal	Present
	Jay Ziegler	Present
	Greg Legan	Present
	Tony Mileur	Absent
	Mike Barone	Present

Trustee Mileur arrived directly after Roll Call at 7:00 p.m.

**Also Present:** Scott Wilmouth, Carrie Likins, JT Jenkins, Richard Blake, Jim Pribble, Gary Raines, Ashley Norton, Jim Beaty, Lenny Pitcher, Lucia Amarelli, and Thomas Roberts.

**MINUTES:** Approval of Board meeting minutes for January 10, 2024.

Trustee Ardrey made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes of January 10, 2024. Trustee Westphal seconded the motion. All members present voted "Aye." President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Minutes:** Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes for February 5, 2024.

Trustee Ziegler made a motion to approve the Special Board meeting minutes of February 5, 2024. Trustee Legan seconded the motion. All members present voted "Aye," and President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

**Jim Beaty Shawnee Muskie Hunters/Lake Cleanup:** Mr. Jim Beaty stated the Shawnee Muskie Hunters Club started an annual Kinkaid Lake Clean-up Day 21 years ago after noticing there was a lot of trash in the lake. Mr. Beaty stated the lake clean up is in March annually due to having less brush and snakes to contend with. Mr. Beaty stated in the past they have had a lot of success with the lake clean-up day, but last year they only had about 6 boats attend the event. Mr. Beaty reported he has pulled water heaters, refrigerators, and all kinds of items out of Kinkaid Lake. Mr. Beaty stated he is at this Board meeting to ask for some support from the District, either from a financial donation or by providing lunch for the volunteers at the marina restaurant on the day of the event. Mr. Beaty stated he is also asking for help getting the word out and getting more volunteers to show up for the lake clean-up day. Mr. Beaty stated the event is scheduled for Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Trustee Legan asked about volunteers that may want to come but do not have a boat. Mr. Beaty responded there are lots of places to walk around the shoreline and pick up trash, stating mainly around the marina is a good area for that. Manager Wilmouth stated the District could work with Bill at the marina restaurant to provide lunch for the event and the District would pay for it. Trustee Legan made a motion for the Conservancy District to provide lunch for volunteers at Kinkaid Lake Clean-up day. President Barone seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Lisa Byrd	Yes
Dave Ardrey	Yes
Nate Westphal	Yes
Jay Ziegler	Yes
Greg Legan	Yes
Tony Mileur	Yes
Mike Barone	Yes

President Barone declared the motion carried.

Lucia Armarelli stated she is a local resident and teacher in the area and is here representing the Shawnee Park and Climate Alliance group. Ms. Armarelli stated the group is trying to convert the Shawnee National Forest into a National Park/Climate Preserve. Ms. Armarelli stated she is here to ask for the President of SPACA to be able to attend a future meeting and give a 25-minute presentation on this subject. Ms. Armarelli stated she is an avid hiker and kayaker and has been devastated after she visited five logging sites in Shawnee Forest. Ms. Armerelli passed out literature and some pictures of the logging sites to the Board members and encourages everyone to look into why the logging is happening here and shared her concerns about the erosion that is going to happen to Kinkaid Lake as a result. Ms. Armarelli also stated she is concerned about the herbicides used on the logging sites and them running off into the lake. President Barone stated the SPACA group could contact Manager Wilmouth and set something up to give a public presentation here at the District office in the future at a time other than a Board meeting if they would like.

**KINKAID-REED’S CREEK CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Conservancy Committee Report:**

**Fish Tournament Requests and Fish Tournament Regulations:** None

**Deck/Shed Requests:** None

**Marina Manager Contract:** Manager Wilmouth stated the Conservancy Committee met and discussed renegotiating Mr. Pribble’s contract price. Mr. Wilmouth reported the Committee recommends the contract price be raised to \$54,600 for 2024 and include retroactive back pay from the beginning of his 2024 contract. Trustee Ziegler stated he thought Mr. Pribble’s contract was just renewed recently. Manager Wilmouth stated it was recently renewed, but Mr. Pribble came to him and wanted to renegotiate the price of the contract. Trustee Ardrey made a motion to approve the Marina Manager Contract, and Trustee Mileur seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Lisa Byrd	Yes
Dave Ardrey	Yes
Nate Westphal	Yes
Jay Ziegler	No
Greg Legan	Yes
Tony Mileur	Yes



Mike Barone      Yes

President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Marina/Campground:**

**Marina Report:** Jim Pribble reported the marina is a little bit ahead of where they were last year at this time in receiving completed 2024 lease agreements. Mr. Pribble stated the Lake of Egypt Dock Company is setting up at the marina and is getting ready to begin renovating the docks. Mr. Pribble reported there are eight trees that need to come down at the marina and he has gotten quotes from a couple companies on removing the trees. Mr. Pribble stated Midwest Tree service quoted the lowest price and started removing the trees today. Mr. Pribble stated three of the trees are in Ed Bottoms Campground. Manager Wilmouth stated himself and Mr. Pribble have discussed the need to hire a couple of employees at the marina to prepare the grounds for the upcoming solar eclipse. Mr. Pribble reported they are getting ready to start putting up the new signage on the marina property as well. Mr. Ardrey stated when a camper gets moved in, he would like to see them set the camper up with the tongue facing the road and at the angle that coincides with the District's camper placement policy when it is feasible to do so.

