



FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF KANE COUNTY

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The Forest Preserve District Finance and Administration Committee meeting was held Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 2:00 PM at the Administration Offices located at 1996 S. Kirk Road, Suite 320, Geneva, IL 60134. The meeting was opened by Chair Dale Berman at 2:00 PM. Remote=*

Members Present:

Attendee Name:

Status:

President Chris Kious	Present
Chair Dale Berman	Present
Commissioner Drew Frasz	Present
Commissioner Cherryl Strathmann	Present
Commissioner Bill Lenert	Present
Commissioner Mark Davoust	Present*
Commissioner Ron Ford	Present (In person at 2:02 p.m.)
Commissioner Mo Iqbal	Present (In person at 2:03 p.m.)
Board Member Vern Tepe	Absent

Others Present:

Also Present: Exec. Dir. Meyers; CFO Stanish; Chief of Planning Anderson Jr.; Dir. Ops Goreth; Dir. of Comm. Affairs Metanchuk & staff Kovach; Dir. of NRM Haberthur; Dir. of Public Safety Burger; HR Dir. Yee; Purchasing Officer Marano* Attorney Hodge; and Recording Secretary Figliozzi

II. Approval of Minutes from November 16, 2021

RESULT:	APPROVED WITH VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Chris Kious, President
SECONDER:	Cherryl Strathmann, Commissioner
AYES:	Drew Frasz, Dale Berman, Cherryl Strathmann, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert
ABSENT:	Ron Ford, Mo Iqbal, Vern Tepe
REMOTE:	Mark Davoust

III. Public Comment (Each speaker is limited to three minutes)

None.

IV. Bids and Proposals

None.

V. New or Unfinished Business

A. Presentation and Approval of Revisions to the District's Mission Statement

(Commissioner Ford arrived in person at 2:02 p.m.) Exec. Dir. Meyers presented the revisions to the District's mission statement. A best-management practice suggested during the District's recent participation in the Distinguished Agency accreditation process is that an agency should review its mission statement at least every five years. The District's mission has remained unchanged for many

years. Therefore, as part of the 2021 Master Plan Retreat, senior staff and the Commission reviewed the District's mission and goal, and worked to identify possible changes that would more accurately reflect the District's purpose.

DISCUSSION: None.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 12/2/2021 8:30 AM
TO:	Forest Preserve District Executive Committee	
MOVER:	Chris Kious, President	
SECONDER:	Bill Lenert, Commissioner	
AYES:	Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Drew Frasz, Cheryl Strathmann, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert	
ABSENT:	Mo Iqbal, Vern Tepe	
REMOTE:	Mark Davoust	

B. Presentation and Approval of an Amendment to the General Use Regulation Ordinance to Allow for Certain Electric Bicycles

(Commissioner Iqbal arrived in person at 2:03 p.m.) Exec. Dir. Meyers presented an amendment to the General Use Ordinance addressing the use of electric bicycles and the different classifications allowed. Electronic bikes (e-bikes) have gained popularity over the past several years and public agencies have been updating their ordinances to allow for their use on trails. Additionally, the County, through the Council of Mayors Pedestrian Committee, has entered into an agreement with a bicycle company to provide rental bikes to various communities along the Fox River Trail. E-bikes are included in the rental package that have been accepted in certain communities such as Elgin and Batavia. This adds to the difficulty of enforcement when e-bikes are accepted by some agencies, but not all, along a multi-jurisdictional trail, such as the Fox River Trail. The District's General Use Regulation Ordinance does not allow for the use of e-bikes on our trails as they are considered a motorized vehicle. Currently, there are three classifications of e-bikes as follows:

- Class 1: Requires the use of the pedals for the bike to engage and maintain the battery motor. These bikes have a governor system that limits the speed of the bike to approximately 20 mph. When the rider stops pedaling, the battery motor will cease.
- Class 2: Requires the use of the pedals to engage the battery motor. The rider can then stop pedaling and use a throttle to continue propelling the bike. Similar to a Class I e-bike, the Class II e-bikes have a governor system that limits the speed of the bike to approximately 20 mph.
- Class 3: Does not require any use of pedals to engage the battery motor. Also, they have no governor system that would limit the speed of the bike. These bikes can go over 40 mph.

