



Government Center
719 S. Batavia Ave., Bldg. A
Geneva, IL 60134

Forest Preserve District Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

8:30 AM

County Board Room

I. Call to Order

The Forest Preserve District Full Commission meeting was held Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at the Kane County Government Center located at 719 S. Batavia Ave., Geneva, IL 60134. President Kious called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

President Kious asked Chief of Police Paul Burger to lead the pledge.

III. Roll Call

PRESENT

Commissioner Mavis Bates
Commissioner Dale Berman
Commissioner Ron Ford (Arrived in person at 8:36AM)
Commissioner Mo Iqbal
Commissioner Leslie Juby
Commissioner Michael Kenyon
President Forest Preserve District Chris Kious
Commissioner Anita Lewis
Secretary Forest Preserve District Myrna Molina
Commissioner Bill Roth
Commissioner Jarett Sanchez
Commissioner Monica Silva
Commissioner Clifford Surges (Arrived in person at 8:58AM)
Commissioner Bill Tarver
Commissioner Vern Tepe
Commissioner Rick Williams
Commissioner David Young

REMOTE

Commissioner Deborah Allan
Commissioner Gary Daugherty
Commissioner Mark Davoust
Commissioner Michelle Gumz
Commissioner Bill Lenert
Commissioner Cherryl Strathmann

ABSENT

Commissioner Michael Linder

Others Present: Exec. Dir. Haberthur, CFO Petschke & staff Carrano; Chief of Planning & Land Mgmt. Rooks-Lopez; NRM Dir. Chess & staff Dainko; HR Dir. Clough; Dir. of Comm. Affairs Metanchuk & staff Kovach, McKittrick; Dir. of Ops. Pentecost; Chief of Police Burger; Attorney Hodge; Exec. Assist. Figliozzi, KCIT Peters and members of the public.

IV. Public Comment (Each Speaker is limited to 3 minutes)

None.

V. Presentation and Approval of the Minutes from December 12, 2023 and the Truth In Taxation Public Hearing from November 14, 2023 (Commissioner Ford arrived in person at 8:36AM)

RESULT: ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE
MOVER: Dale Berman
SECONDER: Mavis Bates
AYE: Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Anita Lewis, Myrna Molina, Bill Roth, Jarett Sanchez, Monica Silva, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, and David Young
REMOTE: Deborah Allan, Gary Daugherty, Mark Davoust, Michelle Gumz, Bill Lenert and Cheryl Strathmann
ABSENT: Michael Linder, Clifford Surges

VI. Presentation and Approval of the Bills, Financial Reports, and Commissioners' Per Diem from December 2023

RESULT: APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE
MOVER: Mo Iqbal
SECONDER: Bill Roth
AYE: Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Anita Lewis, Myrna Molina, Bill Roth, Jarett Sanchez, Monica Silva, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, and David Young
REMOTE: Deborah Allan, Gary Daugherty, Mark Davoust, Michelle Gumz, Bill Lenert and Cheryl Strathmann
ABSENT: Michael Linder, Clifford Surges

VII. Presentations

NRM Dir. Chess provided background information of the Muirhead Spring Wetland Mitigation Bank project. A PowerPoint presentation demonstrated the progression throughout the years starting from the oldest aerial photo in 1939 to current time, reintroduction of the wetlands and restoration of vegetation. The project has been very successful. Dir. Chess explained the construction costs vs potential sales of wetland credits. Developers are required to purchase credits to offset the impacts of construction. The district could see an estimated total revenue of \$25M over the life of the mitigation bank according to last year's sales. Dir. Chess discussed the ecological benefits, the increase in biodiversity and animals seen onsite since the project began.

Wildlife Technician Sadie Dainko provided a PowerPoint presentation on the changes of bird demographics as a result of the Wetland Mitigation Project at Muirhead Springs. The data collected included a website that tracks bird surveys on eBird.org. Dainko shared an analysis from 2018-2021 demonstrating percentages of bird abundance pre-construction to post-construction. The results show a total of 87.5% increase in bird species presence. The introduction of water has been attractive to waterfowl, shorebirds, marsh birds, sea birds in addition to other bird species such as grassland and woodland species. Dainko noted that post-construction, the wetland introduction has attracted birds in every category and critically species have been spotted.

