

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION**

**JUNE 15, 2021 – 6:17 PM**

**PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON PRESIDING**

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

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loftin, R. Brunk, L. Burns, D. Clevenger, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, C. Enburg, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, D. Mielke, M. Moreno, R. Morthland, A. Normoyle, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL PRESENT      21**

L. Moreno

**TOTAL ABSENT      1**

2. President Swanson stated, "Thank you. At this time, it is my great pleasure to introduce and call forward Mr. Lee Jackson, Director of Niabi Zoo. The reason we thought we would have a presentation by Mr. Jackson is that there are a lot of exciting things happening right now. And, there are some things that require some strategic direction from the Commission that are imperative in keeping the strategic plan on track. And, I use that phrase deliberately...on track as you will hear in just a few minutes. But, uh...Mr. Jackson, thank you for joining us. The floor is yours."

Mr. Jackson stated, "Hello. A lot has happened since the last time I talked with you folks and it's been a really exciting time for us. You may have heard that we received Keto, our male white rhino, came to us on May 22<sup>nd</sup> from the San Francisco Zoo. What you probably didn't hear was on the very same day, we received an African Crested Porcupine from the San Diego Zoo and a female Colobus Monkey from the Santana Zoo also in California. The acquisition of the Rhino was the result of a tremendously successful fundraising campaign. Our goal was \$100,000.00 and currently we are at \$109,000 and counting. We have a new partner, the ProClean Car Wash; which have 5 locations in the Quad City area. And, they are collecting donations for us as well. It was good to see many of you last Saturday as we hosted a special event for the donors of the Rhino. Um, 99% of the donations for the Rhino came from individuals. We did have some really generous small businesses that also chipped in...but it was really great to see just how many average people in Rock Island County area chipped in and made all of this possible for us. As some of you know, we have plans for a second female White Rhino for the Spring of next year. This is a part of a formal SSP breeding program that we are involved in. There is still some work to do to get ready for the female, we will be expanding the second large yard next to that animal and we are starting to take quotes for that work right now. We hope to get started on that work later this year. A female Amur Leopard arrived Three P Hall Wildlife Garden in the United Kingdom on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. We were really excited to

receive this genetically important animal from the AZA Leopard Species Survival Program. And it's really important to note that even though we are not a member of the AZA, this animal was imported from Europe to come to Niabi to mate with our male. Uh, so we are playing an important role in the species survival plan for this animal and we hope to increase their numbers in North America. For those of you who don't know, there are less than 100 Amur Leopards left in the world. Speaking of the AZA, again, we are not a member of that organization right now, but we are an important component to several of their programs; including the Colobus Monkey, Crested Porcupine, Fennec Fox, Amur Leopard and the White Rhino. And, as we get more involved with the ZAA, another professional organization that we belong to...uh, we will be involved in those programs as well. On other exhibit fronts, we are in the process for a plan for the Illinois State Museum Grant to build a new Prairie Dog Exhibit. That Grant will be a little over \$400,000.00 and we should hear if we are successful in mid-2022. We've also begun our next fundraising effort; which is to bring African Painted Dogs to Niabi. That will kick off this year's Pints event and that fundraising. The cost for renovating the old Lion area is estimated right now to be about \$400,000.00 as well. We are really excited and very hopeful to have every bit of this as successful as the Rhino project. Earlier this month, we kicked off a campaign to increase Zoo Membership. The Campaign will continue through the end of this Season. In the last month, we have gained 100 new Members. This time last year, that number was 15. So, we are off to a good start there. Um, Kai mentioned the train. Um...I am sure everyone has heard by now that we've had some transmission issues with our train. The train is 16 years old and they stopped making them in 2012. So, we were able to find a part and there was some confusion about that, but I was told this afternoon that the part did arrive today. So, we are hopeful that the train will be up and running by this weekend. Um, good things like that never happen alone. The Carousel went down today. But uh, what we can tell is just a small electrical issue with the emergency brake and we hope to get that fixed tomorrow. I think that's pretty much all I have except that we are very excited to be opening up the zoo and releasing some of the attendance restrictions that we have. Also, the weekend of July 4<sup>th</sup> we will be opening up Spineless Wonders; which is a special exhibit on non-vertebrates...97% of all the animals on the planet don't have backbones. So, we are doing special exhibits that range from Jellyfish to Tarantulas to Giant Centipedes to Scorpions. So, it will be a really exciting Exhibit and we are really excited in getting that opened because it was planned to open last year. So, with that...if there are any questions?"

