



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, October 31, 2019 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 9:45 AM.

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Guests: Roy Domazlicky, Northern Regional Wildlife Biologist, IDNR; Stefanie Fitzsimons, District Wildlife Biologist (District 9), IDNR; Tim Preuss, Urban Deer Project Manager, IDNR.

Staff: 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, Laurie Metanchuk, Director of Community Affairs, Mike Gilloffe, Director of Public Safety, Bill Graser, Wildlife Biologist, Dave Petschke, Accounting Manager, Jerry Hodge, Attorney, Ellen J. Maglio, Recording Secretary

II. Approval of Minutes from September 26, 2019

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

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

IV. Bids and Proposals

A. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Tree and Brush Clearing at the Freeman Kame Meagher Forest Preserve

For this seventh phase of the long-term, preserve-enhancement program, bids for tree and brush thinning were sought across a 35.6-acre area (Option 1) and a 13.1-acre area (Option 2) from contractors. Additionally, a separate firewood-production bid was requested for 30 full cords of firewood to be split onsite and delivered to both the North Operations shop at the Muirhead Forest Preserve (15 cords) and the South Operations shop at Grunwald Forest Preserve (15 cords). The bid was publicly advertised and distributed to 24 vendors with two contractors responding. The qualified lowest total bid came from Central Tree and Landscape Mulch, Inc. of Hoffman Estates, Illinois, as follows:

- Option 1: 35.6 acres tree and brush removal at \$73,950.
- Option 2: 13.1 acres tree and brush removal at \$55,975.
- 30 full cord firewood production and delivery at \$10,800.

Bid total for Option 1 tree and brush removal plus firewood production and delivery totals \$84,750. The lowest qualified bid for Option 2 will not be selected at this time as it exceeds the amount budgeted for this project.

The project would be the Option 1 bid from Central Tree and Landscape Mulch, Inc. of Hoffman Estates, IL for tree and brush removal across 35.6 acres within the Freeman Kame-Meagher Forest Preserve, south Phase VII area for \$73,950 and 30 full cords of firewood production and delivery to two sites for \$10,800, for a total contract cost of \$84,750.

DISCUSSION: *Commissioner Wojnicki asked what kind of firewood would be produced. Director Haberthur explained that it would be hard wood, and that it would be good for that use. Commissioner Kious inquired as to the elimination of Option 2. Director Haberthur explained that Option 2 was cost prohibitive at this time.*

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 11/1/2019 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Deborah Allan, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Drew Frasz, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Barbara Hernandez, Mo Iqbal

B. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Tree and Brush Clearing at the Lone Grove Forest Preserve

Much of the woods are heavily invaded by these species, which are choking out the understory plants. Mechanical removal of these invasive species, combined with chemical follow-up, will help to restore the woods to a healthier condition. This, in turn, will provide better habitat quality for the large bird population that Lone Grove currently supports.

The bid was distributed to 24 vendors with 4 responding. The lowest qualified bids for both options of this project were submitted by Applied Ecological Services, Inc. of Brodhead, WI. Option 1 included 17.5 acres totaling \$22,295 and Option 2 included 30.9 acres totaling \$39,327. Current remaining funds will limit the current project to Option 1 only at a total project cost of \$22,295.00.

The project is the Option 1 bid from Applied Ecological Services, Inc. of Brodhead, WI for invasive brush and tree clearing at Lone Grove in the amount of \$22,295.

DISCUSSION: *Commissioner Frasz asked if the project includes the meadow area. Director Haberthur stated that it is within the Option 2 area that will be addressed next season or maybe as a staff project. Commission Allan asked if he would explain the strategy of going to several locations and working on small areas rather than going to one large area at one time. Director Haberthur explained that the strategy would be to go in and get a foot hold then continue the process. Each site has a 3-year plan for restoration through weed control and brush clearing. Executive Director Meyers added that by having smaller projects we are able to affect more areas throughout the entire county.*

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 11/1/2019 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Drew Frasz, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Jarett Sanchez, Commissioner
AYES:	Michael Kenyon, Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Barbara Hernandez, Mo Iqbal

C. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Tree and Brush Clearing at Helm Woods Forest Preserve

In 2017, the District was awarded funding from ComEd, after submitting a project proposal, for a migratory bird habitat-restoration project. That project had been designed to enhance the current communities, decrease fragmentation of the oak/hickory woods, create new bird habitat, and improve existing migratory bird habitat. It was successfully completed, enhancing approximately 40 acres of woods.

Helm Woods is home to over 50 species of birds including the Wood Duck, Orchard Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, Yellow-Rumped Warbler, Yellow-Throated Vireo, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and many more.

