

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION
OCTOBER 15, 2019 – 6:54 PM
PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON PRESIDING

1. Karen Kinney, County Clerk, called the roll: (Record)

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loftin, L. Burns, D. Cremeens, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, P. Moreno, R. Morthland, A. Normoyle, S. Noyd, P. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, K. Swanson

TOTAL PRESENT 22

R. Brunk, J. Deppe, M. Maranda

TOTAL ABSENT 3

2. President Swanson introduced our speaker this evening, Amy Behning, MindFire Communications, who addressed the Commission regarding updating on the efforts of the new things they are doing for the Forest Preserve this past year and what's to come with regards to advertising and marketing on social media as well as strategic planning of communications of all sorts for the entire District.

Ms. Behning stated, "Thank you. Um...thanks to you all for having me. We did provide a handout. And what I thought we would do is, I'll just share some of the highlights of the handout starting with some of the big pieces and then diving down a little bit into each of the parks, the zoo etc....so, here's some big things that we've focused on in 2019. Community outreach...makes sure that we had some continuity with the brand. So that we had table tops, banners and pieces so that when we went to talk about primary components, which are Conservation, Education and Recreation...we had the tools to do it. Donor recognition specifically with Loud Thunder...making sure we had a way to start to talk, not only about those donors but to give people visual stimuli as they went through. This one is very exciting...the Web VSI Integration with the new registration system, the parks can now issue gift cards. I think that's going to be a great thing moving into the holiday season. We are currently working on the design for that. And then Code Branding. Um, you know...if it's not broke, don't fix it. There was no reason to create a giant brand overhaul. We did want to do that creative family presence. And so taking those logos and simplifying it, making sure we had all of the fonts and colors so that we got recognition to the whole versus the individual. So those are some of the overarching themes, as we wind down this year, which it's hard to believe that it's already October. We are going to talk a little bit about Loud Thunder. Obviously, you missed the presentation and the ground breaking press release with some of the grant work that was fantastic. I think...bigger than that is, take a good look at some of the information on boat rentals. Two social media ads ran in June and August. Just so you guys understand, when we do those ads, we are not shooting them out to

a wide atmosphere. We actually have customized audiences built into the back end so that we have folks that meet the personas actually done with the research when it comes to family activities and outdoor enthusiasts. We target them. So, that resulted in 100,000 social media impressions, and impressions are basically the times that people see those pieces going in the news feeds and really importantly, 3,000 webpage visits. So, actually taking that Facebook presence, converting it through so that they are engaging with the park as a whole was an excellent goal. And, I think that's the standout with Loud Thunder. Looking at Illiniwek, we know the flooding and weather...bad stuff. Um, it was what it was. So, what we did was strategically flight that. We are not going to start pummeling information just to disappoint because Mother Nature is not, you know...cooperating. But, we did manage from September of 2018 to September of 2019 to increase with an impressive 25% in terms of page likes. So understand that as you balance that...page likes do not ensure that people see the information, but it's a great way to start to get the momentum up. There is a lot of algorithm stuff that goes behind that. Um...obviously, the tipi gathering continues to be a big hit. And, much like with Loud Thunder, we worked on some signage creating the continuity and really telling some of the stories that go behind it. Indian Bluff had made a really nice rally despite the, again...just sort of...Mother Nature was not kind to us this year. Um...from September of 2018 through September of 2019, page increases went up 16%. We also did some season pass work this year, which we have not done in the past...um...and we are working through 2020. So the big picture is, we look at those parks and look at what we are trying to do. There are some touchpoints at the park so that we are really talking about the Forest Preserve and talking about the reasons people will and why they are going to the park. And, then moving a lot of the things that might have typically been in print to some of those social engagement pieces that actually use that research from way back when to build some custom audiences that will drive the people most interested in the services provided. So, in looking at Niabi, there is always something new and exciting. Um...the new outdoor primate exhibit was fantastic. We actually do analysis on PR impressions on your behalf...over 5 million. And we actually doubled that...I said doubled it, but we did it again with a Phase II for the outdoor exhibit and jumped another 2 million in PR impressions. So what that means, is that we have the ceremony and invite folks out, we talk with the Chamber, we look at sort of a community investment. But, we are also looking at getting that message out for admissions and it was just a fantastic deal. I think another thing that is worth noting at Niabi, in particular, was the art show. That was wildly successful, to use a bad pun. There was a lot of interest on social media and with almost no...nothing but sort of the organic interest in it. It would have 3.5 million impressions. PINTS, of course, is maintained as a staple. Now, we have seen some inflections in attendance and a lot of that is weather driven and a rebound. So, you'll see that we ended up with 600 this year, which was a higher number than 2018...but for those of you who attended or recall, it was a monsoon in 2018. Um...and so, of course, the 2017 where we peaked, the bad weather in 2018 and then this year we began to