Commissioner Normoyle was recognized.

Ms. Normoyle stated, "So, what is the situation with the attendance restrictions? Are we completely open now...or are there...and do we still need to buy tickets in advance?"

Mr. Jackson answered, "Yes, you still have to purchase tickets in advance, but we will drop most of our attendance restrictions on July 1<sup>st</sup>."

Ms. Normoyle stated, "Great! Thank you."

Mr. Jackson added, "One thing I will point out is, you will still see many of us wearing masks. Unfortunately, some of our animals are susceptible to Covid. So, we still have to protect them. Um, fortunately there are some vaccines that are in the works, but the first ones won't come available until late Fall at the earliest."

President Swanson stated, "Mr. Cremeens, please. Let's make sure his mic is working."

Commissioner Cremeens was recognized.

Mr. Cremeens stated, "Are masks required of the people coming in?"

Mr. Jackson answered, "You will have to have a mask with you when you come in because there are still going to be areas where you will have to wear a mask. But, it's not really required for you to come in, but to go into certain areas or do certain things, you will have to have a mask for them."

President Swanson stated, "As other folks are thinking about questions, I would like to settle a little strategic context here...uh, the train and the carousel, these are important not just because our kids and grandkids love to ride them. These are tremendous revenue generators for the zoo. And in a given year, the train operator for every day we are open...that contributes substantially to the bottom line of the zoo and all of these great conservation efforts, right?!! You don't make money by hosting a threatened or endangered species. If anything, it's going to expend more. So, that makes offerings like the Carousel and the Train all that more important. Other things that I have asked Mr. Jackson and Mr. Craver to look into is at the point that we can repair our aging engine, ought we then buy a new one, at some point, and keep the spare so we don't go down. Every day we go down on that without having the train service, we are losing thousands of dollars. And that's thousands of dollars that off-sets the tax levy that the zoo would need. That's one thing...the other thing I want you to recall is our Strategic Plan. We are not seeing Prairie Dogs just because they are nice, right? On that note though, I would add having gone recently to another zoo...it was, I watched a young person apparently with Downs Syndrome or a developmental difference...the interaction they had with the Prairie Dog Exhibit was enough to just stop you in your tracks. It was a beautiful thing to see that happen, and so there is that interaction. But the reality is, Rhino's generate more people visiting. Then you take that revenue and you invest it into Prairie Dogs; which are very interactive...and then more people want to come visit when there is Prairie Dogs. And, this is all a part of the plan that we, as a Commission, approved. And if you

are not familiar and have come on since, as we are talking about it...I would be happy to share it with you and I know Mr. Jackson would too. It's a graduated plan as we bring the zoo to a position where these revenues are keeping the tax levy low and the service level and education level very high. So, for those who are newer Members of the Commission, any time you want to have a briefing on the Strategic Plan of the Zoo, please let me or Mr. Jackson know and we'll be happy to walk you through it. Uh, but with that in the context...do we have any other questions? I am so grateful we have Mr. Jackson here tonight...if there is anything else anybody has?"

Mr. Jackson stated, "Actually, can I just add to that a little bit? Uh, our next CAB meeting next Monday...uh, we will be reviewing the Master Plan again with everyone. So, anyone is welcome to come and sit in on that."

President Swanson added, "That's at 5:30pm Monday at the zoo. And any Commission Member and any member of the public is welcome to attend the Community Advisory Board. So, thank you, Mr. Jackson, for that reminder. Are there any other questions? Before we go, I want to thank Ms. Moreno. Uh, I saw that on social media she was enjoying a visit and that's something we can all do. I know that Mr. Maranda used to always hit home...'buy your membership' and 'get out to the zoo'. But now-a-days you add to that when you do go, I thank Ms. Enburg, Ms. Normoyle...I know they were doing it. When you are out there, post that on social media because it generates more buzz and more people want to get out there with their families. So, thank you, Ms. Moreno, I appreciate it. Is there anything else for Mr. Jackson?"