Dainko presented a 20-year comparison versus the 2-year construction bird survey. She noted the normal trends and the increase of species overall. Photos were shared of rare species seen

such as the Say's Phoebe and the Whooping cranes. The whooping crane is one of the most endangered species in the world. There are an estimate 600 in the wild and 134 are in captivity. The wetland bank attracted a pair with their offspring. (Commissioner Surges arrived in person at 8:58 AM)

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Bates asked about warblers. Dainko responded there was an increase from an estimated 10-15 to 23 bird species in general; however, she did not have data that are more specific on warblers at that time.

Environmental Education Manager Barb McKittrick provided a PowerPoint presentation of an ancient glacial Lake in Kane County. A footprint of the glacial lake is seen on a spatial geology map. The glacial lake lasted an estimated 2,000 years and drained 21,000 years ago. The ice wall melted and it was no longer in existence, a glacial relic. Many local waterways, such as Lily Lake and the Kishwaukee River watershed are remnants of glacial Lake Pingree. Shorelines and craters can still be seen within the footprint of the glacial lake that extended north to south Lily Lake to Crystal Lane and east to west from Randall Road to Rt. 47. Mgr. McKittrick stated there is a significant demand within the public community for geology programs.

A Kane County Certified Naturalist (KCCN) participant, David Schoenknecht was instrumental in creating the Glacial Lake Pingree Circle Tour. Schoenknecht pulled data and helped develop a program. Dr. Brandon Curry Illinois State Geological Survey geologist played a major part of the program by applying for and conducting sampling with a drilling rig. Sampling with the drill rig was done at the Jack Cook Forest Preserve and Pingree Forest Preserve in 2022. The drill provided the glacial samples of rock and soil. An indoor program was established and a videographer was present, they took professional video of the presentation. There were a number of tundra plant fossils collected. The core drilling data also allows for a more accurate date range. The program was successful, however staff wanted to do more, therefore a tour was established. This was our first time offering a motor coach tour to the public. The motor coach held 64 seats, all were sold out and the 5-hour tour included guest speakers. The bus tour will be offered again in 2024. Self-guided interpretive signage is planned for the future as well.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Bates asked about the drill and the collection of samples. Mgr. McKittrick explained that the drill rig had both outer casing and collection tube, similar to a "cookie press". The samples were then reviewed under microscopes.

IX. New Business

None.

X. Closed Session to Discuss Land Acquisition, License Agreements, Potential Litigation and Personnel

The Committee moved into Executive Closed Session at 9:11 AM to discuss license agreements and potential litigation.

RESULT:	APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE
MOVER:	Bill Roth
SECONDER:	Dale Berman
AYE:	Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Anita Lewis, Myrna Molina, Bill Roth, Jarett Sanchez, Monica Silva, Clifford Surges, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, and David Young
REMOTE:	Deborah Allan, Gary Daugherty, Mark Davoust, Michelle Gumz, Bill Lenert and Cheryl Strathmann
ABSENT:	Michael Linder

The Committee returned to Open Session at 9:35AM on a motion by Roth, second by Davoust. Roll call vote was taken, unanimous vote.

XI. Communications

Community Affairs Dir. Metanchuk provided an update on the environmental education programs being offered. The winter photo contest has been popular, submissions are due on January 11th and winners will be announced January 12th on the District’s social media page. On February 1, 2024, online registration will be available for the nature programs. Dir. Metanchuk thanked the finance department for all their assistance in getting online registration launched.

XII. President’s Comments

President Kious stated that today, Tuesday, January 9th is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. He thanked the District’s public safety officers.

XIII. Department Reports

RESULT: ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE
MOVER: Dale Berman
SECONDER: Deborah Allan
AYE: Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Anita Lewis, Myrna Molina, Bill Roth, Jarett Sanchez, Monica Silva, Clifford Surges, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, and David Young
REMOTE: Deborah Allan, Gary Daugherty, Mark Davoust, Michelle Gumz, Bill Lenert and Cheryl Strathmann
ABSENT: Michael Linder

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:39AM

RESULT: ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE
MOVER: Mike Kenyon
SECONDER: Bill Roth
AYE: Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Anita Lewis, Myrna Molina, Bill Roth, Jarett Sanchez, Monica Silva, Clifford Surges, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, and David Young
REMOTE: Deborah Allan, Gary Daugherty, Mark Davoust, Michelle Gumz, Bill Lenert and Cheryl Strathmann
ABSENT: Michael Linder

Chris Kious, Chairman
Forest Preserve District Commission
Forest Preserve District of Kane County

Respectfully Submitted,

Gabriella Figliozzi

Gabriella Figliozzi
Recording Secretary

Myrna Molina
Board Secretary