An additional 40 acres were cleared of invasive brush in 2018. This year, bids were sought to clear 48.7 acres of invasive trees and brush, to continue the progress made regaining these woods. The project was bid as two options, Option 1 is 35.6 acres and Option 2 is 13.1 acres; both options are contiguous with previous efforts.

The bid was distributed to 24 vendors with 3 responding. The qualified, lowest bids for both options of this project were submitted by Applied Ecological Services, Inc. of Brodhead, Wisconsin, in the amount of \$48,262 for Option 1, and \$18,218 for Option 2 for a total project cost of \$66,480.

Funds totaling \$24,000 were budgeted in FY 19/20 to be combined with savings from FY 18/19 carry-over from Phase 2 for this project (project #20606). Sufficient funds are available to cover the brush-removal project expense totaling \$66,480.

DISCUSSION: None.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 11/1/2019 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Deborah Allan, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Jarett Sanchez, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Barbara Hernandez, Mo Iqbal

D. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Tree and Brush Clearing at the Meissner Corron Forest Preserve

Within the 625 acres preserved at Meissner-Corron Forest Preserve, lies the 25-acre gem of our newest Illinois Nature Preserve, Russell Fen. The fen is in serious need of experienced land management, if we are to protect the endangered plants and unique animal assemblage that reside at the site.

This year, bids were sought to clear the remaining six-acre fen area, and an additional 45.6 acres of invasive non-native brush. The brush clearing is being combined with a spring re-sprout treatment of freshly germinated weed seeds, to prevent re-invasion of the site, and reduce competition for our native species.

The qualified, lowest bid was submitted by Applied Ecological Services, Inc. of Brodhead, Wisconsin for \$49,412. Funds were budgeted in FY 19/20 to be combined with savings from FY 18/19 carry-over from Phase 1 for this project (project #20605). Sufficient funds are available to cover the brush-removal project expense, totaling \$49,412.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Wojnicki expressed her appreciation for the work done at Meissner Corron Forest Preserve as well as the fencing removal that was recently done.

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TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 11/1/2019 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Barbara Wojnicki, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Drew Frasz, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Barbara Hernandez, Mo Iqbal

E. Presentation and Approval of a Bid for Native Seed to Use for Natural Restoration of District Lands

Native plants are the basis of all native ecosystems and therefore are the basis of our work in the Natural Resource Management department. This year’s seed bid represents a fourth year of a project-driven approach to determining seed needs, and a first attempt at individually bidding out species. All of the seed specified in our bid is slated to go onto the ground this winter, to support ongoing restoration projects.

The bid was advertised and sent to 25 vendors with five replying. The bid had 225 species. Quotes were received for 173 of the 225 species. All five vendors provided the low bid for at least one of the species.

Approval is requested for the bid for native seed purchase from the following vendors at the corresponding amounts below and at a total cost of \$141,824.12:

Cardno, Inc.	\$2,526.00
Applied Ecological Services, Inc./Taylor Creek Restoration Nurseries	\$2,374.00
Genesis Nursery, Inc.	\$12,516.79
Prairie Moon Nursery	\$46,478.33
Shooting Star Native Seed	\$77,929.00
GRAND TOTAL SEED QUOTED	\$141,824.12

Funding was split between funds for this large project expense for a total purchase cost of \$141,824.12.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Kious complimented staff on their expertise and ability to obtain the seed for each mix.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 11/1/2019 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Deborah Allan, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Chris Kious, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Barbara Hernandez, Mo Iqbal

F. Presentation and Approval of a Proposal for Professional Services for the Marsh Bird Habitat & Wetland Restoration Project at the Pingree Grove Forest Preserve

In 2017, Kane County voters approved a \$50 million Land Acquisition & Preserve Improvement Referendum. While \$40 million was dedicated to land protection, \$10 million was earmarked for capital projects that would serve the District’s mission and improve forest preserve, woodlands, wetlands and prairies. Two natural-areas projects were highlighted during pre-referendum public information meetings: a Nelson Lake Marsh Revitalization project at the Dick Young Forest Preserve and a Marsh Bird Habitat & Wetland Restoration Project at the Pingree Grove Forest Preserve.

The approximately 85-acre marsh is the largest wetland at the 440-acre preserve, and is habitat for several state-listed threatened or endangered species, including the Yellow-headed Blackbird, Least Bittern, and more.

