



## 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, September 24, 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 9:34 AM.

**Remote=\***

#### Members Present:

<u>Attendee Name:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
Chairman Theresa Barreiro	Present
Commissioner Deborah Allan	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* (@ 9:41 a.m.)
Commissioner Barbara Wojnicki	Present*

#### Others Present:

Exec. Dir. Monica Meyers; CFO Ken J. Stanish; Dir. Of Natural Resources Ben Haberthur; Dir. Community Affairs Laurie Metanchuk; Dir. Of Operations John Goreth, HR Dir. Katy Yee; Police Chief Gilloffo; Attorney Gerry Hodge; KC ITD Staff Peters; Recording Secretary Gabriella Figliozzi

#### II. Approval of Minutes from August 27, 2020

**DISCUSSION:** None.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Deborah Allan, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Drew Frasz, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Steve Weber, 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 Native Seed to Use for Natural Restoration of District Lands

This year's seed bid represents a fourth year of a project-driven approach to determining seed needs. This is the first year mixes were bid by option with seeds bagged by species. This is a new approach to both maximize value and ensure quality of the delivered product. 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 24 vendors with three responding. The bid was advertised with the following four options:

- Option 1 – Burlington Prairie (South) Forest Preserve: 151 species to be sown across an approximately 55-acre field. This restoration is a new agricultural to tallgrass prairie restoration.
- Option 2 – Burlington Prairie (North) Forest Preserve: 150 species to be sown across an approximately 40-acre field. This restoration is a new hay field to tallgrass prairie restoration.
- Option 3 – Hannaford Woods Forest Preserve: 76 species to be sown across an approximately 15-acre project area. This restoration is tailored specifically for turtle habitat. It will restore the portion of the Knierim parcel recently acquired by the District.
- Option 4 – Bowes Creek Forest Preserve: 111 species to be sown across an approximately 30-acre field. This tallgrass prairie restoration is entirely funded by donations from the Muirhead family.

The qualified lowest bid for each option was a joint bid by Shooting Star Native Seeds of Spring Grove, Minnesota and Prairie Moon Nursery of Winona, Minnesota. The bids from Genesis Nursery of Tampico, Illinois did not include the majority of requested species. The qualified lowest bids are as follows:

- Option 1 – Burlington Prairie (South) Forest Preserve (55 acres): Bid of \$100,219.63.
- Option 2 – Burlington Prairie (North) Forest Preserve (40 acres): Bid of \$63,909.72.
- Option 3 – Hannaford Woods/Nickels Farm Forest Preserve (15 acres): Bid of \$27,297.42.
- Option 4 – Bowes Creek Woods Forest Preserve (30 acres): Bid of \$50,687.07.

**DISCUSSION:** *Dir. Of Natural Resources Haberthur via zoom presented the bids for the following options, noting the qualified lowest bidder. Commissioner Allan asked about the prepping of the soil and timeframe needed. Haberthur explained the soil treatment, they will be able to move forward rather quickly.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY ROLLCALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>	<b>Next: 10/2/2020 8:30 AM</b>
<b>TO:</b>	Forest Preserve District Executive Committee	
<b>MOVER:</b>	Drew Frasz, Commissioner	
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Chris Kious, Commissioner	
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Steve Weber, Barbara Wojnicki	

**B. Presentation and Approval of Bids for Tree and Brush Clearing at the Pingree Grove, Lone Grove, and Bowes Creek Greenway Forest Preserves**

Invasive species, such as common Buckthorn and Bush Honeysuckle, currently threaten the wealth of biodiversity across our preserves. 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 entire suite of wildlife that these preserves support. Contractors were sought to bid on clearing projects across three heavily infested forest preserves.

Projects are as follows:

**Project 1 – Lone Grove Forest Preserve.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 30.9 acres at the main preserve.

**Project 2 – Lone Grove Forest Preserve.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 9.5 acres west of the Project 1 clearing.

**Project 3 – Pingree Grove Forest Preserve.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 12.6 acres on the eastern marsh edge.

**Project 4 – Bowes Creek Greenway Forest Preserve.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 3.8 acres on the east side of the 30-acre site.

The District advertised and sent bids to 27 vendors, with seven responding. The qualified, lowest bids for each option were as follows:

**Project 1 – Lone Grove Forest Preserve** (30.9 acres): Bid of \$38,269.65, submitted by Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LLC, of Hoffman Estates, Illinois.

**Project 2 – Lone Grove Forest Preserve** (9.5 acres): Bid of \$5,457.00, submitted by Integrated Lakes Management, of Waukegan, Illinois.

**Project 3 – Pingree Grove Forest Preserve** (12.6 acres): Bid of \$27,750.00, submitted by Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LLC, of Hoffman Estates, Illinois.

**Project 4 – Bowes Creek Greenway Forest Preserve** (3.8 acres): Bid of \$12,442.00, submitted by Applied Ecological Services, of Brodhead, Wisconsin.

***DISCUSSION:*** Commissioner Frasz mentioned the Lone Grove area and restoring open meadows in the future would be ideal.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY ROLLCALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>	<b>Next: 10/2/2020 8:30 AM</b>
<b>TO:</b>	Forest Preserve District Executive Committee	
<b>MOVER:</b>	Michael Kenyon, President	
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Steve Weber, Commissioner	
<b>AYES:</b>	Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious, Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Barbara Wojnicki	

**C. Presentation and Approval of a Bid to Construct Required Site Improvements at Kane County Events Center Associated with the Kane County Division of Transportation Kirk Road Bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad Project**

The Forest Preserve District of Kane County and KDOT entered into an intergovernmental agreement on September 8, 2020 for the Kirk Road over the Union Pacific Bridge Replacement Project at the Kane County Events Center Improvements. This agreement provides permanent and temporary easements to KDOT for the bridge and roadway improvements and requires the District to complete required improvements on its property, while KDOT provides financial resources up to the engineer's estimate of cost \$573,000. Construction observation services for the project will be provided by KDOT.