Mr. Simmer stated, "Uh, this is Rod."

President Swanson stated, "Yep, thanks!"

Mr. Simmer stated, "I just wanted to make sure that you cover the fact that how much money the train does. I mean you talk about the fact that a new engine will pay for itself in the first year...it makes that kind of money and so. It is important to keep it going and don't lose these leads to revenue."

(Mr. Simmer's statements were inaudible at this point because of a cutting in an out or poor audio connection and echo).

President Swanson stated, "Thank you, Dr. Simmer. The revenues you are talking about go well into six figures...I mean really well into six figures in the course of a year. And while you are mentioning that Dr. Simmer, I want to remind you and I have a challenge going. We've got to go out and croon to the animal leopards when the pair are united. She's in quarantine right now. But, if you know any good love songs, we are going to go out, have a little candlelight you know and sing a few songs and you are all welcome to sing some."

Mr. Simmer stated, "Well so you know some...(inaudible) so it's all good."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you, Dr. Simmer. Any other questions for Mr. Jackson? Mr. Jackson, thank you for your time."

Mr. Jackson answered, "Thank you."

President Swanson stated, "I appreciate it very much."

3. Commissioner Vyncke moved to approve the May 18, 2021, Forest Preserve Commission meeting minutes, as presented. Commissioner M. Moreno seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loffin, R. Brunk, L. Burns, D. Clevenger, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, C. Enburg, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, D. Mielke, M. Moreno, R. Morthland, A. Normoyle, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES                      20**

**TOTAL NO                      0**

Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)      (Three calls were made to the public.)**
5. **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

President Swanson stated, "We talked a little bit about the train and some of those strategic issues...but I also want to show and shed some light on the great things that are happening out at Loud Thunder, Illiniwek, Dorrance and Indian Bluff. Uh, I am reminded constantly that we're in the middle of the season that for many of us who travel, but also those who host family members, we want to encourage you to get people out to those places. I have a colleague who has lived in the Quad Cities for 20 years and made her first visit to Loud Thunder. She couldn't believe it took her that long to get out there. Thanks to Mr. Mills, Mr. Peterson and our colleagues at the Indian Bluff Golf Course...these facilities are in tip-top shape and you really owe it to yourself to go and visit them. And, I invite others to get out there too and so I hope you consider doing that in the days and weeks to come. Thank you for that."

6. Commissioner Brunk moved to approve the Claims and Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$220,560.91, as presented. Commissioner Cremeens seconded.

Commissioner Vyncke moved to approve the previous roll call vote.  
Commissioner Beck seconded.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loffin, R. Brunk, L. Burns, D. Clevenger, D. Cremeens,  
J. Deppe, C. Enburg, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, D. Mielke, M. Moreno, R. Morthland,  
A. Normoyle, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES            20**

**TOTAL NO            0**

Motion carried.

7. Commissioner Enburg moved to waive the reading and approve the Transfers of Appropriation, as presented. Commissioner Sowards seconded.

Commissioner Woods moved to approve the previous roll call vote.  
Commissioner Vyncke seconded.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loffin, R. Brunk, L. Burns, D. Clevenger, D. Cremeens,  
J. Deppe, C. Enburg, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, D. Mielke, M. Moreno, R. Morthland,  
A. Normoyle, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES            20**

**TOTAL NO            0**

Motion carried.

8. Commissioner Deppe moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding the Woodward Community Foundation Grant Funds, as presented. Commissioner Vyncke seconded.

(Note\*\* The Resolution is in .pdf format and begins on the next page.)

## RESOLUTION

RE: Niabi Zoo Fund Receipt of Grant Funds-Woodward Community Grant Fund

**WHEREAS**, additional funds are required in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to increase the budget for the Niabi Zoo Education Program (WCGF21) Woodward Community Grant Fund for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year, and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available from grant funds already received in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County, Rock Island, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1. An emergency exists as outlined above.

