



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

## Forest Preserve District Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

8:30 AM

County Board Room

### I. Call to Order

The Forest Preserve District Full Commission meeting was held Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at the Kane County Government Center located at 719 S. Batavia Ave., Geneva, IL 60134. President Lenert called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

### Remote Attendance Approval

*Commissioners Daugherty, Gumz, Sanchez*

### II. Pledge of Allegiance

*President Lenert asked Commissioner Bill Tarver to lead the pledge.*

### III. Roll Call

#### PRESENT

President Forest Preserve District Bill Lenert  
Secretary Forest Preserve District Myrna Molina  
Commissioner Deborah Allan (Arrived in person at 8:37AM)  
Commissioner Mavis Bates  
Commissioner Dale Berman (Arrived  
Commissioner Sonia Garcia (Arrived in person at 8:37AM)  
Commissioner Jon Gripe  
Commissioner Mo Iqbal  
Commissioner Leslie Juby  
Commissioner Chris Kious  
Commissioner Michael Linder  
Commissioner Bill Roth  
Commissioner Cherryl Strathmann  
Commissioner Bill Tarver  
Commissioner Vern Tepe  
Commissioner Rick Williams  
Commissioner David Young  
Commissioner Ted Penesis

#### REMOTE

Commissioner Gary Daugherty  
Commissioner Michelle Gumz

#### ABSENT:

Commissioner Anita Lewis  
Commissioner Jarett Sanchez  
Commissioner Clifford Surges

**Also Present:** Exec. Dir. Haberthur, Dir. of Finance Petschke; Dir. of Planning and Land Protection Rooks-Lopez; HR Dir. Clough; NRM Dir. Chess; Ops. Dir. Jensen; Dir. of Comm. Engagement Metanchuk; Chief of Police Burger; Attorney Hodge; Exec. Assist. Figliozzi, KCIT staff and members of the public.

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

*Commissioner Gumz requested a moment of silence for the passing of President Carter, the fires and the devastation that have occurred in California and New Orleans. Commissioner Bates requested a moment to acknowledged Ken Shepro who has been battling an illness and is still in the hospital.*

**V. Presentation and Approval of the Minutes of December 10, 2024**

**RESULT: APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT**

**MOVER:** Chris Kious

**AYE:** Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Gary Daugherty, Sonia Garcia, Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Michael Linder, Myrna Molina, Bill Roth, Cherryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, David Young

**ABSENT:** Dale Berman, Anita Lewis, Jarett Sanchez, Clifford Surges

**VI. Presentation and Approval of the Bills and Commissioners' Per Diem from**

**December 2024.** *(Commissioners Allan and Garcia arrived in person at 8:37AM)*

**RESULT: APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE**

**MOVER:** Bill Roth

**SECONDER:** Chris Kious

**AYE:** Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Gary Daugherty, Sonia Garcia, Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Michael Linder, Myrna Molina, Bill Roth, Cherryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, David Young

**ABSENT:** Dale Berman, Anita Lewis, Jarett Sanchez, Clifford Surges

**VII. Presentations**

**2024 Staff Awards** *Exec. Dir. Haberthur presented the staff awards. He highlighted the various achievements and thanked the staff for all their hard work over the years. (Commissioner Berman arrived via remote at 8:45AM)*

**VIII. Finance and Administration**

**DOC-2025-03** Landscapes Golf Management (LGM) Initial Budget Presentation  
*Dir. of Finance Petschke presented the initial budget provided by LGM. the District will incorporate this into the District's annual budget, which will be presented during the budget process, May 2025.*

**RESULT: APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE**

**MOVER:** Bill Roth

**SECONDER:** Rick Williams

**AYE:** Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Sonia Garcia, Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Michael Linder, Myrna Molina, Bill Roth, Cherryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, David Young

**ABSENT:** Anita Lewis, Jarett Sanchez, Clifford Surges

**FP-R-25-01-3131** Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of One (1) Ford F-250 Utility Truck and Two (2) Ford F-450 Dump Trucks for Use by the Operations Department Through the State of Illinois Bid Contract Program

