



FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF KANE COUNTY

PLANNING AND UTILIZATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The Forest Preserve District Planning and Utilization Committee meeting was held Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 9:30 AM at the Kane County Government Center, 719 S. Batavia Ave., Bldg. A, Geneva, IL 60134. The meeting was opened by Chairman Theresa Barreiro at 9:54 AM.

Members Present:

<u>Attendee Name:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
Commissioner Drew Frasz	Present
Commissioner Mo Iqbal	Remote
President Michael Kenyon	Present
Commissioner Chris Kious	Present
Commissioner Steve Weber	Remote
Chairman Theresa Barreiro	Remote
Commissioner Deborah Allan	Remote
Commissioner Jarett Sanchez	Absent
Commissioner Barbara Wojnicki	Absent

Others Present:

Executive Director Monica Meyers, Chief Financial Officer Ken J. Stanish, Chief of Planning & Operations Ken N. Anderson, Director of Operations John Goreth, Director of Natural Resources Benjamin Haberthur, Director of Community Affairs Laurie Metanchuk, Director of Public Safety Michael Gillofio, Executive Assistant Gabby Figliozzi, Attorney Gerald Hodge, and Recording Secretary Cait Rodeghero

II. Approval of Minutes from July 30, 2020

DISCUSSION: None.

RESULT:	APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Chris Kious, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Mo Iqbal, Commissioner
AYES:	Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Steve Weber
ABSENT:	Jarett Sanchez, Barbara Wojnicki

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

None.

IV. Bids and Proposals

A. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for the Fabyan Forest Preserve East Pedestrian Bridge Repairs

In May 2017, the District secured a contract with Alfred Benesch & Company to conduct an assessment of 78 bridges throughout the District, including the bridge on the east side of the Fabyan Forest Preserve. At the conclusion of this inspection, the report indicated items to be addressed, which were categorized as high priority (within one year), medium priority (within one to three years), and low priority (more than three years).

Based on the evaluation, \$135,000 was budgeted for the Fabyan east pedestrian bridge structural abutment repairs. Staff obtained a proposal for professional services from Alfred Benesch & Company to complete the Fabyan east pedestrian bridge and site engineering for bidding the bridge/abutments repair project. Commission approved this proposal in September 2019, at a cost of \$30,000, leaving a total of \$105,000 for repairs. To date, all professional engineering services have been completed, and a bid was sent out to 20 vendors with five responding. Alliance Contractors from Woodstock, Illinois was the lowest, qualified bidder, with a total price of \$52,500.

DISCUSSION: .The Committee commented that the price of the bid is very low. The Committee asked if the company was a union contractor. Attorney Hodge answered that we would not know that information, that all we know is that they are prevailing wage. Director Goreth explained that he had a discussion with the company regarding their price, and he and the company felt comfortable with the bid amount. Goreth also sought reference from Benesch, who gave a good recommendation for the company. The Committee asked Goreth that, since he has experience with this type of project, if he is comfortable with the work that needs to be done at this price. Goreth replied yes, he is comfortable.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY ROLLCALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 9/4/2020 8:30 AM
TO:	Forest Preserve District Executive Committee	
MOVER:	Drew Frasz, Commissioner	
SECONDER:	Deborah Allan, Commissioner	
AYES:	Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Steve Weber	
ABSENT:	Jarett Sanchez, Barbara Wojnicki	

B. Presentation and Approval of a Change Order Proposal for Construction Engineering Services for the Fabyan East Pedestrian Bridge Repairs

In May 2017, the District secured a contract with Alfred Benesch & Company to conduct an assessment of 78 bridges throughout the District. The bridge on the east side of the Fabyan Forest Preserve was inspected, as part of the assessment. At the conclusion of the inspection, a report indicated items to be addressed, and categorized them as high priority (within one year), medium priority (within one to three years), and low priority (more than three years). All improvement priorities from the Fabyan East bridge assessment were then documented in a proposal for engineering services from Alfred Benesch & Company, at a cost of \$30,000. This proposal was approved by Commission in September 2019.

To date, all professional engineering services for repairs have been completed. A bid was sent to 20 vendors with five responding. Alliance Contractors from Woodstock, Illinois was the lowest, qualified bidder, with a total price of \$52,500.

Due to the complexity and intricacies of the repairs, staff felt it necessary to obtain a second proposal from Alfred Benesch & Company for engineering oversight of the project. The proposal for these services are \$7,752.

A total of \$135,000 was budgeted for the Fabyan east bridge project. Of that, \$30,000 was used for engineering services to produce the repair plans for bidding purposes, leaving \$105,000. The approved repair bid for this project was \$52,500, leaving a balance of \$52,500. This Change Order Proposal for oversight of engineering construction services totals \$7,752.

