



1996 S. Kirk Rd. Suite 320  
Geneva, IL 60134

## Forest Preserve District Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

President Bill Lenert, Michelle Gumz, Jon Gripe, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Anita Lewis, Bill Roth,  
Cherryl Strathmann, Rick Williams

**Thursday, August 7, 2025**

**8:30 AM**

**3rd Floor Board Room**

### **I. Call To Order**

The Forest Preserve District Executive Committee meeting was held Thursday, August 7, 2025. President Lenert called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM at the Administration Offices located at 1996 S. Kirk Road, Suite 320, Geneva, IL 60134.

#### **Remote Attendance Approval**

*Commissioners Lewis, Strathmann*

**PRESENT** President Forest Preserve District Bill Lenert  
Commissioner Michelle Gumz  
Commissioner Mo Iqbal  
Commissioner Leslie Juby  
Commissioner Anita Lewis (Remote)  
Commissioner Bill Roth  
Commissioner Cherryl Strathmann (Remote)  
Commissioner Rick Williams

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Jon Gripe

**Also Present:** Commissioners: Kious; Exec. Dir. Haberthur; Dir. of Planning & Land Protection Rooks-Lopez & staff Tegge; Dir. of Finance Petschke & staff Carrano, Wolff; Dir. of Comm. Engagement Metanchuk & Kovach; HR Dir. Clough & staff Misner; NRM Dir. Chess; Dir. of Ops. Jensen; Chief of Police Burger; Exec. Assist. Figliozzi & staff Rafferty and Attorney Price and members of the public.

### **II. Approval of Minutes from July 3, 2025**

**RESULT: APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT**

**MOVER:** Bill Roth

**AYE:** Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Anita Lewis, Bill Roth,  
Cherryl Strathmann, Rick Williams

**ABSENT:** Jon Gripe

### **III. Public Comment (Each Speaker is limited to three minutes)**

*None.*

### **IV. Presentation and Approval of Bills and Commissioners' Per Diem from July 2025**

**RESULT: MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE**

**TO:** Forest Preserve District Commission

**MOVER:** Mo Iqbal

**SECONDER:** Michelle Gumz

**AYE:** Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Anita Lewis, Bill Roth,  
Cherryl Strathmann, Rick Williams

**ABSENT:** Jon Gripe

**V. Finance and Administration**

**TMP-25-862** Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of One (1) Compact Pickup Truck for Use by the Operations Department Through the State of Illinois

*Ops. Dir. Jensen presented the purchase of a pick-up truck for the Operations Department. Funding was approved in the fiscal year 2025/26 budget for the purchase of a compact pickup truck. The compact pickup truck is currently being utilized within the District and has proven capable of safely transporting up to four staff and has the ability to carry basic tools, materials and supplies as needed for supporting operational needs. They offer better fuel economy than a full-size pickup, yet retain the hauling capabilities. This truck will replace a Chevy Colorado (vehicle #07) that is currently in the Operations department fleet. Vehicle #07 is relatively low-mileage, and still has approximately 5 years of serviceability until replacement. This vehicle will be transferred to the Community Engagement department and represents the only vehicle in that department's fleet. This light-duty truck will become the "pool-vehicle" for the District's naturalist staff and will be utilized in all manner of programming as naturalists serve the county. A Ford Ranger Crew Cab 4x4 is being recommended and is available through the State of Illinois Procurement Contract with Morrow Brothers Ford, of Greenfield, Illinois for a total cost of \$44,281. Funds totaling \$46,000 were budgeted in the Operations Administrative Automotive account. Sufficient funds of \$46,000 are available to cover the total purchase cost of \$44,281.*

***DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Iqbal asked if the District had solicited a local dealership to compare prices. Dir. Jensen explained that the prices were solicited through a state of Illinois contract, not the co-operative contract through Sourcewell. The state is required to do the same legal bidding process as the District to select the best and lowest price possible. Attorney Price stated that the District follows the Downstate Forest Preserve Act. The District is required to follow the formal bidding process, per the state of the Illinois. In order to solicit a dealership independently, the District would need to have the exact same sale price and equipment to compare to. President Lenert directed staff to entertain Commissioner Iqbal's recommendation to compare with local dealerships for any purchases in the future.*

