



**Madison  
Conservation  
District**

Madison Conservation District  
*Local Common Sense Conservation*

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### **DRAFT MINUTES**

Permissive Mill Levy Public Meeting \*\*6:30 PM\*\* June 19th, 2017  
Madison Valley Public Library Community Room

Supervisors in Attendance: Mel McKittrick, Janet Endecott, Bob Sitz, Kaye Suzuki, Neil Kent, Colten Clark, Jessie Wiese

Staff in Attendance: Sunni Heikes-Knapton, Ethan Kunard, Cori Koenig, Madeline Pruzsenski

Others in Attendance: Dan Durham, NRCS, Buddy Drake, FWP, Jeff Dunn, Respec

Public in Attendance: Kevin Boltz, Gary Clark, Pat Goggins,

The Madison Conservation District held a Permissive Mill Levy public meeting at 6:30 PM in the library community room. Mel called the meeting to order and explained the permissive levy process and the proposed amount of \$2,100 for payment in lieu of group benefits was presented to the public that attended this meeting.

Kevin Boltz spoke about a permissive levy being a dangerous precedent, even if it's a one-time item. He expressed worry if it continues with Conservation District or other entities.

Gary Clark agreed with Kevin, and feels that for \$2,100 MCD should be able to cut the budget to find it.

Sunni described our current budget process and feels the board has done a good job taking care of tax payer dollars.

Pat Goggins requested some clarification on the County tax process.

Kevin Boltz questioned, if another agency strikes another permissive levy, where does it stop? He would like the record to show he is not an advocate of the permissive levy.

Sunni spoke of other natural resource positions that are open come with a benefits package near the tune of \$15,000/year. Sunni questioned if the tax payer getting the value out of the district?

Gary Clark would also like to be on the record as opposed.

Pat Goggins thinks that a permissive mill levy is a slippery slope.

Janet does not like the idea of the tax payers not getting a say.

Bob likes the idea of putting it in front of the voters so they have a chance to respond.

Neil stated that the board's idea is to assist the employees with their health care but was concerned it would not be a one year tax.

Jessie felt like the benefit, therefor the tax should not go away next year.

Pat thanked the board for the opportunity to speak, he does not the like idea of local entities that aren't clear in their decisions and policies. He encouraged transparency in the decision.

Gary thanked the board for the opportunity to speak.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

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Cori Koenig, Administrator

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Mel McKitrick, Co-Chair