rebound. One of the other new things that we did, we are doing more post event surveying...asking people direct what works and what doesn't work. And, as we wrap up the season, we have Boo at the Zoo. Let's just hope that the 50's and 60's maintain and keep going. It was hard to miss the baby Alpaca. You just can't help how cute...what was...I would love to tell you there was some intent, of course there wasn't, but it was sort of in conjunction with the AZA and it was a nice offset to talk about one of the values happening. Finally, with Niabi...I think this is an impressive number, you don't see the same growth but they already...you saw major double digit growth the first two years. They have increased their follows by 6% this year and they are at 54,000. That is a really, really strong number, which shows you that a lot of people are engaging in not only the information but what you do at the zoo and what you experience with education. So, with that...Kai...or do you have any questions?"

President Swanson stated, "If you are open to questions, I will entertain those now from the Members of the Commission?"

Ms. Behning answered, "Sure! And, you can't control the weather."

Commissioner Simmer stated, "Just a fantastic, again..."

President Swanson stated, "Please use the mic...sorry."

Mr. Simmer stated, "You are absolutely right."

Ms. Kinney stated, "You're on."

Mr. Simmer stated, "I'm on? Okay... Just to let you...over the years, you keep doing a great job and I appreciate everything you do to try to keep us on track and with these numbers, I think most of us understand...and how much all these things are watched. And so..."

Ms. Behning stated, "And I appreciate that...we appreciate that because these are services to our community and there are amenities that make our community a great place for everyone in business. So, it's a major thing."

Mr. Simmer replied, "I appreciate it."

President Swanson asked, "Any other questions? Then, I invite you to join me in thanking our guest this evening, Amy Behning, and all that MindFire does for us. Thank you."

(Group applause)

President Swanson added, "As she's making her way down...I'll just say I love the social media about fish out at Loud Thunder at Lake George. If you get a nice fish, you post it there. That didn't stop a guy from coming up to me at church, after church he said, 'you know what, I was out there twice and I only got 6 fish and one was a 5 lb. bass.' (President Swanson smiles)."

(Group laughter)

President Swanson added, "Why not put it on social media and stop complaining to me about it...(laughter). I don't have that kind of luck. Alright friends, thank you very much."

3. Commissioner Adams moved to approve the September 17, 2019, Forest Preserve Commission minutes, as presented. Commissioners O'Brien and Sowards seconded.

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)**

5. **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

President Swanson stated, "As was mentioned in the County Board Meeting, I encourage you to keep in your prayers or as you see fit, the family of our fellow commissioner and Member of the Executive Committee, Mr. Maranda. And see what we can all do for him. I don't know if it was mentioned before, but has the flower envelope gone around?"

Ms. Pyrzbyla stated, "It has not, but I will (inaudible)."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you, but that's for County Board and this is a blending but that's okay. If you would like to contribute to flowers, it's not just in this instance, but for those Members, I thank you. Thank you, Catherine for overseeing that. The other comment I would make is that last Friday, at the invitation of Mr. Jackson, I represented you at a staff meeting at Niabi Zoo and I hope that you will agree with the message that I've passed along, which was simply 'thank you' and thanking them for their hard work and reminding them because we do this in higher-ed all the time, whether we get accredited or don't get accredited...the day after the decision, you are working on accreditation. And, I am sure health care is the same...you never stop working towards accreditation. And I think they really appreciate the support that they get from this Body and I wanted to report that back to you. They understand that you are you are trying our best and that we are trying our best to increase lift and reduce

drag so that these professionals can do what they are called to do and live out the mission of the zoo. And, I wanted to thank you for your partnership in that."

6. Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the claims in the Forest Preserve General Fund in the amount of \$64,950.22, Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$92,146.60, Loud Thunder Improvements Fund Claims in the amount of \$4,506.10, as presented. Commissioners Adams and Mayberry seconded.

(Note ** Due to a malfunction of the electronic voting equipment, and oral roll call vote was taken.)

An oral roll call vote was taken.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loftin, L. Burns, D. Cremeens, E. Langdon, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, P. Moreno, R. Morthland, A. Normoyle, S. Noyd, P. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

TOTAL YES 20

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

7. President Swanson asked, "Thank you, friends. Given this turn of events, I would see if there is any objection of suspending the rules and taking together the next two items under XI, Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$30,847.06, as enumerated on page 63 of your packet, and the Transfers of Appropriation in the General Fund, as enumerated on page 64. Is there any objection in taking those in omnibus? Hearing none, I entertain a motion to do so. Motion by L. Moreno and seconded by Langdon."

Commissioner Boswell-Loftin moved to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Morthland seconded.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loftin, L. Burns, D. Cremeens, E. Langdon, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, P. Moreno, R. Morthland, A. Normoyle, S. Noyd, P. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

TOTAL YES 20

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

8. Commissioner Normoyle moved to approve by omnibus the 2019 Levy Assessments and 2020 Collection of Taxes Ordinances for the General Fund of the District, the Niabi Zoological Preserve Fund, the IMRF Retirement Fund, Liability Fund, the FISSA Fund, and the Development of Forests & Construction of Improvement Fund, as presented. Commissioners L. Simmer and Sowards seconded. (Record)

(Note ** The Ordinances are in a .pdf format and begin on the next page.)

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2020 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2021.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION ONE: That there be levied, assessed and collected upon the real property within the corporate limits of the Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2020 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2021 the sum of **ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS**, being the total of the appropriated sum heretofore made which is to be raised by taxation for the above stated fiscal year. The specific amounts as levied for the various purposes are being placed in the separate column designated "Amount To Be Raised By Taxation" which item appears in the right hand column of this Ordinance. The said tax so levied is for the above stated fiscal year of said Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, for the **FOREST PRESERVE GENERAL FUND** and for the said appropriated sum to be raised from taxation. Whereas, the total of which has been ascertained as aforesaid and being as follows:

SCHEDULE "A"

Classification	Estimated Expenditures	Amount From Other Sources	Amount Raised From Taxation
Objects & Purposes			
Salaries & Wages	\$1,138,210	\$-0-	\$1,138,210
Personal Benefits	280,530	43,740	236,790
Uniforms	6,200	6,200	-0-
Operating Supplies	379,280	379,280	-0-
Professional Development	13,840	13,840	-0-
Professional Services	169,765	169,765	-0-
Public Utilities	36,400	36,400	-0-
Machinery & Equipment	93,655	93,655	-0-
Infrastructure	33,500	33,500	-0-
Interest on Bond Issue	156,330	156,330	-0-
Principal on Bond Issue	115,000	115,000	-0-
Credit Card Service Fee	16,500	16,500	-0-
Transfer To Other Agency	122,720	122,720	-0-
Transfer To Other Funds	25,000	25,000	-0-
TOTAL	\$2,586,930	\$1,211,930	\$1,375,000

Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2020 \$1,331,309
 Estimated Cash Income: TAXATION

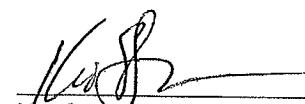
Real Property Tax Levy	\$1,375,000
OTHER INCOME	<u>\$1,211,930</u>

TOTAL	<u>\$2,586,930</u>
Estimated Expenditures Per Schedule "A"	\$3,918,239
Estimated Cash On Hand as of June 30, 2021	\$(2,586,930)
	\$1,331,309

2019 Taxes Hereby Levied \$1,375,000

SECTION TWO: That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

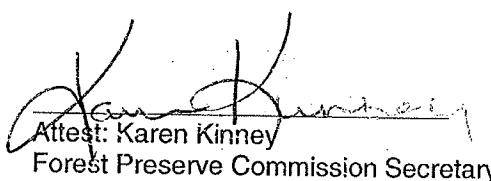
SECTION THREE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage.