SECTION 2. An amount of \$1,174.95 to be transferred from grant funds already received and unencumbered in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$1,174.95	131-32-35 337.70	State & Local Grants-Culture & Recreation
	WCGF21-00-33770	

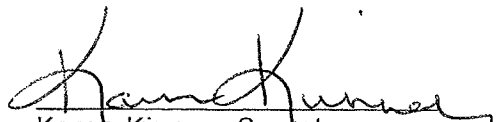
SECTION 3. An amount of \$1,174.95 be transferred from the above described revenue changes in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$1,100.00	131-32-35 411.10-WCGF21	Salaries & Wages
\$74.95	131-32-35 632.00-WCGF21	Communications

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

Commissioner Cremeens moved to approve the previous roll call vote.  
Commissioner M. Moreno seconded.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loffin, R. Brunk, L. Burns, D. Clevenger, D. Cremeens,  
J. Deppe, C. Enburg, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, D. Mielke, M. Moreno, R. Morthland,  
A. Normoyle, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES            20**

**TOTAL NO            0**

Motion carried.

9. Commissioner Deppe moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding the Authorization for Public Museum Grant, as presented. Commissioner Vyncke seconded.

(Note\*\* The Resolution is in .pdf format and begins on the next page.)



PUBLIC MUSEUM CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM  
STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MC/DOC-2: STATEMENT by the PUBLIC MUSEUM CEO  
(page 1 of 3)

Resolution of Authorization

Public Museum Name: Niabi Zoo

Fiscal Sponsor (if applicable): Not Applicable

Project Title: Prairie Dog Exhibit

Name of entity that holds title to the project site: Rock Island County Forest Preserve District

Check to ensure entity holding title is a unit of local government: ☒

As the official duly designated to represent the public museum, I do hereby certify that the information presented in this grant application is true and correct. I do further certify that the project, if approved for funding through the Illinois Public Museum Capital Grants Program, will comply with all terms, conditions and regulations of 1) the Public Museum Capital Grant program (23 IL Adm. Code 3200); 2) the Illinois Grant Funds Recovery Act (30 ILCS 705); 3) the Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq.); 4) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (P.L. 83-352); 5) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (P.L. 94-135); 6) the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1988, (P.L. 100-259); and 7) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (PL 101-336); and will maintain the project area in an attractive and safe condition, keep the facilities open to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and in the Project Agreement and that the public museum:

- a) Is a public museum that has been open to the public, for its instruction and enjoyment, for at least two years;
- b) Is located upon land owned by and/or operated by a unit of local government;
- c) Is an organized, permanent institution that is tax exempt under the regulations of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service;
- d) Meets generally accepted professional standards and/or is accredited in one of the following types of programs: American Alliance of Museums, American Association for State and Local History; Association of Zoos and Aquariums, American Public Gardens Association, and other appropriate organizations;
- e) Has a paid professional staff who commands an appropriate body of knowledge on presented subject matter;
- f) Cares for and owns or utilizes tangible objects;
- g) Is open to the public on a regular schedule and regularly collects attendance data and maintains sufficient records such that the attendance numbers can be audited;
- h) Presents regularly scheduled programs and exhibits that use and interpret objects for the public according to accepted standards;
- i) Has filed timely reports and complied with requirements for previous grant awards; and
- j) Can provide matching funds of the following amount. Check one:

☒ no matching funds are required for a public museum with an attendance of 300,000 or less during the preceding calendar year; or

☐ \$1 of matching funds for each \$1 of State money for a public museum with an attendance of over 300,000 but less than 600,000 during the preceding calendar year; or

☐ \$2 matching funds for each \$1 of State money for a public museum with an attendance of 600,000 or more during the preceding calendar year.

Resolution of Authorization

The Rock Island County Forest Preserve District hereby certifies and acknowledges that it has 100% of the funds necessary to complete the pending Public Museum Capital project within the timeframes specified herein for project execution, and that failure to adhere to the specified project timeframe or failure to proceed with the project because of insufficient funds or change in local priorities is sufficient cause for project grant termination which will also result in the ineligibility of the public museum for subsequent grant assistance from the IDNR programs in the next two (2) consecutive grant cycles following project termination.

It is understood that the project should be completed within the timeframe established in the project agreement and the reimbursement request must be submitted within one year of the expiration date. Failure to do so will result in the public museum forfeiting all project reimbursements and relieves the Illinois Department of Natural Resources from further payment obligation on the grant.