**OSLAD Grant:** Manager Wilmouth reported the contractor is doing the final grading work at the new campground and when that is complete and the weather warms up, the seed can be put down. Manager Wilmouth stated the playground is on track to get installed as well and the concrete work for that part of the project will be put out for bid.

**CALR – Shoreline Project Low Bid Approval:** Manager Wilmouth reported three bids were received for the Shoreline Project. Manager Wilmouth stated those bids were from American Shoreline, Rock-N-Shoreline, and G&H Marine. Manager Wilmouth stated G&H Marine was the low bidder with a total of \$277,057 and BWC Engineers recommends awarding this low bid. Engineer Gary Raines reported this is a jointly funded project between the Kinkaid-Reed's Creek Conservancy District and the U.S. Forest Service. Mr. Raines stated there is also a second phase to the project in the works using Forest Service funds at Buttermilk Hill for Gulley stabilization. Mr. Raines stated these are just some of the good things the USFS is working on right now with the District. Trustee Ardrey made a motion to award the low bid for the Kinkaid Shoreline Project. Trustee Ziegler seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Lisa Byrd	Yes
Dave Ardrey	Yes
Nate Westphal	Yes
Jay Ziegler	Yes
Greg Legan	Yes
Tony Mileur	Yes
Mike Barone	Yes

President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Manager's Report:** Manager Wilmouth reported the new Reiman rental home has been completed and Mr. Tennant moved into the premises. Manager Wilmouth stated his rent for the month has been prorated to reflect the number of days in the new house. Manager Wilmouth reported the District received a letter from Auto Owners Insurance that they are not renewing the marina insurance when the policy ends in May. Manager Wilmouth stated he is working with Ozbourne Insurance Agency and switching the marina insurance to Illinois County Risk Management Trust Insurance, which is currently used for the Water Treatment Plant insurance as well. Manager Wilmouth stated President Barone and

Trustee Mileur met him at the bank this past Monday and signed the loan paperwork for the dock renovation project. Manager Wilmouth reported Jeff Collins has completed the additional lagoon at the Marina to split the flow to the middle lagoon. Manager Wilmouth stated Mr. Collins found an issue with more water coming into the middle lagoon that is not from the sewer system but could possibly be coming from a spring.

**New Business:**

**Approval to rehire Marvin Brockmeyer not to exceed 600 hours:** Manager Wilmouth stated he would like the authority rehire Marvin this year to help with the District and not to exceed 600 hours. Trustee Ardrey made a motion to approve rehiring Marvin Brockmeyer not to exceed 600 hours. Trustee Mileur seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Lisa Byrd	Yes
Dave Ardrey	Yes
Nate Westphal	Yes
Jay Ziegler	Yes
Greg Legan	Yes
Tony Mileur	Yes
Mike Barone	Yes

President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Legal Report:** Attorney Richard Blake reported First Southern Bank is asking for a legal opinion from the District lawyers that this loan will be a bank qualified loan. Mr. Blake stated this means the bank interest is tax exempt, which allows the bank to give a lower interest rate. Mr. Blake reported Attorney Ed Heller reached out to the bond council they have been working with and he could provide some documents for the District in this matter for the price of \$7,500. Mr. Blake stated he is talking to the bank's attorney to find out exactly what documents they need from the District.

**Kinkaid-Area Watershed Project:** Nothing to report.

**USFS – Lenny Pitcher:** Mr. Lenny Pitcher stated he is the Supervisor of Natural Resources for the USFS. Mr. Pitcher stated the USFS has had a long-standing working relationship with the District on watershed projects. Mr. Pitcher reported one of the Forest Services directives is to provide timber to the nation, and they do that in a sustainable manner. Mr. Pitcher stated the USFS is just as concerned about the quality of water in the lake as anyone else, and while they do use pesticides in certain situations it is always with a judicious application. Mr. Pitcher stated they implement best management practices to minimize soil erosion. Mr. Pitcher stated the Conservancy District Board members are welcome to come out and the USFS would lead them on a field trip to tour all the sites and learn about the projects they are currently working on. Mr. Pitcher stated there is also a mountain bike trail re-alignment project as well going on. Mr. Pitcher reported the profit from the timber sales is put back into the land where the timber was removed, and the remaining money goes back into watershed and other projects on that site.