Staff is recommending the Committee consider the inclusion of Class 1 and 2 e-bikes as approved bicycles on District trails.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Lenert asked about the e-bikes, if they were rented or owned. Exec. Dir. Meyers responded both, she noted that some municipalities have allowed renting, so this update provides consistency within the speed limit and safety practices.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 12/2/2021 8:30 AM
TO:	Forest Preserve District Executive Committee	
MOVER:	Drew Frasz, Commissioner	
SECONDER:	Bill Lenert, Commissioner	
AYES:	Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Cheryl Strathmann, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert	
ABSENT:	Vern Tepe	
REMOTE:	Mark Davoust	

C. Presentation and Approval of the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Early Retirement Incentive

Exec. Dir, Meyers presented the IMRF Early Retirement Incentive program. IMRF covers all full time and part time (Classification I) District personnel working more than 1,000 hours per year. In 1996, IMRF established an early retirement incentive (ERI) program which eligible employers can adopt through their board/commission in order to achieve reduced payroll costs.

The ERI program allows eligible employees (IMRF members) to purchase up to five (5) years of IMRF service credit. Eligible employees are those with at least twenty (20) years of service who are at least fifty (50) years of age by the date of their retirement. The member's age at retirement will then be increased by the amount of service credit purchased. For example, if a 50-year-old member purchases five (5) years (or 60 months) of service credit, his or her age will be increased to age 55 for the purposes of determining IMRF retirement benefits.

As the District has grown to just over 23,000 acres, administration has been reviewing options to provide for additional staff. Offering the IMRF ERI program from January 31, 2022 through January 31, 2023 is one option that has been reviewed. Initial analysis reflects that an early retirement incentive program offered during that time frame could result in a significant payroll savings for the District, which could then be reinvested into the addition of four (4) to six (6) new full time positions.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Frasz felt the early retirement incentive is positive, as long as the eligible employees are in agreement with it. Chair Berman stated this item will be presented and discussed further at the Full Commission meeting.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 12/2/2021 8:30 AM
TO:	Forest Preserve District Executive Committee	
MOVER:	Bill Lenert, Commissioner	
SECONDER:	Chris Kious, President	
AYES:	Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Cherryl Strathmann, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert	
ABSENT:	Vern Tepe	
REMOTE:	Mark Davoust	

VI. Closed Session to Discuss Land Acquisition, Contracts, Litigation, or Personnel

The Committee moved into Executive Closed Session at 2:10 p.m. on a motion by Kious, second by Frasz to discuss license contracts.

RESULT:	APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Chris Kious, President
SECONDER:	Drew Frasz, Commissioner
AYES:	Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Cherryl Strathmann, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert
ABSENT:	Vern Tepe
REMOTE:	Mark Davoust

The Committee returned to Open Session at 2:48 p.m. on a motion by Kious, second by Strathmann, Roll Call Vote was taken, unanimous.

VII. Communications

Comm. Affairs Dir. Metanchuk promoted a fundraiser for the Forest Preserve District Foundation called "Giving Tuesday". The fundraiser takes place the Tuesday after the Thanksgiving Holiday.

VIII. Chairman's Comments

None.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

RESULT:	ADJOURNED BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Chris Kious, President
SECONDER:	Drew Frasz, Commissioner
AYES:	Dale Berman, Ron Ford, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Cherryl Strathmann, Chris Kious, Bill Lenert
ABSENT:	Vern Tepe
REMOTE:	Mark Davoust

Dale Berman, Chairman
Forest Preserve District Finance and Administration Committee
Forest Preserve District of Kane County

Respectfully Submitted,

Gabriella Figliozi

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Recording Secretary