Kai Swanson, President
Forest Preserve Commission of
Rock Island County, Illinois

10-15-19
Passed

10-25-19
Effective



Attest: Karen Kinney
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2020 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2021.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION ONE: That there be levied, assessed and collected upon the real property within the corporate limits of the Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2020 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2021 the sum of **ONE MILLION FIFTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS**, being the total of the appropriated sum heretofore made which is to be raised by taxation for the above stated fiscal year. The specific amounts as levied for the various purposes are being placed in the separate column designated "Amount To Be Raised By Taxation" which item appears in the right hand column of this Ordinance. The said tax so levied is for the above stated fiscal year of said Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, for the **ZOOLOGICAL PRESERVE FUND** and for the said appropriated sum to be raised from taxation. Whereas, the total of which has been ascertained as aforesaid and being as follows:

SCHEDULE "A"

Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amt. From Other Sources	Amt Raised From Taxation
Salaries & Wages	\$1,395,725	\$417,537	\$1,055,000
Personal Benefits	296,500	290,188	-0-
Uniforms & Clothing	6,700	9,380	-0-
Operating Supplies	503,435	611,572	-0-
Zoo Animals	15,000	15,000	-0-
Professional Development	12,500	13,190	-0-
Professional Services	405,685	171,763	-0-
Public Utilities	115,900	115,900	-0-
Credit Card Service Fee	23,500	23,500	-0-
Principal on Bond Issue	275,000	265,000	-0-
Interest on Bond Issue	78,900	85,638	-0-
<u>Transfer to Other Agency</u>	<u>218,655</u>	<u>208,655</u>	<u>-0-</u>
TOTAL	\$3,347,500	\$2,292,500	\$1,055,000

Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2020 **\$1,128,127**

Estimated Cash Income: TAXATION

Real Property Tax Levy	\$1,055,000	
OTHER INCOME	<u>\$2,292,500</u>	
TOTAL		\$3,347,500

Estimated Expenditures Contemplated Per Schedule "A" **\$4,475,627**

Estimated Cash On Hand as of June 30, 2021 **\$(3,347,500)**

\$1,128,127

2019 Taxes Hereby Levied \$1,055,000

SECTION TWO: That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

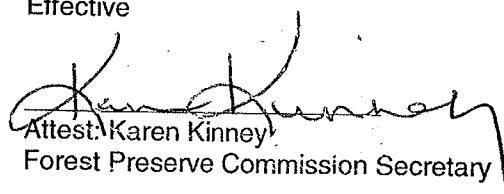
SECTION THREE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage.



Kai Swanson, President
Forest Preserve Commission of
Rock Island County, Illinois

10-15-19
Passed

10-25-19
Effective



Attest: Karen Kinney
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2020 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2021.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

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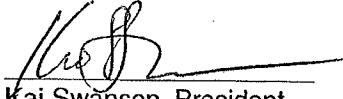
SCHEDULE "A"			
Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amt. From Other Sources	Amt Raised From Taxation
Retirement	<u>\$312,000</u>	<u>\$7,000</u>	<u>\$305,000</u>
Total	\$312,000	\$7,000	\$305,000
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2020			\$291,916
Estimated Cash Income:			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$305,000	
Other Income		<u>\$7,000</u>	
TOTAL			\$312,000
Estimated Expenditures Per Schedule "A"			\$603,916
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2021			\$312,000
			\$291,916

2019 Taxes Hereby Levied \$305,000

SECTION TWO: That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

SECTION THREE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage.

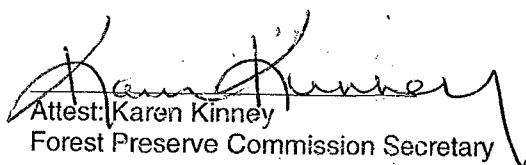
Forest Preserve District Retirement Fund
2019 Taxes Hereby Levied Ordinance



Kai Swanson, President
Forest Preserve Commission of
Rock Island County, Illinois

10-15-19
Passed

10-25-19
Effective



Attest: Karen Kinney
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2020 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2021.