**FINANCE CHAIRMAN REPORT:**

**Finance Chairman Recommendation**



**Audit Report Approval – Kemper CPA Group:** Ashley Norton with Kemper CPA Group stated all the Board members have received copies of the Audit report. Ms. Norton stated the auditor’s responsibility is to ensure a fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and to express an opinion on the financial statements, and the District received an unqualified opinion. Ms. Norton stated they found the District will always have a lack of segregation of duties due to the small number of employees the District has. Ms. Norton stated in 2023 the Conservancy District implemented GASB 75 which is an accounting policy reporting for postemployment benefits other than pensions, and the District had an actuarial valuation done this year on GASB 75 which has been recorded in the audit report. Ms. Norton stated the auditors received full cooperation from everyone during the process. Trustee Mileur made a motion to approve the FY23 Audit Report prepared by Kemper CPA Group. Trustee Westphal seconded the motion. All members present voted “Aye,” and President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Approval of FY23 Year-end Adjusting Journal Entries:** Ms. Norton stated the auditor’s journal entries included writing off the Accounts receivable from the marina purchase and also adjusting the unearned revenue for the OSLAD Grant. Trustee Ziegler made a motion to approve the FY23 Year-end adjusting journal entries. Trustee Ardrey seconded the motion. All members present voted “Aye,” and President Barone declared the motion carried.

**District Account Balances Approval and District Budget vs. Actual Report Approval:** Trustee Legan asked for a motion to approve the District Account Balances, and the District Budget vs Actual Report. Trustee Ziegler made a motion to approve the District Account Balances and District Budget vs Actual report. Trustee Byrd seconded the motion. All members present voted “Aye.” President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Approval of District Bills:** Trustee Legan asked for a motion to approve the District Bills. Trustee Mileur made a motion to approve the District Bills and Trustee Westphal seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Lisa Byrd	Yes
Dave Ardrey	Yes
Nate Westphal	Yes
Jay Ziegler	Yes
Greg Legan	Yes
Tony Mileur	Yes
Mike Barone	Yes

President Barone declared the motion carried.

## KINKAID AREA WATER SYSTEM

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Legal Report:** Nothing to report.

**Manager’s Report:** Manager Wilmouth reported this past Friday there was lightning damage at the Water Plant which took out the Scada System, the phone lines and the internet. Manager Wilmouth stated the damages have been repaired and he will be filing an insurance claim.

### New Business:

**Approval to send Second High Service Pump to Illinois Electric for Repair:** Manager Wilmouth stated this is for approval to send the second High Service Pump for repair. Trustee Ziegler made a motion to send the second High Service Pump to Illinois Electric for repair. Trustee Byrd seconded the motion. All members present voted "Aye," and President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Tap Requests:** None

**FINANCE CHAIRMAN REPORT:**

**Finance Chairman Recommendation**

**Audit Report Approval – Kemper CPA Group:** Trustee Ardrey made a motion to approve the FY23 Audit Report prepared by Kemper CPA Group. Trustee Westphal seconded the motion. All members present voted "Aye," and President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Approval of FY23 Year-end Adjusting Journal Entries:** Trustee Mileur made a motion to approve the FY23 Year-end adjusting journal entries. Trustee Byrd seconded the motion. All members present voted "Aye," and President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Water System Account Balances Approval and Water System Budget vs. Actual Report Approval:** Trustee Legan asked for a motion to approve both the Water System Account Balances and Water System Budget vs Actual Report. Trustee Westphal made a motion to approve both the water system account balances and the water system Budget vs. Actual Report. Trustee Byrd seconded the motion. All members present voted "Aye." President Barone declared the motion carried.

**Approval of Water System Bills:** Trustee Legan asked for a motion to approve the Water system bills. Trustee Byrd made a motion to approve the water system bills. Trustee Westphal seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:**

- Lisa Byrd            Yes
- Dave Ardrey        Yes
- Nate Westphal     Yes
- Jay Ziegler         Yes
- Greg Legan         Yes
- Tony Mileur        Yes
- Mike Barone        Yes

President Barone declared the motion carried.

**OTHER MATTERS TO DISCUSS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

President Barone asked for a motion to adjourn until next month’s regular Board meeting scheduled for March 13, 2024. Trustee Legan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Westphal seconded the motion. All members present voted "Aye." President Barone declared the motion carried.

  
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**SECRETARY- ANTHONY MILEUR**

  
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**PRESIDENT – Michael Barone**