DISCUSSION: None.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY ROLLCALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 9/4/2020 8:30 AM
TO:	Forest Preserve District Executive Committee	
MOVER:	Chris Kiou, Commissioner	
SECONDER:	Steve Weber, Commissioner	
AYES:	Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kiou, Steve Weber	
ABSENT:	Jarett Sanchez, Barbara Wojnicki	

V. New or Unfinished Business
None.

VI. Agreements

A. Presentation and Approval of a Donation Agreement with the USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program for Native Seed Enhancement at Brunner Family Forest Preserve

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program is an initiative of the USFWS. The Partners program provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners to restore or enhance fish and wildlife habitats for the benefit of Federal Trust Species (for example, migratory birds, threatened, endangered and other declining species). The cornerstone of the Partners Program is partnerships, not only with private landowners but with non-Federal agencies, conservation organizations, schools and other entities with an interest in wildlife. The program emphasizes conservation practices directed at restoring habitats that include, but are not limited to, wetlands, riparian areas, bottomland hardwoods, upland forests, native grasslands and savannahs.

One of the Federal Trust species in our area is the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee (*Bombus affinis*). Staff from the Chicago office of the USFWS have reached out to District staff to develop a small restoration project at Brunner Family Forest Preserve, due to the presence of this endangered bumblebee at this site.

One of the major threats to the rusty patched bumblebee is habitat loss and degradation; therefore, staff have developed an approximately 15-acre farmland-to-prairie conversion project on two small parcels of land that were both bisected and cutoff from the larger crop field, on either side of the Longmeadow Parkway project.

The proposed project comes at a good time, as the project area did not currently have specific funds dedicated to its restoration. The USFWS will purchase and provide \$3,600 worth of native seed for the project area. No funds are required from the District, but District Natural Resources Management (NRM) staff will provide in-kind services as the District's match. These in-field services include site preparation, seeding and maintenance mowing. Staff have developed the project seed mix in conjunction with the USFWS.

Additionally, the District will keep the site free of non-native invasive species and not allow invasive species to encroach on more than 20 percent of the project area or in patches larger than 0.5 acres, at least through Aug. 1, 2030.

DISCUSSION: The Committee commented that ten years seems like a long time. Director Haberthur responded that the stipulation in the agreement was that we would not remove the prairie for at least ten years. When the District restores prairie, it remains in prairie indefinitely, ten years is relatively minor. The Committee asked if, due to the proximity to the new Londmeadow bridge, will this negatively affect the bees. Director Haberthur replied that he did have concerns, but when he spoke with the USFWS, they informed him that the negative effects should be small. In fact, the expanded environment may allow the population to survive the stressors.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY ROLLCALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 9/4/2020 8:30 AM
TO:	Forest Preserve District Executive Committee	
MOVER:	Chris Kious, Commissioner	
SECONDER:	Deborah Allan, Commissioner	
AYES:	Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Steve Weber	
ABSENT:	Jarett Sanchez, Barbara Wojnicki	

B. Presentation and Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Fox Valley Park District for Use of Structures at the Aurora West Forest Preserve

With the fall completion of their new cold storage and seed-processing building, the Forest Preserve District's Natural Resource Management department will be fully moved into their new location on Brundige Road. The Committee requested staff inquire with other local governmental entities around Aurora West Forest Preserve to gauge potential interest in any of the structures at the site that are no longer being used by the District.

The Fox Valley Forest Preserve indicated their interest in the main barn and smaller outbuilding to store equipment. The following are the main details of the agreement.

1. The term of the agreement is 20 years.
2. The FVPD shall have use of the main barn and smaller outbuilding.

3. The FVPD shall have exclusive use of and be responsible for all maintenance of the main drive and parking, buildings and grounds within the area, as shown on Exhibit A.
4. The FVPD shall be responsible for all capital improvements to the main barn, as shown on Exhibit A.
5. No materials or equipment shall be stored outside, unless behind the barn and a fence is installed.

DISCUSSION: The Committee commended staff for their work on this IGA, and this is a great solution to keep the barn, as it is a very visible landmark.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 9/4/2020 8:30 AM
TO:	Forest Preserve District Executive Committee	
MOVER:	Deborah Allan, Commissioner	
SECONDER:	Drew Frasz, Commissioner	
AYES:	Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Steve Weber	
ABSENT:	Jarett Sanchez, Barbara Wojnicki	

VII. Closed Session to Discuss Land Acquisition, Contracts, Litigation and Personnel

VIII. Communications

Director Laurie Metanchuk informed the Committee that Creek Bend Nature Center continues to have their programs, and recommends the Committee check them out.

IX. Chairman's Comments

X. Adjournment

RESULT:	ROLL CALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Chris Kious, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Mo Iqbal, Commissioner
AYES:	Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Steve Weber
ABSENT:	Jarett Sanchez, Barbara Wojnicki

Theresa Barreiro, Chairman
Forest Preserve District Planning and Utilization Committee
Forest Preserve District of Kane County

Adjournment until: Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 9:30 am
Via videoconference
Kane County Government Center, Building A
719 Batavia Avenue, Geneva, Illinois

Respectfully Submitted,

Cait Rodeghero

Cait Rodeghero
Recording Secretary