**RESULT:                    MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE**

**TO:**                         Forest Preserve District Commission

**MOVER:**                 Rick Williams

**SECONDER:**            Leslie Juby

**AYE:**                     Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Anita Lewis, Bill Roth, Cheryl Strathmann, Rick Williams

**ABSENT:**                Jon Gripe

**VI. Land Acquisition**

*None.*

**VII. Planning & Utilization**

*None.*

**VIII. Executive**

**TMP-25-925** Resolution Approving a Construction Contractor Change for the Big Rock Forest Preserve RTP Trail Restoration Project

*Attorney Price explained the details of the construction situation involving the awarded contractor, Evans and Sons. The awarded contractor for the trail restoration project in Big Rock Forest Preserve has not been able to meet the requirements set within the contract. The company is currently facing complaints and claims from other projects with other agencies. Key personnel of Evans and Sons have sought employment with Obsidian. Obsidian has provided contracted work for the District in the past and is the next best lowest bidder to the project. As the District continues to mitigate the situation with Evans and Sons and the surety bonds, the District desires to move forward with the second lowest bidder, Obsidian, to cover the rest of the project work.*

***DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Williams asked if the District has worked with Obsidian in the past. Exec. Dir. Haberthur responded that yes, the District worked with Obsidian for the Jon J.*

*Duerr Forest Preserve centennial project. He noted that the company is efficient and performs quality work. Commissioner Juby asked if the District would be required to consider Evans and Sons in any future projects. Attorney Price explained that the bidding process is selected by the lowest bidder and the best quality work, not just the price. If the qualifications are not met, the District is not required to select that vendor.*

**RESULT:**           **MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE**  
**TO:**                 Forest Preserve District Commission  
**MOVER:**            Michelle Gumz  
**SECONDER:**       Mo Iqbal  
**AYE:**              Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Anita Lewis, Bill Roth,  
                          Cherryl Strathmann, Rick Williams  
**ABSENT:**          Jon Gripe

**TMP-25-933** Resolution Approving a Construction Contractor Change for the OSLAD Grant Project at Mill Creek Greenway Forest Preserve Archery Range  
*Attorney Price explained that that project was also awarded to Evans and Sons and is under the same situation with the contractor. He noted that the District would move forward in the same manner as the Big Rock RTP project.*

**DISCUSSION:** None.

**RESULT:**           **MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE**  
**TO:**                 Forest Preserve District Commission  
**MOVER:**            Michelle Gumz  
**SECONDER:**       Mo Iqbal  
**AYE:**              Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Anita Lewis, Bill Roth,  
                          Cherryl Strathmann, Rick Williams  
**ABSENT:**          Jon Gripe

**IX. Closed Session to Discuss Land Acquisition, License Agreements, Potential Litigation and Personnel - None**

**X. Communications**

*Dir. of Community Engagement Metanchuk provided a brief update on the 2025 National Night Out event, pictures were shared. Dir. Metanchuk promoted the annual Rusty Rodeo event, including a number of nature education programs found in the TreeLine Newsletter. Lastly, the Kane Forest Foundation will be hosting the annual golf outing on Thursday, September 11, 2025 at Hughes Creek Golf Course.*

**XI. President's Comments**

*None.*

**XII. Financial Reports**

*Reports A-C were placed on file.*

- A. Bond Investment Analysis Report through June 2025
- B. Cash & Investment Report through June 2025
- C. Income Statement through June 2025

**RESULT:**           **PLACED ON FILE BY ROLL CALL VOTE**  
**MOVER:**            Mo Iqbal  
**SECONDER:**       Rick Williams  
**AYE:**              Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Anita Lewis, Bill Roth, Cherryl  
                          Strathmann, Rick Williams  
**ABSENT:**          Jon Gripe

**XIII. Adjournment**

*This meeting adjourned at 8:56 AM.*

**RESULT:**           **APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE**  
**MOVER:**            Bill Roth  
**SECONDER:**        Mo Iqbal  
**AYE:**               Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Anita Lewis, Bill Roth,  
                          Cherryl Strathmann, Rick Williams  
**ABSENT:**           Jon Gripe

Bill Lenert, President  
Forest Preserve District Executive Committee  
Forest Preserve District of Kane County

Respectfully Submitted,

*Gabriella Figliozzi*

Gabriella Figliozzi  
Recording Secretary