



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

Forest Preserve District Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

9:00 AM

County Board Room

I. Call to Order

President Kious called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

President Kious asked Commissioner David Young to lead the pledge.

III. Roll Call

PRESENT

Commissioner Deborah Allan
Commissioner Mavis Bates
Commissioner Dale Berman
Commissioner Gary Daugherty (Remote)
Commissioner Mark Davoust
Commissioner Ron Ford
Commissioner Michelle Gumz (In person @ 9:12AM)
Commissioner Mo Iqbal
Commissioner Leslie Juby
Commissioner Michael Kenyon
President Forest Preserve District Chris Kious
Commissioner Bill Lenert
Commissioner Anita Lewis
Commissioner Michael Linder
Commissioner Bill Roth
Commissioner Jarett Sanchez (via remote @ 9:04AM)
Commissioner Monica Silva (Remote)
Commissioner Cheryl Strathmann
Commissioner Clifford Surges (In person @ 9:19 AM)
Commissioner Bill Tarver
Commissioner Vern Tepe
Commissioner Rick Williams
Commissioner David Young

ABSENT

Secretary Forest Preserve District Myrna Molina

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

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

None.

V. Presentation and Approval of the Minutes from January 10, 2023

RESULT: APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE

MOVER: Michael Kenyon

SECONDER: Ron Ford

AYE: Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Mark Davoust, Ron Ford, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Anita Lewis, Michael Linder, Bill Roth, Jarett Sanchez, Monica Silva, Cheryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams and David Young

ABSENT: Michelle Gumz, Myrna Molina, Clifford Surges

VI. Presentation and Approval of the Bills and Commissioners' Per Diem for January 2023

RESULT: APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE

MOVER: Deborah Allan

SECONDER: Dale Berman

AYE: Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Mark Davoust, Ron Ford, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Anita Lewis, Michael Linder, Bill Roth, Jarett Sanchez, Monica Silva, Cheryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams and David Young

ABSENT: Michelle Gumz, Myrna Molina, Clifford Surges

VII. Presentations

None.

VIII. Administration

FP-O-23-02-0589 Approval of the Restated Organization Ordinance

Exec. Dir. Haberthur presented the annual restated organization ordinance. Modifications made to the ordinance this year are clarifications to the presidential election procedure (CIII; Sec A; #3). New language was inserted to clarify voting procedures that allow for a majority vote winner regardless of minority vote ties. Per Direction of the Finance and Administration Committee, clarification to the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer language regarding duties assigned. Open Meetings Act (Chapter X) Remote Attendance at Meetings. Modifications have been developed with the District's legal counsel.

DISCUSSION: None.

RESULT: APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE

MOVER: Michael Kenyon

SECONDER: Michael Linder

AYE: Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Mark Davoust, Ron Ford, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Anita Lewis, Michael Linder, Bill Roth, Jarett Sanchez, Monica Silva, Cheryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams and David Young

ABSENT: Michelle Gumz, Myrna Molina, Clifford Surges

IX. Bids and Proposals

FP-R-23-02-3001 Resolution Approving a Bid at LeRoy Oakes for the Trail and Shelter RTP Project

Chief of Planning and Land Management Rooks-Lopez provided a brief presentation for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant. The project includes additional mown and screenings trails connecting historical structures, and native habitats with the Creek Bend Nature Center; interpretive education nodes and the replacement of the current bridge over the creek to a restored prairie. The RTP grant will reimburse the District 50% of the preliminary engineering and construction costs up to a total of \$200,000.00, following the completion of the project. The District conducted a formal bid process for the installation of the interpretive trail, and shelter portion of the project. Bids were publicly advertised, with 10 bidders responding, one of which did not meet District standards. The responsible, lowest bidder was Chicagoland Paving Contractors, Inc. with a base bid (trail & shelter) of \$320,000 plus alternate (brush mowing) of \$7,035.00, totaling \$327,035. Additionally, \$16,351.75 shall be set aside as contingency to cover any unanticipated additional costs, that may arise during construction for a total project amount of \$343,386.75.