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SCHEDULE "A"			
Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amt. From Other Sources	Amt. Raised From Taxation
Liability Insurance	<u>\$170,000</u>	<u>\$4,280</u>	<u>\$245,000</u>
Total	\$170,000	\$4,280	\$245,000
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2020			\$355,880
Estimated Cash Income:			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$245,000	
Other Income		<u>\$4,280</u>	
TOTAL			<u>\$249,280</u>
Estimated Expenditures Per Schedule "A"			\$605,160
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2021			<u>\$(170,000)</u>
			\$435,160
2019 Taxes Hereby Levied	\$245,000		

SECTION TWO: That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

SECTION THREE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage.

Forest Preserve District Liability Fund
2019 Taxes Hereby Levied Ordinance



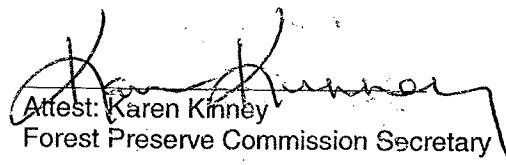
Kai Swanson, President
Forest Preserve Commission of
Rock Island County, Illinois

10-15-19

Passed

10-25-19

Effective



Attest: Karen Kinney
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2020 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2021.

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SCHEDULE "A"

Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amt. From Other Sources	Amt. Raised From Taxation
FISSA	\$194,400	\$5,275	\$189,125
Total	\$194,400	\$5,275	\$189,125

Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2020 \$258,870
Estimated Cash Income:

Estimated Cash Income:	
Real Property Tax Levy	\$189,125
Other Income	<u>\$5,275</u>
TOTAL	\$194,400
	\$153,270

TOTAL	\$453,270
Estimated Expenditures Per Schedule "A"	\$194,400)
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2021	\$258,870

2019 Taxes Hereby Levied \$189,125

SECTION TWO: That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

SECTION THREE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage.

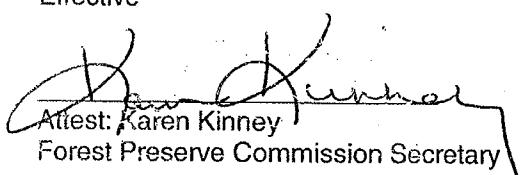
Forest Preserve District FISSA Fund
2019 Taxes Hereby Levied Ordinance



Kai Swanson, President
Forest Preserve Commission of
Rock Island County, Illinois

10-15-19
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Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2020 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2021.

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SCHEDULE "A"

Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amt. From Other Sources	Amt. Raised From Taxation
DFCIFUND	\$350,500	\$500	\$350,000
Total	\$350,500	\$500	\$350,000

Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2020 \$189,271
Estimated Cash Income:

Estimated Cash Income:	
Real Property Tax Levy	\$350,000
Other Income	<u>\$500</u>
TOTAL	\$350,500
Estimated Expenditures Per Schedule "A"	\$539,771
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2021	<u>(\$350,500)</u>
	\$189,271

2019 Taxes Hereby Levied \$350,000

SECTION TWO: That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

SECTION THREE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage.

Forest Preserve District Development of Forest and Construction of Improvements Fund
2019 Taxes Hereby Levied Ordinance



Kai Swanson, President
Forest Preserve Commission of
Rock Island County, Illinois

10-15-19

Passed

10-25-19

Effective



Attest: Karen Kinney
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

Commissioner Sowards moved to approve the previous roll call vote and Commissioner Sowards seconded.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loftin, L. Burns, D. Cremeens, E. Langdon, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, P. Moreno, R. Morthland, A. Normoyle, S. Noyd, P. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

TOTAL YES 20

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

9. Commissioner Mayberry moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Rock Island County Soil & Water Conservation District, as presented. Commissioner Normoyle seconded.

Commissioner Oelke was recognized.

Mr. Oelke asked, "Is this just a continuation of an Agreement that is already in place...a renewal of an agreement?"

Mr. Craver answered, "No. This is a new Agreement. The Soil and Water Conservation District approached the District about partnering an education program that we have. It's a similar mission...they do a little bit more programming than we do on the conservation side. They asked if we would like to partner because they don't have enough funding for a full-time position. They felt that by partnering with us that we could both expand our reach and utilize instead of hiring a seasonal or part-time worker, they would have some consistency from year to year to year by partnering with us. So, they are helping by basically subsidizing the hours away that one of our legal people would be away doing this type of work and we can use those funds to supplement with that that the partners would be doing away from the District. So, it's kind of a fluid agreement that we both have open minds about the subject. And, there might be a few tweaks along the road, but we'll see how it works."