*President Lenert presented the resolution to authorize the purchase of three (3) trucks for the Operations Department. (Commissioner Berman was approved to participate via remote.)* Funding was approved in fiscal year 2025 for the replacement of trucks #104, #326, and #428. Truck #104 is a 2010 Ford F-350 with utility boxes and currently the primary vehicle for shared use by the Sign Specialist and the Fleet Mechanic within the Trades Division. This truck will be replaced with a gasoline powered Ford F-250 4x4 with utility boxes, retaining the vehicle's on-board tool and material storage ability on a slightly smaller chassis at a cost of \$72,104. Trucks #326 of North Operations and #428 of South Operations are both 2014 Ford F-450's and heavily relied upon for snow removal operations throughout the District, as well as performing larger equipment towing and material hauling requirements throughout the year. Both of these trucks are being replaced with diesel powered Ford F-450 4x4 dump trucks with snowplows and upgraded stainless-steel dump bodies and salt spreaders. The District began transitioning to the stainless-steel options in 2016. /this option has a higher initial cost, however those costs have been recovered in the reduced corrosion incurred and has resulted in lower maintenance and repair costs, most notably the need for sandblasting and painting the dump bodies throughout the life cycle of the vehicle. The purchase cost for one (1) outfitted dump truck is \$123,319, for a combined \$246,638 for both dump truck replacements as presented. All three (3) vehicles are being requested to be purchased through the State of Illinois procurement contract with Morrow Brothers Ford Inc, Greenfield, Illinois for a total cost of \$318,742.

**DISCUSSION:** None.

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

**IX. Planning and Utilization**

**FP-R-25-01-3132** Resolution Approving a Bid for the OSLAD Grant Project for the Mill Creek Greenway Forest Preserve Archery Range

*Dir. of Planning and Land Protection Rooks-Lopez presented the resolution approving a bid for the OSLAD grant project.* In 2022, the District received an Open Space and Land Acquisition Development (OSLAD) grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for the Mill Creek Greenway Archery Range Project. The project includes a new entry road and parking lot, prairie restoration and stormwater detention pond, 3 archery fields, a raised archery platform, covered shelters and a combination restroom and shelter. The OSLAD grant will reimburse the District 50% of the preliminary engineering and construction costs up to a total of \$600,000.00, following the completion of the project. Bids were publicly advertised, with 6 bidders responding. The responsible, lowest bidder was Evans & Son, Inc. with a base bid plus alternate of \$1,174,046.70. Additionally, \$43,557.61 shall be set aside as contingency to cover any unanticipated additional costs, that may arise during construction for a total project amount of \$1,217,604.31. Funds totaling \$1,250,000.00 were allocated in Fiscal Year 2024/25. Funds totaling \$181,601.95 have been spent on permitting, engineering and native seed purchase, \$1,068,398.05 are currently available. The additional funds needed to cover this expense, \$149,206.26 are available from savings realized in the following projects to cover the additional expense:

- Jon J. Duerr OSLAD #31003 in the Construction & Development Fund, account #03-35-35-5070, remaining balance of \$47,065.89;
- Big Rock RTP #31014 in the Construction & Development Fund, account #03-35-35-

- 7050, remaining balance of \$67,834.91;
- Brunner Family #30902 in the Construction & Development Fund, account #03-35-35-7050, remaining balance of \$14,979.02;
- LeRoy Oakes RTP #30606 in the Construction & Development Fund, account #03-35-35-5070, remaining balance of \$17,898.59;
- Otter Creek Drain Tile Project #31001 in the Construction & Development Fund, account 03-35-35-5070, remaining balance of \$1,427.85.

**DISCUSSION:** *None.*

**RESULT:** **ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE**

**MOVER:** Bill Roth

**SECONDER:** Bill Tarver

**AYE:** Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Sonia Garcia, Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Michael Linder, Myrna Molina, Bill Roth, Cheryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, David Young

**ABSENT:** Anita Lewis, Jarett Sanchez, Clifford Surges

**FP-R-25-01-3133** Resolution Approving a Bid for the RTP Grant Trail Restoration Project at Big Rock Forest Preserve

*Dir. of Planning and Land Protection Rooks-Lopez presented the resolution approving a bid for the OSLAD grant project. In 2023, the District received a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for the Big Rock Forest Preserve Trail Restoration project. The project includes restoration of an existing segment of limestone trail, a brand-new segment of limestone trail to connect users to the bridge crossing at Big Rock Creek, and a new grass trail to connect users back to the southern parking lot. The RTP grant will reimburse the District 80% of the construction costs up to a total of \$200,000.00. Upon completion of the project. The District conducted a formal bid process for the project. Bids were publicly advertised, with 5 bidders responding. The responsible, lowest bidder was Evans & Son, Inc. with a base bid of \$210,640.09. Additionally, \$10,000.00, shall be set aside as contingency to cover any unanticipated additional costs, that may arise during construction for a total project amount of \$220,640.09. Funds totaling \$300,000.00 were allocated in Fiscal Year 2024/25 in the Land Area Development Account # 03-35-35-7050, project # 31014, for the construction of the trail work of which sufficient funds of \$297,955.00 remain.*

