



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, January 30, 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 9:33 AM.

Members Present:

Chairman Theresa Barreiro	Present
Commissioner Deborah Allan	Present
Commissioner Drew Frasz	Absent
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, Ben Haberthur, Director of Natural Resource Management, John Goreth, Director of Operations, Ellen J. Maglio, Recording Secretary

II. Approval of Minutes from October 31, 2019

Commissioner Allan thanked Staff for the detailed minutes that keep her informed.

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

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

IV. Bids and Proposals

A. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Herbicide Weed Management to Treat Woody Re-Sprouts at Various Forest Preserves

In the face of modern fire suppression and invasive species pressure, often what follows a disturbance in native woods are invasive species. Invasive plant species come in many varieties, but two main distinctions land managers make to categorize management are herbaceous

(herb-like, for example, garlic mustard, wild chervil) or woody (a plant that produces wood for structure; shrubs and trees, in essence, buckthorn, honeysuckle).

District staff and contractors annually clear dozens of acres. These clearing projects remove large portions of non-native and invasive woody vegetation from degraded woodlands. The contracted work will target invasive woody species for chemical spot control. Through this process, we will promote desirable plants and restore both the structure and function of the woods. Successive years of effort will reduce the effort and cost needed to maintain these areas in perpetuity. This was bid in as seven projects at 4 preserve locations.

Project 1 - Freeman Kame Forest Preserve (North) - (52 acres): Bid of \$13,104 by McGinty Bros., Inc. of Long Grove, Illinois.

Project 2 - Freeman Kame Forest Preserve (North) - (37 acres): Bid of \$11,620 by McGinty Bros., Inc. of Long Grove, Illinois.

Project 3 - Helm Woods Forest Preserve - (52 acres): Bid of \$14,200 by McGinty Bros., Inc. of Long Grove, Illinois.

Project 4 - Helm Woods Forest Preserve - (40 acres): Bid of \$13,600 by McGinty Bros., Inc. of Long Grove, Illinois.

Project 5 - Meissner-Corron Forest Preserve - (19 acres): Bid of \$6,000 by Integrated Lakes Management, Inc. of Waukegan, Illinois.

Project 6 - Dick Young Forest Preserve - (49 acres): Bid of \$14,600 by McGinty Bros., Inc. of Long Grove, Illinois.

Project 7 - Dick Young Forest Preserve - (16 acres): Bid of \$3,230 by Integrated Lakes Management, Inc. of Waukegan, Illinois.

The bid for herbicide weed management to be conducted at portions of four forest preserves with McGinty Bros., Inc. of Long Grove, Illinois for a contract cost of \$67,124 for Projects 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, and with Integrated Lakes Management, Inc. of Waukegan, Illinois for a contract cost of \$9,230 for Projects 5 and 7, for a combined total project cost of \$76,054. The cost of all projects as presented is \$76,354.

DISCUSSION: None.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2/7/2020 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Jarett Sanchez, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Chris Kious, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Drew Frasz

B. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Pond Management at the Bowes Creek Greenway and the Paul Wolff Campground

Bids were sought from qualified firms for three years of consecutive growing seasons (April - October), ecological health monitoring and aquatic vegetation management of the three large ponds at Burnidge (Project 1) and at Bowes Creek Greenway (Project 2). The contract performance standard is to maintain 70% open water within the pond, throughout the growing season. Additionally, the aquatic vegetation present within the pond must be comprised of 30% or less exotic species.

Because of the aesthetic and recreational objectives of the pond maintenance at the Burnidge Forest Preserve pond, project costs will be split between the Natural Resource Management Department and the Operations Department.

The bids from McCloud Aquatics of Elburn, Illinois for three years of pond monitoring and maintenance at Burnidge Forest Preserve (Project 1) for \$6,575 (\$2,191.67/year) and for three years of pond monitoring and maintenance at Bowes Creek Greenway Forest Preserve (Project 2) for \$17,801.25 (\$5,933.75/year). Total contract costs are \$24,376.25 (\$8,125.42/year).

DISCUSSION: *The District has not worked with McCloud Aquatics before, this was concerning to some Commissioners. Staff did call the DuPage Forest Preserve reference and was given a good report of their work. Commissioner Allan asked if there was a cancellation policy built into the contract. Director Haberthur responded in the affirmative. She also asked about the difference between chemical use and aeration. Director Haberthur explained that the key is to apply the chemical treatments in the early season if with snow on the ground. Staff is evaluating the use of bubblers/fountain costs as well as other biological options. Chairman Barreiro expressed her concern with the new vendor, but agreed to accept the vetting and reference information.*

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2/7/2020 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Mo Iqbal, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Jarett Sanchez, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Drew Frasz

C. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Updated Vegetation Inventories

Hiring contractors to conduct an updated assessment will help address several issues. The most important of these is determining the extent previous management -controlled burning, cutting brush, weeding or neglect - has affected floristic quality from the previous assessment. This detail will help determine future management activities and priorities, and help us zero in on and protect the remaining highest-quality natural areas. The contractor will visit each site three times, throughout the growing season, to document the existing plant communities in the spring, summer and fall.

