



## FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF KANE COUNTY

### PLANNING AND UTILIZATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

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#### I. Call to Order

The Forest Preserve District Planning and Utilization Committee meeting was held Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 9:30 AM at the Administration Offices located at 1996 S. Kirk Road, Suite 320, Geneva, IL 60134. The meeting was opened by Chairman Theresa Barreiro at 9:30 AM.

##### Members Present:

Commissioner Deborah Allan	Absent
Chairman Theresa Barreiro	Present
Commissioner Drew Frasz	Present
Commissioner Mo Iqbal	Present
President Michael Kenyon	Present
Commissioner Chris Kious	Present
Commissioner Jarett Sanchez	Present
Commissioner Steve Weber	Present
Commissioner Barbara Wojnicki	Present

##### Others Present:

Monica Meyers, Executive Director, Ken J. Stanish, Chief Financial Officer, Ken Anderson, Jr., Chief of Planning and Operations, Laurie Metanchuk, Director of Community Affairs, Ben Haberthur, Director of Natural Resource Management, Tracey Smith, Director of Human Resources, John Goreth, Director of Operations, Cait Rodeghero, Administrative Specialist, Brittany Kovach, Communications Specialist  
Attorneys Hodge and Kinnally.

#### II. Approval of Minutes from January 30, 2020

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Chris Kious, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Barb Wojnicki, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Barbara Wojnicki
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Deborah Allan, Steve Weber

#### III. Public Comment (Each Speaker is limited to three minutes) *None.*

#### IV. Bids and Proposals

##### A. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Construction of the Concrete Foundation for the New Salt Storage Building at the North Operations Facility

The new salt-storage building will be 36'L x 30'W x 18'H and will be constructed from concrete, wood and steel, making it much stronger and better able to survive the high winds. This building will be similar to the one, which was built in 2012 at the South Operations Maintenance Facility.

The salt-storage capacity of the new building is approximately 350 tons, compared to the current storage structure, which holds approximately 150 tons of salt.

Due to the complexity of installing the concrete foundation for this structure, staff determined that it was necessary to have the concrete installation sent out for public bid. The bid was sent to 55 vendors with nine responding. DMI Construction Services, Inc., of St. Charles, Illinois, was the qualified, lowest bid with a total price of \$39,500

The District's Trades and North Operations Divisions will complete building the structure in-house. Staff obtained three proposals for the building package. Midwest Manufacturing (Menards) provided the qualified, lowest proposal, for a total price of \$11,695.11. The total price for concrete installation and the building package is \$51,195.11

**DISCUSSION:** *Commissioner Frasz expressed his concern with low bid amount. Director Goreth explained that we have worked with the vendor in the past with good results. He also asked what the building would be made of, Goreth explained the pad would be the concrete the building would be both wood and steel, which would make it much stronger and able to withstand the strong high winds.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 3/6/2020 8:30 AM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jarett Sanchez, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Drew Frasz, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Deborah Allan

**B. Presentation and Approval of a Proposal for Engineering for Bike Trail Repaving and Culvert Repair Along the Fox River Trail in Elgin Township**

The District resurfaces a portion of the linear trail system each year, as part of our preventative maintenance program. Trail resurfacing alternates between North Operations and South Operations. For the 2019-20 fiscal year, the Commission approved \$316,000 to recycle in place, pave and restore approximately 1.5 miles of asphalt on the Fox River Trail, on the east side of the Fox River, in Elgin Township. Funds will be used for engineering and to purchase materials to correct drainage issues. This portion of the project requires engineering, geotechnical investigations, contract plans and specifications, bid documents and permitting. All drainage work would be completed prior to installation of the final asphalt surface.

The District utilized a request for qualifications process to select a firm for professional services. Five firms were evaluated and HR Green, Inc. of McHenry, Illinois was selected for this project. A scope of work was developed covering site engineering through bid documents. A fee for services was established for a total of \$45,192.

**DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Kious asked for clarification on location. It is near the Treasures and Trails Restaurant.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 3/6/2020 8:30 AM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Barbara Wojnicki, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jarett Sanchez, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Deborah Allan

**C. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Weed Management of Reed Canary Grass at Various Preserves**

Reed canary grass also forms dense monotypic stands of itself 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.

Contractors were sought to bid on spring/summer 2020 control projects of multiple, separate infestations of Reed canary grass, across six different preserves.

The bid was sent to 23 vendors, with six responding. The lowest responsible bidder for each option is as follows:

- **Option 1** - Braeburn Marsh Forest Preserve (4.5 acres): Bid of \$1,600 submitted by Integrated Lakes Management of Waukegan, Illinois.
- **Option 2** - Dick Young Forest Preserve (36 acres): Bid of \$5,700 submitted by Integrated Lakes Management of Waukegan, Illinois.
- **Option 3** - Fox River Shores Forest Preserve (16 acres): Bid of \$6,000 submitted by Woods to Wetlands, LLC of Streamwood, Illinois.
- **Option 4** - Lone Grove Forest Preserve (5.4 acres): Bid of \$1,931 submitted by Applied Ecological Services of Brodhead, Wisconsin.
- **Option 5** - Freeman Kame-Meagher Forest Preserve (42 acres): Bid of \$13,409 submitted by Applied Ecological Services of Brodhead, Wisconsin.
- **Option 6** - Meissner-Corron Forest Preserve (33.4 acres): Bid of \$9,725 submitted by Integrated Lakes Management of Waukegan, Illinois.

Funds totaling \$140,000 were budgeted in this fiscal year for Weed Management. Sufficient funds totaling \$104,538 are available in the Natural Resources Weed Management for Options 1-5 of this project, totaling \$28,640. Option 6 - Funds totaling \$125,000 were budgeted for the Russel Fen Restoration project at Meissner Corron in this fiscal year. Sufficient funds totaling \$34,344 are available in Natural Resources Restoration Account for this project, totaling \$9,725.

**DISCUSSION:** Chairperson Barreiro inquired as to the low bid amount from Applied Ecological Services. Director Haberthur replied that we have used the vendor before with good results. Commissioner Sanchez asked what method would be used to control the Reed Canary Grass. Director Haberthur explained that there would be hand-wicking and spot herbicide treatments used.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 3/6/2020 8:30 AM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Steve Weber, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Chris Kious, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Deborah Allan

**D. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Garlic Mustard Control at the Bliss Woods and Johnson's Mound Forest Preserves**

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) is a non-native plant that has become well established in most woodlands owned by the District. This plant can tolerate shady conditions and produces prodigious amounts of highly viable seed. These two traits couple to make this weed a rapid invader of the forest understory, occupying land that normally would be filled with an entire complement of woodland grasses and wildflowers. Work will consist of weed whipping, hand pulling and/or mowing Garlic mustard plants across one woodland unit, twice in the spring of 2020.

The bid was advertised and sent to 23 vendors with seven responding. The lowest responsible bidder for each option is as follows:

- **Option 1.** Bliss Woods Forest Preserve (83 acres): Bid of \$12,150 submitted by Semper Fi Land Services, Inc. of Yorkville, Illinois.
- **Option 2.** Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve (94 acres): Bid of \$12,900 submitted by Semper Fi Land Services, Inc. of Yorkville, Illinois.

Funds totaling \$140,000 were budgeted in this fiscal year for Weed Management. Sufficient funds totaling \$75,898 are available in the Natural Resources Weed Management Account for these expenses, totaling \$25,050.

