CALL TO ORDER
President Semel called the June 11, 2019 meeting of the McHenry County Conservation Foundation to order at 6:50 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

ROLL CALL
DIRECTORS PRESENT:
Brad Semel, President
Kevin Ivers, Vice-President
Kim Becker, Treasurer
Marti Gorman, Director
Dennis Dreher, Director
Ray Eisbrener, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:
Elizabeth Kessler, Advisor
Dave Brandt, District Liaison
Shawna Flavell, Executive Director
Yvonne Semel, Administrator

DIRECTORS ABSENT:
All Present

PUBLIC COMMENTS
No one from the public attended.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4.1 After reviewing the minutes of the May 14, 2019 - Special Meeting, Strategic Planning Session, President Semel moved to accept the minutes, Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor.
5.0 OFFICER’S REPORTS
5.1 President’s Report
   5.1a President Semel discussed the T300 bobcat skidsteer that the McHenry County Conservation District obtained in 2007 using C2000 funding. The grant was secured by the Foundation. The District no longer uses the skidsteer as they purchased another one with more horsepower. As per grant obligations, it will be transferred back to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). Timing is very fortuitous as the IDNR recently had a Bobcat destroyed in a fire.

   5.1b President Semel discussed a donation given to the Foundation by someone interested in tern conservation. A nesting platform for state endangered common terns was constructed by state biologists using the funding and placed at the Naval Station Great Lakes. The platform now supports the entire breeding population of common terns remaining in the state: 18 adult birds and 9 nests. Some funding remains of the $5,000 restricted gift. There are plans to engage an Eagle Scout to build another two platforms this winter. All remaining funds should be expended in that phase of the project.

   5.1c President Semel shared with the Board a Blanding’s Turtle Collaborative project that has partnership potential with the McHenry County Conservation District and the Foundation. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources will be issuing a number of Incidental Take Authorization (ITA) permits for development activities that may impact the state endangered Blanding’s turtle. Rather than several small projects, it is anticipated that funding could be pooled and used for more comprehensive work that includes the Conservation District’s Wildlife Resource Center and their hatching facilities. Costs for hatching Blanding’s turtles on District sites could then be included in the overall recovery plans. Discussions are in the early stages of development.

5.2 Treasurer’s Report
   5.2a Financial Review
   Treasurer Becker requested we delay discussing financial reports until our next meeting due to complications reconciling the checking account. Deposit changes from PayPal to Salsa have resulted in confusion on donor amounts due to irregular charges by Salsa. The previously Board approved transfer of $150,000.00 to a CD at First National Bank has been completed.

   5.2b Current Account Activity
   Treasurer Becker reiterated that further discussion of financial review would be postponed until the next Board meeting.

6.0 DIRECTOR & BOARD LIAISON REPORTS
6.1 First Friday Concert: Dave Brandt
District Liaison Brandt said the First Friday night concert event was awesome and everyone had a great time. It was a beautiful evening. Executive Director Flavell said the Foundation had a table at the event and $100.00 was raised selling ice cream. She also shared the Foundation’s goal to secure matching funds for the Illinois Clean Grant with people attending the concert. There were about 250 people at the concert. The District’s Education Department collects donations from the concert series, so fundraising efforts at the event should not conflict with those goals.
6.2 Green Drinks: Martie Gorman
Director Gorman attended Green Drinks. Lyn Campbell and her husband, Carl Edstrom, presented. Director Gorman said it was a very good presentation about their “solar lifestyle” and trying to reduce their environmental footprint. Director Gorman gave a shout out at the meeting about the upcoming Pedal/Paddle/Saddle event.

6.3 McHenry County Conservation District Report: Dave Brandt
District Liaison Brandt said that paperwork was approved for both a $125,000 and a $175,000 road improvement project. These were grants from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. He said that the terms for two Trustees will come to an end soon as well as one Trustee who must resign due to personal issues. Liaison Brandt also discussed the Natural Resource Management Plan and Natural Resources Capital Improvement Plans. He said the discussion about the District budget has been completed. President Semel asked if those planning to leave the District Board would consider the Foundation Board. Liaison Brandt felt that those leaving the Board had other commitments. The new trustees are to be appointed by McHenry County Board Chairman. It is important that they all have some kind of background in environmental conservation. There was some discussion of potential appointees and the appointment process to the District Board.