The bid for vegetation inventories is to be conducted at portions of six forest preserves with Applied Ecological Services of West Dundee, Illinois, for a contract cost of \$15,140 for Options 2,

3, 4, 6, 7 and 11; portions of four forest preserves with Integrated Lakes Management of Waukegan, Illinois, for a contract cost of \$4,350 for Options 1, 9, 10 and 13; portions of three forest preserves with Encap, Inc. of DeKalb, Illinois, for a contract cost of \$6,700 for Options 5, 8 and 12; and a portion of one forest preserve with Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc. of Lombard, Illinois, for a contract cost of \$2,150 for Option 14, for a combined total project cost of \$28,340.

DISCUSSION: *Commissioner Kious was impressed by the low pricing and excited about the potential results of this study.*

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2/7/2020 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Steve Weber, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Barbara Wojnicki, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Drew Frasz

D. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Structure Removal at Various District Properties

Commission approved \$175,403 of carry-over funds from previous demolitions in the 2019/2020 budget, as approved through the Structures and Housing Subcommittee. Currently, \$56,754 remains. The approval of funds was to remove buildings and structures that no longer serve a purpose for the District use or are in such poor condition that they pose a safety hazard or negative visual presence.

Five demolition projects were bid as follows:

- Helm Woods Forest Preserve (Holzer Property) - demolition of the house, garage, horse barn, two small out buildings and approximately 3,900 linear feet of wooden and metal fencing.
- Buffalo Park Forest Preserve (Raging Buffalo) - demolition of the lodge, wooden shed, storage semi-trailer, metal machine shed, wooden towrope motor house and miscellaneous debris.
- Freeman Kame-Meagher Forest Preserve - demolition of the house, wooden machine shed, wood milk house, wooden lean-to and two concrete silos.
- Ferson Creek (Crane Road/Reimer property) Forest Preserve - demolition of the house and wooden out building. *Completed In-House*
- Big Rock Forest Preserve (Gwinn Oaks Property) - demolition of three houses, three garages, horse barn extended structure and small wooden out building. *To Be Completed In-House*

The District approached the Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District, Rutland-Dundee Fire Protection District, Fox River & Countryside Fire Rescue District, and the Big Rock Fire Department to offer structures for training purposes. Fox River & Countryside and Big Rock Fire

Department accepted the offer, which will result in cost savings for the Forest Preserve District. Each department will complete a final burn down of the structures, at the end of their department's training, which reduces the amount of time needed for demolition, as well as the amount of material to be disposed.

Staff recommends the Committee approve funds for demolition of structures at sites #1, #2 and #3 for a total price of \$125,450, plus a contingency of 10% for a total of \$137,995 to Fowler Enterprises LLC, from Elgin, Illinois. Staff recommends the Committee approve funds for demolition of structures at sites #4 and #5 to be completed in-house for a total price of \$22,220, for a grand total of \$160,215. Funds totaling \$56,754 are available in the Operations - Land Area Development Fund for this expense totaling \$160,215. Additional funds totaling \$103,461 needed for this project are available in the Planning and Development -Land Area Development fund and project #30507 Tyler Creek Parking and Trail Connection. The grant for the Tyler Creek Parking and Trail Connection was declined, so funds will need to be reallocated for this project at a future time.

DISCUSSION: *Commissioner Allan would like Staff to include the opportunity for groups to collect and re-use/recycle the doorways or stair spindles etc., if possible. Commissioner Iqbal expressed his disappointment that the monies are being reallocated for the Tyler Creek project, as this is in his district and he would like to see a trail connection sooner rather than later. Commissioner Kious added clarification that the project was contingent on the grant fund leverage, which did not happen.*

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [7 TO 1]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2/7/2020 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Mo Iqbal, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Jarett Sanchez, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
NAYS:	Mo Iqbal
ABSENT:	Drew Frasz

V. New or Unfinished Business

A. Presentation and Approval of Closed Session Minutes from March 23, 2018 through December 2019

DISCUSSION: *None.*

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

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

VII. Communications

The Conservation Foundation Winter Membership & Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, February 19th, 2020, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Arrowhead Golf Club in Wheaton.

The speaker will be Shane McKenzie, Associate Research Scientist in the Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation's Wildlife Research Department, presenting "Close Encounters: Urban Wildlife & Human Interactions." Shane will present his department's fascinating research on urban coyotes, raccoons, deer fawn survival and river otter reintroductions in the region, and how we as humans can help our interactions with urban wildlife be positive ones. RSVP to Ellen by February 7, 2020.

Commissioner Kious presented some photos of the Brunner Family Forest Preserve. He has spoken to Chief of Planning and Operations Anderson about the erosion and trail deterioration. Staff is working on a bid to remedy this situation.

VIII. Chairman's Comments

President Kenyon reported that the IAPD/IPRA Conference was another success. There was educational and networking opportunities. The District was awarded the Exceptional Workplace award and Commissioner Hoscheit was honored as the outgoing IAPD Chairman.

IX. Adjournment

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

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

Adjournment until: Thursday, February 27, 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