DISCUSSION: None. (Commissioner Gumz arrived in person @ 9:12AM)

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

FP-R-23-02-3002 Resolution to Approve a Bid for Updated Vegetation Inventories at Ten Locations

NRM Dir. Chess provided a brief presentation for the updated vegetation inventories. Funds were requested and approved for contracted wide scale Floristic Quality Assessments (FQA) across the District’s highest quality natural areas. All of the natural areas owned by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County have varying degrees of floristic quality and integrity. Since the degree to which conservative plants are present on a piece of land is a major factor in our management strategy, an assessment method is necessary that can be able to both index the presence of conservative plants and discriminate amongst tracts of land with differing levels of floristic integrity. The standard that is used in the Chicagoland area is the FQA as defined by Swink and Wilhelm as published in their 4th edition of Plants of the Chicago Region (1994). The FQA determines both a Floristic Quality Index (FQI) and Native Mean C, which is an indication of the native vegetation quality. Vegetation composition changes slower than animal composition across our preserves, however it is constantly changing. All of the selected projects are due for updated FQAs. Hiring contractors to conduct an updated assessment will help us address several issues. The most important of these is determining how the extent of previous management, including controlled burning, cutting brush, weeding, or neglect, has affected floristic quality from the previous assessment. This detail will help inform future management activities and priorities, zeroing in on protecting the highest quality natural areas remaining. Fourteen (14) project options were developed for the bid. The bid was publicly advertised and sent to 55 vendors with 5 responding.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Ford commended staff for the way the bid was structured. He noted that breaking down the bid in detail allowed staff to get the best quotes, knowing that was time consuming. Commissioner Daugherty asked about the two projects in Freeman

Kame, why they were not bid together. Chess responded that Freeman Kame is a large preserve; Woods to Wetlands noted they did not bid on the southern portion of 46 acres. The projects are far apart.

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

FP-R-23-02-30023 Resolution Approving a Bid for Control of Reed Canary Grass at Various Preserves

NRM Dir. Chess presented the bid for reed canary grass control. Reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) is a perennial, cool-season grass that plagues many of our forest preserves. This pernicious pest is equally at home in wetlands as it is in upland environments. Reed canary grass also forms dense monotypic stands that overtake wetlands at the exclusion of all other native plant species. This plant is difficult to control because of how well its root system colonizes an area. Repeated herbicide treatments are often required.

Reed canary grass is abundant across county wetlands and forests. Contractors were sought to bid on spring/summer 2023 control projects of multiple, separate infestations of reed canary grass, across eleven different preserves. The bid was sent to 32 vendors and publicly advertised, with 3 responding.

DISCUSSION: *(Commissioner Surges arrived in person @ 9:19 AM) Commissioner Bates asked how the invasive species spreads, if it was due to landscaping and if that would help control from spreading. Chess responded that the invasive species moves around easily on its own, noting the importance of the continued mitigation.*

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

X. New Business

None.

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

None.

XII. Communications

Comm. Affairs Dir. Metanchuk promoted the Maple Sugaring Days event on Saturday and Sunday, March 4th and 5th, 2023 from 12:00PM to 3:00PM. Metanchuk also promoted the District's annual Foundation Native Plant Sale. This year staff will hold online as well as in person sales. Pick up and in person will be Saturday April 29th, 2023.

Commissioner Kenyon promoted the 4H Club of Kane County, noting that every year students partner with Commissioners next month on Tuesday March 14, 2023.

Exec. Dir. Haberthur promoted the Conservation Foundation awards luncheon. One of the District's stewards, Kim Haag will be recognized. Haberthur noted that hydrology work has been moving forward at the Muirhead Springs wetland mitigation bank and signs of new species are returning.

XIII. President's Comments

President Kious comment on the monthly reports noting they provide a lot of information of the ongoing projects and events in the District.

XIV. Department Reports

A. Department Reports January 2023

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

XV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:27AM.

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

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