7.0 BOARD BUSINESS
7.1 Consideration to Authorize Acceptance of Facebook Donations
Executive Director Flavell discussed how we could put a donate button on our Facebook page to make a direct donation. There is no charge for this service. The Facebook site sends the money following the cumulative donation of $100. People can identify themselves or they can be anonymous. It would come in through a different payment process and be deposited into our Home State account. Director Dreher asked if it would allow us to raise money for special projects? Executive Director Flavell wasn’t sure how to build funding campaigns through Facebook but would look into it. President Semel asked if the Foundation Facebook is still linked to his email account as it was initially set up incorrectly. Executive Director Flavell said that the Foundation Facebook page is verified as an official nonprofit. Treasurer Becker made a motion that we allow Foundation donations through Facebook. Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor.

7.2 Consideration to Adopt FY 2020 - FY 2022 Three Year Strategic Plan
Executive Director Flavell emailed everyone an edited version of the Strategic Plan. Director Dreher had a minor correction that was considered and incorporated. Advisor Kessler commented that there should be a clear understanding of what actions can be initiated by Executive Director Flavell, what actions must be first approved by the Board and what actions the Board of Directors will be responsible for. Executive Director Flavell will put together a work plan that she will share with the Board. Vice-President Ivers also commented on several minor changes in the Strategic Plan Introduction that were discussed and changed. Treasurer Becker complimented Executive Director Flavell’s work and her leadership in implementing the Strategic Plan. President Semel asked for a motion to adopt the FY 2020 - FY 2022 Strategic Plan. Director Gorman made the motion to adopt the FY 2020 - FY 2022 Strategic Plan. Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor.

7.3 Consideration to Sponsor District’s 2019 Great Outdoor Beer Trail
Executive Director Flavell discussed the upcoming 2019 Great Outdoor Beer Trail event and asked if the Foundation could support the event. In the past, the Foundation has
been asked to donate $1,000.00. Treasurer Becker commented that on the Beer Trail Support flier that it states that free tickets will be offered for the Tap Into Your Wildside event under Osprey and Hawk levels and this event is not being held. Director Dreher asked where the money for the Beer Trail ends up because we are trying to raise funds for the District for specific projects. Vice-President Ivers felt that time would be better spent helping to get sponsors for the Beer event. Advisor Kessler felt it was a way to get the Foundation logo on the Beer Trail advertising as a partner. The funds go into the District general fund. Advisor Kessler is going to talk with Wendy Kummerer about the Foundation having a presence at the event and the necessity of donating $1,000. Director Dreher asked if the Foundation could get their logo on beer mugs as sponsors. Executive Director Flavell discussed having a complimentary item at the Foundation table with our logo on it. Director Dreher made the motion to donate $1,000.00 at the Osprey level to the Beer Trail contingent on a conversation decision from Executive Director Flavell and Advisor Kessler that they are convinced that the donation is compatible with the vision of the Foundation. Vice-President Ivers seconded the motion. All were in favor. Executive Director Flavell will be at the Beer Trail to represent the Foundation.

7.4 Consideration to Sponsor Conservation Congress 2020 Keynote Speaker
Executive Director Flavell gave everyone a hand out introducing the proposed McHenry County Conservation Congress Keynote Speaker, Richard Louv. Vice-President Ivers commented on the possibility of holding an after hour presentation with a book signing and meet the speaker. The District is asking the Foundation to donate $10,000.00 to bring Mr. Louv to the Conservation Congress with hopes that $7,000.00 can be recouped through sponsorships. Director Dreher moved that the Foundation underwrite the speaker fee of $10,000.00 to be reimbursed up to $5,000 after sponsorships are collected for the 2020 Conservation Congress, Secretary Eisbrener seconded the motion. All were in favor.