**DISCUSSION:** Chairman Barreiro asked if the Garlic Mustard is cut doesn't it go away. Director Haberthur explained that the cutting during the early grow season helps reduce the growth but does not remove it. Staff monitors the growth and response to the herbicide and mowing. Commissioner Kious also asked if wicking was done for Garlic Mustard as it is for the Reed Canary Grass. Director Haberthur stated that the process of boom spray and mowing is used.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 3/6/2020 8:30 AM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Barbara Wojnicki, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Steve Weber, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Deborah Allan

**E. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Weed Management of Wild Chervil at Various Preserves**

Wild chervil has few checks on its population in North America. It can quickly take over an area, displace native species and form dense stands that are difficult to control. Shaded lowlands, especially near creeks, seem to be a favorite habitat for this invasive plant. Contractors were sought to bid on spring/summer 2020 control projects, across three heavily infested forest preserves. Bids were advertised and sent to 23 vendors, with five responding. The qualified lowest bidder for each option is as follows:

- **Option 1** - Bowes Creek Woods Forest Preserve (43 acres): Bid of \$5,837 submitted by Applied Ecological Services of Brodhead, Wisconsin.
- **Option 2** - Meissner-Corron Forest Preserve (33 acres): Bid of \$3,650 submitted by Integrated Lakes Management of Waukegan, Illinois.
- **Option 3** - Lone Grove Forest Preserve (40 acres): Bid of \$2,800 submitted by Integrated Lakes Management of Waukegan, Illinois.

Funds totaling \$140,000 were budgeted in this fiscal year for Weed Management. Sufficient funds totaling \$50,848 are available in the Natural Resources Weed Management Account 01-31-31-7064 for these expenses, totaling \$12,287.

**DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Kious asked about the training, schedule and chemical usage. Director Haberthur responded that the botanist crew leader flags plants that are not to be sprayed as well as doing a biennial three year monitoring schedule and keeping a work log of management practices that assist with future planning. There was a brief discussion about the spreading of the Wild Chervil in the Right of Ways. The District is working with the KCDOT in the ROW mowing and weed control issues, as well as researching funding opportunities through grants for Chervil control.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 3/6/2020 8:30 AM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Chris Kious, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Barbara Wojnicki, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Deborah Allan

V. **New or Unfinished Business** *None.*

VI. **Closed Session to Discuss Land Acquisition, Contracts, Litigation and Personnel** *None.*

VII. **Communications**

A. **Presentation of the Collaborative Tree Planting Conceptual Plans at the Fitchie Creek Forest Preserve**

Presentation by Mr. David Dorgan and Tom Schnieder of the Elgin Breakfast Rotary Club,.

The EBRC has made a request to plant trees and benefit a portion of the Fitchie Creek Forest Preserve in Elgin. The Elgin Breakfast Rotary Club would reforest approximately 40 acres with 100 Oak and Hickory trees. This would assist with the decrease in woodlands that once were more prevalent in Kane County. The proximity of the project to the neighboring Prairie View Grade school would also increase the educational benefit for the citizens of the Elgin community as well as the entire region.

The group has applied for the Kane County Grand Victoria grant as well as 14 other grants. The group has wanted to do a project like this since 1999, and since the Rotary International had declared 2017 - the Year of the Tree. The Elgin Breakfast Rotary Club has raised money by a beerfest and other fund raising events.

The District will provide signs and a trail to the project area. It will be a multi-year project.

**DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Frasz asked who would handle the planting. Executive Director Meyers explained that Director Haberthur will evaluate the site and possibly contract for the holes and tree planting then the Club will water the trees. The Club also has a lot of expertise as well. The Committee consensus is to continue working with the group and move forward.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Consensus is to continue working with the group and move forward</b>
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**VIII. Chairman's Comments:** *Maple Sugaring Days will be Saturday and Sunday, March 7 and 8 at the LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve from Noon to 3pm.*

**IX. Adjournment**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADJOURNED BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Drew Frasz, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Mo Iqbal, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Deborah Allan

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

**Adjournment until: Thursday, March 26, 2020, at 9:30 am**  
**Forest Preserve District Administration Offices**  
**1996 S. Kirk Road, Suite 320 Geneva, Illinois**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ellen J. Maglio*

Ellen J. Maglio  
Recording Secretary