**DISCUSSION:** *Commissioner Iqbal asked why the Forest Preserve District was interested in pursuing an archery range and how an archery range tied into the District's mission. Exec. Dir. Haberthur explained that there is a demand for this type of recreation in Kane County. The District is following the DuPage Forest Preserve's archery range model. He noted that the Downstate Forest Preserve Act mandates the District to provide recreation to the public. This particular project meets the recreational component as well as a prairie restoration. Community Engagement Dir. Metanchuk noted that the archery range was requested by the Commissioners at the last Master Plan retreat.*

**RESULT:** **APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE**

**MOVER:** Bill Roth

**SECONDER:** Rick Williams

**AYE:** Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Sonia Garcia, Gripe, Jonathan, Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Michael Linder, Myrna Molina, Penesis, Ted, Bill Roth, Cheryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, David Young

**ABSENT:** Anita Lewis, Jarett Sanchez, Clifford Surges

**X. Appointments**

**DOC-2025-04 2025 District Appointments**

*President Lenert presented the 2025 organization officers and committee roster appointments for approval.*

**DISCUSSION:** None.

**RESULT:** APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE

**MOVER:** Jon Gripe

**SECONDER:** Bill Tarver

**AYE:** Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Sonia Garcia, Gripe, Jonathan, Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Michael Linder, Myrna Molina, Penesis, Ted, Bill Roth, Cherryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, David Young

**ABSENT:** Anita Lewis, Jarett Sanchez, Clifford Surges

**XI. New Business**

*Commissioner Allan thanked the District for the tribute of her late husband Arthur. She noted that most of the people who get involved in politics, get involved because they care about their community and want to do more. She noted that representing Elgin has been a lifeline, she felt thankful and grateful to have so many people reciprocate the support.*

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

*None.*

**XIII. Communications**

*Dir. of Community Engagement Metanchuk promoted the current nature programs found in the District's TreeLine Newsletter. She noted that this year, the District is holding the first winter festival, Polar Palooza. Dir. Metanchuk reminded the Commissioners of the New Commissioner Orientation that will be held on Friday, January 17, 2025 at 1:00pm at the District's Headquarters, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor board room.*

**XIV. President's Comments**

*None.*

**XV. Finance Reports**

*Reports A-C were moved together*

A. Bond Investment Analysis Report through November 2024

B. Cash & Investment Report through November 2024

C. Income Statement through November 2024

**RESULT:** APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

**MOVER:** Deb Allan

**SECONDER:** Mo Iqbal

**AYE:** Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Sonia Garcia, Gripe, Jonathan, Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Michael Linder, Myrna Molina, Penesis, Ted, Bill Roth, Cherryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, David Young

**ABSENT:** Anita Lewis, Jarett Sanchez, Clifford Surges

**XVI. Department Reports**

**RESULT:** PLACED ON FILE BY VOICE VOTE

**MOVER:** Mavis Bates

**SECONDER:** Jonathan Gripe  
**AYE:** Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Sonia Garcia, Gripe, Jonathan, Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Michael Linder, Myrna Molina, Penesis, Ted, Bill Roth, Cherryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, David Young  
**ABSENT:** Anita Lewis, Jarett Sanchez, Clifford Surges

**XVII. Adjournment**

*The meeting adjourned at 9:05AM*

**RESULT:** **APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE**  
**MOVER:** Bill Roth  
**SECONDER:** Mo Iqbal  
**AYE:** Deborah Allan, Mavis Bates, Dale Berman, Gary Daugherty, Sonia Garcia, Gripe, Jonathan, Michelle Gumz, Mo Iqbal, Leslie Juby, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert, Michael Linder, Myrna Molina, Penesis, Ted, Bill Roth, Cherryl Strathmann, Bill Tarver, Vern Tepe, Rick Williams, David Young  
**ABSENT:** Anita Lewis, Jarett Sanchez, Clifford Surges

Bill Lenert, President  
Forest Preserve District Commission  
Forest Preserve District of Kane County

Respectfully Submitted,

*Gabriella Figliozzi*

Gabriella Figliozzi  
Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mo Iqbal  
Board Secretary