President Swanson stated, "Okay...thank you, Mr. Craver and Mr. Oelke. It looks like because it's an IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) that we will once again need a roll...sorry. Can we move for the previous? Yes? Thank you, without objection."

Commissioner L. Moreno moved to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Sowards seconded.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loftin, L. Burns, D. Cremeens, E. Langdon, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, P. Moreno, R. Morthland, A. Normoyle, S. Noyd, P. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

TOTAL YES 20

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

10. Commissioner Moreno moved to approve all Routine Reports from the Director and Departments Heads of the Forest Preserve Commission. Commissioner Simmer seconded.

Commissioner Westpfahl was recognized.

Mr. Westpfahl asked, "I was out at Loud Thunder the other day and I could see that you were working on your construction. It come out in the paper that we are going to be too short on the new camper...uh, the new cabins you are building and you are only going to do 35 of the 50 pull-through spots. What happened there?"

President Swanson stated, "Well, throughout the whole process, we've been saying we will only take the funds available and stretch them as far as we can, but Mr. Craver, do you want to comment on it at all on the evolution of the construction project out at Loud Thunder?"

Mr. Craver answered, "Yes, again, it was a preliminary concept plan that we brought forth for the Board to review before we went out for the Bonds and again, our first priority was to take care of the Spillway, and then make new improvements to the campgrounds and cabins. Um, as we went through the process after we acquired the Bonds and hired our engineering firm, it was determined that the well that was in existence was not going to be suitable. We also had one of the sites that was proposed for the septic fields that had unsuitable soils, so we had to take up some room there. Through the discussion of the Forest Preserve Executive Committee, since we've lost some of the main factor sites at the Deer Haven Campground, area, it was determined we transfer some of the sewer sites over to where we had our proposed horse corral, camping for the horse campers...and so, we had a little bit of money there. What was not in the concept plan was the \$50,000 White Oak electrical campground upgrade...it was not a part of that. However, after going through last fall having a blowout on a holiday weekend and having an electrician come in and service that, we felt it was very worth our while to upgrade that in the meantime so that all of our campgrounds we have...when all of our campgrounds are open they will have 50 amp service, but it was a very, very tight budget. There were

discussions of 4, 4.5, 5 and 5.5 million, whatever are you going to need. I've been putting the expenditures in my monthly reports over the last few months but I don't think that is in here. But, we are just kind of falling a little short of where we need to be. Again, the priority was the Spillway, ground improvements and then the infrastructure there at the cabins."

President Swanson clarified, "So, just to sum up and I invite any Member of the Executive Committee to weigh in, but we've been pretty clear on our priorities and then Jeff and his team have been reporting to us as we go...we know it's fluid, but yeah."

Mr. Craver added, "And again, it is just a cost estimate. We are going to be putting up the proposals for the cabins' structures...so, and again, you don't know what you are going to have to pay for until you get your proposals, your bids and then the work through the project and hopefully the engineers provided us quality work."

Mr. Westpfahl stated, "It was still cut in half."

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

11. Comments from Commissioners: (None)

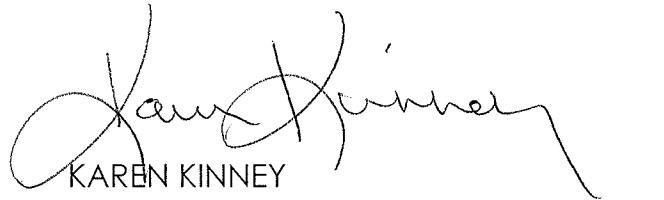
Mr. Craver added, "Sorry... I completely blanked. We are not applying for the OSLAD Grant...so no playground and that was \$135,000.

12. President's Comments: (None)

The next meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission is Tuesday, November 19, 2019, immediately following the meeting of the Rock Island County Board.

President Swanson declared the Forest Preserve Meeting recessed.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



KAREN KINNEY
COUNTY CLERK AND SECRETARY
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

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