The District conducted a formal bid process. Bids were publicly advertised with 11 bidders responding. The lowest, responsible bidder was Schroeder Asphalt Services, Inc., of Huntley, Illinois. The bid came in at \$495,181.62, within budget for the project.

***DISCUSSION:*** Commissioner Allan thanked Commissioner Frasz for his assistance with KDOT.

**RESULT:**            **MOVED FORWARD BY ROLLCALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]**    **Next: 10/2/2020 8:30 AM**  
**TO:**                    Forest Preserve District Executive Committee  
**MOVER:**             Chris Kious, Commissioner  
**SECONDER:**        Mo Iqbal, Commissioner  
**AYES:**                Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious,  
                              Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber  
**ABSENT:**             Barbara Wojnicki

**D. Presentation and Approval of Change Order #1 from Evans & Son Blacktop, Inc. for the Fox River Trail - South Elgin Switchback and Trail Connection Project**

Staff recommends the Committee approve Change Order #1 from Evans & Sons Blacktop, Inc. of West Chicago, Illinois. A few things needed to be addressed during the construction process that were beyond the original scope of the project awarded, such as tree removal and some debris and garbage removal. To complete these items, additional funding of \$3,724 will be required. With this change order, the total contract comes to \$54,930.08. This amount is well below the budgeted amount for this project.

***DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Allan asked about tree removal. Dir. Anderson responded that some trees/brush needed to be removed to clear the zone for the trail, however the trees were not substantial. Anderson noted the high volume of traffic on the trail.*

**RESULT:**            **MOVED FORWARD BY ROLLCALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]**    **Next: 10/2/2020 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,  
                              Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber  
**ABSENT:**             Barbara Wojnicki

**V. New or Unfinished Business**

**A. Presentation and Approval of an IDNR RTP Grant Submission for an Interpretive Trail and Signage Project at the Mill Creek Greenway Forest Preserve**

The proposed grant is for the Mill Creek Greenway Forest Preserve Interpretive Trail and Signage Project, which will create public access to the preserve as well as provide a shelter, restroom, solar well, interpretive signage and recreational trail system. The new trail system will allow users to explore this previously inaccessible preserve, and link them to a planned regional trail connection to Prairie Green Forest Preserve, about one mile to the east. This project is estimated to cost \$473,000 and the RTP grant will reimburse the District a maximum of \$200,000 for the construction costs following the completion of the project.

***DISCUSSION:** None.*

**RESULT:**            **MOVED FORWARD BY ROLLCALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]**    **Next: 10/2/2020 8:30 AM**  
**TO:**                 Forest Preserve District Executive Committee  
**MOVER:**             Drew Frasz, Commissioner  
**SECONDER:**         Steve Weber, Commissioner  
**AYES:**                Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious,  
                              Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber  
**ABSENT:**             Barbara Wojnicki

**B. Presentation and Approval of a Maintenance Agreement with the Knights of Columbus to Maintain the Grotto at the Gunnar Anderson Forest Preserve**

The local Knights of Columbus (KOC) have approached the District and offered to maintain the grotto structure at Gunnar Anderson Forest Preserve. The grotto is a structure left from when the Government Center property was a seminary. The County and the District purchased separate portions of the Sacred Heart Seminary land in 1972. The grotto structure is located on the District's portion of the land. The District has maintained the open space, however, does not maintain the religious grotto structure. The maintenance agreement developed by the District's attorney states that The Knights of Columbus are responsible for any expenses relative to maintenance or repair of the grotto structure, and maintenance of minor 30-foot area around the structure.

***DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Barreiro suggested to add the location of the KOC group. Exec. Dir. Meyers noted the group was located in Geneva. Commissioner Frasz commented that the change in direction of the creek has created corrosion and continues to do so. Meyers indicated that the creek falls under the County's property, however the area will be monitored; Anderson noted a possible discussion with the County's Water Resources Dept. to utilize wetland mitigation monies if this was a viable option. Allan stated that the area would benefit with some mitigation. Commissioner Kious asked about security. Exec. Dir. Meyers responded that the KOC will be looking into surveillance and signage.*

**RESULT:**            **MOVED FORWARD BY ROLLCALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]**    **Next: 10/2/2020 8:30 AM**  
**TO:**                 Forest Preserve District Executive Committee  
**MOVER:**             Deborah Allan, Commissioner  
**SECONDER:**         Mo Iqbal, Commissioner  
**AYES:**                Theresa Barreiro, Deborah Allan, Drew Frasz, Mo Iqbal, Michael Kenyon, Chris Kious,  
                              Jarett Sanchez, Steve Weber  
**ABSENT:**             Barbara Wojnicki

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

*None.*

**VII. Communications**

*None.*

**VIII. Chairman's Comments**

*Commissioner Frasz asked Dir. Goreth regarding a mowing pilot program in the northern trails of the County. Dir. Goreth responded the movement of the tracker for mowing was successful with the assistance of law enforcement. Commissioner Kious expressed his appreciation in the notifications sent prior to the action of tracker movement.*

**IX. Adjournment**

*The meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.*

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

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

**Adjournment until: Thursday, October 29, 2020 at 9:30 am**  
**Kane County Government 719 S. Batavia Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Fl., Geneva, Illinois**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Gabriella Figliozi*

Gabriella Figliozi  
Recording Secretary