

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Metro-East Park and Recreation District Act
5 is amended by changing Sections 5, 10, and 20 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 1605/5)

7 Sec. 5. Definitions. In this Act:

8 "Board" means the board of directors of the Metro-East Park
9 and Recreation District.

10 "Chief executive officer" means the chairman of the county
11 board of a county.

12 "County" means Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, Clinton, ~~or~~
13 Jersey, or Macoupin County.

14 "District" or "Metro-East District" means the Metro-East
15 Park and Recreation District created under this Act.

16 "Governing body" means a county board.

17 "Metro-East Park and Recreation Fund" means the fund held
18 by the District that is the repository for all taxes and other
19 moneys raised by or for the District under this Act.

20 "Metro-East region" means Madison, St. Clair, Monroe,
21 Clinton, Macoupin, and Jersey Counties.

22 "Park district" means a park district organized under the
23 Park District Code.

24 (Source: P.A. 91-103, eff. 7-13-99.)

25 (70 ILCS 1605/10)

26 Sec. 10. Creation of Metro-East Park and Recreation
27 District.

28 (a) The Metro-East Park and Recreation District may be
29 created, incorporated, and managed under this Section and may
30 exercise the powers given to the District under this Act. Any
31 county may be included in the Metro-East District if the voters

1 in the county or counties to be included in the District vote
2 to be included in the District. Any recreation system or public
3 parks system that exists within the Metro-East District created
4 under this Section shall remain in existence with the same
5 powers and responsibilities it had prior to the creation of the
6 Metro-East District. Nothing in this Section shall be construed
7 in any manner to limit or prohibit:

8 (1) later establishment or cessation of any park or
9 recreation system provided for by law; or

10 (2) any powers and responsibilities of any park or
11 recreation system provided for by law.

12 (b) When the Metro-East District is organized, it shall be
13 a body corporate and a political subdivision of this State, and
14 the District shall be known as the "Metro-East Park and
15 Recreation District", and in that name may sue and be sued,
16 issue general revenue bonds, and impose and collect taxes or
17 fees under this Act.

18 (c) The Metro-East District shall have as its primary duty
19 the development, operation, and maintenance of a public system
20 of interconnecting trails and parks throughout the counties
21 comprising the District. The Metro-East District shall
22 supplement but shall not substitute for the powers and
23 responsibilities of the other parks and recreation systems
24 within the Metro-East District and shall have the power to
25 contract with the State of Illinois, the United States
26 Government, and other parks and recreation systems as well as
27 with the departments or agencies of any of those governmental
28 bodies and with other public and private entities.

29 (d) All counties and communities comprising the Metro-East
30 Park and Recreation District shall make available upon written
31 request from the District, at no cost to the District, any and
32 all technical information and data necessary for the
33 implementation of the District's goals.

34 (Source: P.A. 91-103, eff. 7-13-99.)

1 Sec. 20. Board of directors.

2 (a) If the Metro-East District is created by only one
3 county, the District shall be managed by a board of directors
4 consisting of 3 members. Two members shall be appointed by the
5 chief executive officer, with the advice and consent of the
6 county board, of the county in which the District is located,
7 and one member shall be appointed by the minority members of
8 the county board with the advice and consent of the county
9 board. The first appointment shall be made within 90 days and
10 not sooner than 60 days after the District has been organized.
11 Each member of the board so appointed shall be a legal voter in
12 the District. The first directors shall be appointed to hold
13 office for terms of one, 2, and 3 years, and until June 30
14 thereafter, respectively, as determined by lot. Thereafter,
15 successors shall be appointed in the same manner no later than
16 the first day of the month in which the term of a director
17 expires. All terms expire if another county joins the District.

18 A vacancy occurring otherwise than by expiration of term
19 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

20 (b) If the Metro-East District is created by more than one
21 county, each county that elects to join the District shall be
22 represented by a certain number of board members. The board
23 members shall be distributed from the counties electing to join
24 the District as follows:

25 (1) The chief executive officer, with the advice and
26 consent of the county board, of St. Clair county shall
27 appoint 2 members and the minority members of the county
28 board, with the advice and consent of the county board,
29 shall appoint one member.

30 (2) The chief executive officer, with the advice and
31 consent of the county board, of Madison County shall
32 appoint 2 members and the minority members of the county
33 board, with the advice and consent of the county board,
34 shall appoint one member.

35 (3) The chief executive officer, with the advice and
36 consent of the county board, of Clinton County shall

1 appoint one member.

2 (4) The chief executive officer, with the advice and
3 consent of the county board, of Jersey County shall appoint
4 one member.

5 (5) The chief executive officer, with the advice and
6 consent of the county board, of Monroe County shall appoint
7 one member.

8 (6) The chief executive officer, with the advice and
9 consent of the county board, of Macoupin County shall
10 appoint one member.

11 The board members shall serve 3-year terms, except that
12 board members first appointed shall be appointed to serve terms
13 of one, 2, or 3 years as determined by lot, provided that board
14 members from counties eligible to appoint more than one member
15 may not serve identical initial terms. On the expiration of the
16 initial terms of appointment and on the expiration of any
17 subsequent term, the resulting vacancy shall be filled in the
18 same manner as the original appointment. Board members shall
19 serve until their successors are appointed. Board members are
20 eligible for reappointment.

21 (c) No board member may hold a public office in any county
22 within the Metro-East District, other than the office of notary
23 public. Board members must be citizens of the United States and
24 they must reside within the county from which they are
25 appointed. No board member may receive compensation for
26 performance of duties as a board member. No board member may be
27 financially interested directly or indirectly in any contract
28 entered into under this Act.

29 (d) Promptly after their appointment, the initial board
30 members shall hold an organizational meeting at which they
31 shall elect a president and any other officers that they deem
32 necessary from among their number. The members shall make and
33 adopt any bylaws, rules, and regulations for their guidance and
34 for the government of the parks, neighborhood trails, and
35 recreational grounds and facilities that may be expedient and
36 not inconsistent with this Act.

1 (e) Board members shall have the exclusive control of the
2 expenditures of all money collected to the credit of the
3 Metro-East Park and Recreation Fund created pursuant to Section
4 35, and of the supervision, improvement, care, and custody of
5 public parks, neighborhood trails, recreational facilities,
6 and grounds owned, maintained, or managed by the Metro-East
7 District. All moneys received for those purposes shall be
8 deposited in the Metro-East Park and Recreation Fund. The board
9 shall have power to purchase or otherwise secure ground to be
10 used for parks, neighborhood trails, recreational facilities,
11 and grounds; shall have power to appoint suitable persons to
12 maintain the parks, neighborhood trails, recreational grounds,
13 and facilities and to administer recreational programs and to
14 fix their compensation; and shall have power to remove those
15 appointees. The board shall keep accurate records of all its
16 proceedings and actions and shall comply with the provisions of
17 the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

18 (Source: P.A. 91-103, eff. 7-13-99.)

19 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
20 becoming law.