8.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
8.1 Pedal Paddle Saddle
Executive Director Flavell thanked everyone for their participation in the Pedal/Paddle/Saddle. She said everyone made the event run very smoothly. She sent out an email thank you to all of our attendees and sponsors who signed up through Salsa. More photos will be added to our Facebook page and website soon. A final financial summary has not been put together yet. Executive Director Kessler mentioned the possibility of adding hiking to the event next year to allow other supporters who would like to support the Foundation/District in another way.

8.2 Camp Scholarships
McHenry County Conservation District has asked the Foundation to cover camp scholarships for $500.00 to send seven kids to camp. There was mention of contributing more next year.

8.3 Chicago Council on Planned Giving Symposium
Executive Director Flavell attended the above symposium. She said it was a lot of information to absorb. She gave the Board a handout about planned giving. She felt the Board needed to talk about how many of the planned giving options the Board is interested in being a part of. Director Dreher commented on how the Foundation will probably want to make the planned giving program relatively simple. There needs to be more discussion here especially when land and homes come into the picture. She felt we should have more in depth meetings focusing only on planned giving in the near future.
8.4 Fiske Memorial Update
Executive Director Flavell met with the Fiske family and McHenry County Audubon to discuss building a structure in memory of Ken and Darlene Fiske. They are most interested in a bird blind and are willing to contribute to the project. They would want a memorial plaque placed on it. The hope is that this project can be unveiled during the District’s 50-year anniversary.

8.5 Other Contribution(s) Update
A large monetary donation was made for land acquisition by the kames in Glacial Park. The Foundation and District will have to work together to figure out how to acquire the additional funding to purchase the entire plot of land. The family who made the gift is interested in knowing if they could have some kind of way to permanently memorialize this gift. Ed Collins was the steward of the gift and it is possible that it is part of the District’s plan. Treasurer Becker asked what the total cost is of the parcel that is being considered. Executive Director Flavell does not know. She said she has a number of questions to ask Mr. Collins about this parcel. Mr. Collins forwarded another potential donor to Executive Director Flavell. He said it is probably around $300.

8.6 District Strategic Planning Update
Executive Director Flavell said that one of the District’s strategic priorities is to strengthen its partnership with the Foundation.

8.7 Marketing Materials Update
Executive Director Flavell said the District has been very busy with budget planning and she has not had the chance to meet with Wendy Kummerer about new marketing materials.

9.0 ADDITIONAL BOARD BUSINESS
9.1 Meeting Schedule for Remainder of 2019
Several important dates were put on the calendar for the remainder of the year. They included July 5 - Friday Concert Series. President Semel and Yvonne Semel will be covering the Foundation booth and will sell ice cream during the concert. July 20 - The ribbon cutting ceremony for Brookdale. August 17 - The Great Outdoor Beer Trail event. October 5 - The Run Wild 5K District event.

9.2 Board Committees
There was some discussion about creating Board Committees to discuss different issues between Board meetings. This will be discussed more at a later date.

9.3 Nominations for 2020 Conservation Champion and Legacy Awards.
There was some discussion about nominations for these awards. Nominations open July 1st. There were suggestions of past Board members, those who are still alive and those who have passed away. President Semel’s name was mentioned by several of the current Board members as a possible nomination.

10.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION
Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 2C1 (Personnel) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1 et seq.). A motion was made by Vice-President Ivers to go into Executive Session at 9:30 pm. Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor and a roll call was taken. Executive Director Flavell and Administrative Assistant Semel were asked to leave the room.
Start Executive Session minutes - on the evening of June 11 at 9:32 pm. Director Dreher moved to come out of Executive Session, Vice-President Ivers seconded the motion and all were in favor. At 10:05 pm, the Board came out of Executive Session and reconvened at 10:08 pm.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Director Dreher made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Eisbrener seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at Lost Valley Visitor Center at 6:30pm. (if needed).

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Ray Eisbrener, Secretary