The marsh currently lacks significant patches of open water, due to dense growth by invasive species (e.g. Cattail and Common Reed). In an effort to address the problem of water control at the site, the District utilized a request for qualifications (RFQ) process to select a firm for professional services, so that we can re-create hemi-marsh conditions, manage and manipulate water levels to achieve management objectives, and create optimal conditions for wildlife.

Engineering work will consist of a field condition survey (including pictures) within the project limits, preparation of detailed plans and specifications, preparation of contract proposal and all necessary bidding documents, estimate of construction costs, submittal and coordination of all necessary permit requirements, assistance obtaining clearances from all regulatory agencies, soil investigations, surveying, hydrological studies as needed, and all work necessary to comply with standards and any other federal, state, and local regulations. Hey and Associates, Inc., was selected for the project. A scope of work was developed including data collection, conceptual design, design of engineering and construction documents, and project permitting. Total fee for services was quoted at \$54,624.

DISCUSSION: *Commissioner Allan asked about where the park that the Village of Pingree Grove has nearby is in proximity to this project. Director Haberthur stated that the proposed park is located southeast of this project site.*

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 11/1/2019 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Barbara Wojnicki, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Jarett Sanchez, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Barbara Hernandez, Mo Iqbal

G. Presentation and Approval of Change Order #4 for Engineering Services from Wills Burke Kelsey Engineering, LLC., for the Fox River Trail Raymond Street Re-route Project

Change Order #4 from Wills Burke Kelsey Engineering, LLC (WBK) to complete additional engineering services associated with the Fox River Trail Re-route project. WBK is submitting Change Order #4 for \$60,000 to complete additional work related to Phase II engineering design requests from the UPRR and questions from Phase II engineering – Alfred Benesch & Company. This will increase the total Phase II engineering services cost to \$309,232.56.

The District will receive an 80% reimbursement following the completion of the project. IDOT has completed the bid process and Phase II engineering, and construction of the project has begun. The District will be responsible for 20% of the project construction costs as it moves forward.

DISCUSSION: None.

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY VOICE VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 11/1/2019 8:30 AM
MOVER:	Drew Frasz, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Chris Kious, Commissioner
AYES:	Deborah Allan, Theresa Barreiro, Drew Frasz, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki
ABSENT:	Barbara Hernandez, Mo Iqbal

V. New or Unfinished Business

A. Presentation and Approval of the 2020 IDNR Request for CWD Control on District Properties

A presentation was made by Roy Domazlicky, Northern Regional Wildlife Biologist, from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. He highlighted the purposes of the program, which are surveillance of the deer and the second is disease management. The IDNR requests cooperation from the District each year to allow samples to be taken from various preserves.

In early January of 2019, A total of 67 CWD samples (135 requested) were collected from 13 forest preserves during the Illinois Department of Natural Resources 2019 sharpshooting program. A total of 3 CWD positive deer were found in Kane County during FY2019.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is requesting access to 17 forest preserves between January 20 and March 31, 2020 to collect 135 samples from white-tailed deer. The 2020 sampling would occur in 12 of the 13 forest preserves requested in 2019. With the reductions in some preserves, the total number of deer requested to be removed from District sites would be five less from 2019 at 130. IDNR is not requesting to sample at Freeman, Brunner, or Big Rock preserves because while they are within a CWD zone, the District is again providing samples from its archery deer hunting program.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Kious asked for clarification as to the number of CWD positives in Kane County total. Mr. Domazlicky explained that throughout the entire county, both private and public lands and including road kills, there were 45 positive test results for CWD. Commissioner Allan clarified that the District's program is different from this program. Executive Director Meyers confirmed that the District program is an archery program which allows constituents to participate in deer control with the stipulation that all deer are tested for CWD.

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

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

VII. Communications

Our Committee meetings for November and December are combined and will be held on Tuesday, December 3rd.

The Holiday Recognition Event will be held at the Grand Victoria Riverboat in Elgin on Friday, December 6, 2019 it is a luncheon, please RSVP to Betsy or Tracey.

The Master Plan Commission Retreat will be on Monday, December 9, 2019, 8:30 AM at the Belding Lodge Brewster Creek Forest Preserve. A light breakfast will be served.

VIII. Chairman's Comments

Chief of Planning and Operations, Ken Anderson gave a brief update on the Fabyan Bridge Project. He explained that the bridge has been installed and the causeway is scheduled to be removed in the next month, weather permitting.

IX. Adjournment

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

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

Adjournment until: *Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 9:30 am
Forest Preserve District Administration Offices
1996 S. Kirk Road, Suite 320 Geneva, Illinois

**PLEASE NOTE DAY CHANGE*

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen J. Maglio

Ellen J. Maglio
Recording Secretary