Any grant funds expended by the fiscal sponsor on behalf of this public museum, the chief executive officer of the public museum hereby certifies:

- 1) that there is an ongoing relationship between the public museum and the fiscal sponsor;
- 2) that the fiscal sponsor may incur expenses for the public museum's project; and
- 3) that the fiscal sponsor may pay for incurred expenses for the public museum's project;
- 4) that grant funds will be used specifically for the public museum's project; and
- 5) that grant funds received by the public museum for reimbursement of IDNR approved expenses will be submitted to the fiscal sponsor for settlement of paid expenses.

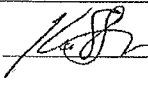
The public museum does further certify that there is an ongoing relationship between the museum and the fiscal sponsor; that the fiscal sponsor may incur expenses for the museum's project; and that grant funds will be used specifically for the public museum's project.

The public museum does hereby further certify that it will indemnify, protect and hold harmless the State of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources and its representatives from any and all liabilities, costs, damages or claims arising as a direct or indirect result of the actions and/or omissions of public museum or its representatives in the construction, operation or maintenance of the above referenced project, and that the proposed facility will be operated and maintained in an attractive and safe manner, and open and available to the public without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability or place of residence in accordance with #23 IL Adm. Code 3200.

This Statement was duly acted upon and adopted by the public museum on the 15th day of June, 20 21.

Public Museum Chief Executive Officer: Kai Swanson-Forest Preserve Commission President  
Print Name Title

Organization Name: Rock Island County Forest Preserve District

Signature of Public Museum Chief Executive Officer: 

Commissioner Normoyle moved to approve the previous roll call vote.  
Commissioner Cremeens seconded.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loffin, R. Brunk, L. Burns, D. Clevenger, D. Cremeens,  
J. Deppe, C. Enburg, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, D. Mielke, M. Moreno, R. Morthland,  
A. Normoyle, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES                20**

**TOTAL NO                0**

Motion carried.

10. Commissioner Deppe moved to approve upon appraisal conducted by the District, acquisition of the property listed 5600 78 Ave., Milan, at no more than 50% of appraised value, as presented. Commissioner Vyncke seconded.

Commissioner Westpfahl was recognized.

Mr. Westpfahl asked, "What are you going to do with the property?"

President Swanson answered, "Thank you. I am going to attempt to answer, but Mr. Craver is standing by if he needs to bail me out here. This is property that is contiguous with the Indian Bluff Golf Course. It was intended for some development years ago, but nothing has happened on that property. And, it borders our existing preserve land on about 60% of its overall perimeter. And so, we've been approached...it's not the kind of thing we would actively go out and seek so we are not going to make anything competitive in the way of a bid, but because there are grants and other sources of funding for this kind of land acquisition for preservation, uh...the Executive Committee forwarded the recommendation that we would entertain the idea of putting forward an offer for no more than 50% of the appraised value. Mr. Craver, did I come close to getting that right? I am seeing a thumbs up from Mr. Craver. Mr. Langdon...make sure your mic is live."

Commissioner Langdon was recognized.

Mr. Langdon stated, "Uh, yes...I am seeing two maps on that property. The first map...uh, they claimed it was inadequate. So, I got the second map and the second map I received, it showed there was no connection to Indian Bluff Golf Course."

President Swanson stated, "Uh...the second map, I would need to see in which you are referring to because this is contiguous."

Mr. Langdon interrupted, "I received it...the boundary line does not connect to it, to Indian Bluff."

President Swanson stated, "Let's refer to your packets, now there are two maps. But, these are for two different parcels...two separate matters. The parcel you should see and I don't know what page this is, but it's part of the Forest Preserve District Director's report. This will be near the end of your packet. It's the first of two pages of maps. You'll see something that looks a little like a rectangle crossed with the State of Connecticut. It's a strange one there and its right across from the airport. So, on the first one you will clearly see the airport below. This map, the only thing that was in question is exactly what the dimensions of the frontage were to the road. But otherwise, this does show that on the North...I'm sorry, South East quadrant and entire Eastern line, it is contiguous with the Indian Bluff Golf Course."

Commissioner Langdon asked, "And they are asking \$105,000 for the property."

Mr. Craver answered, "It's what it's listed for, yes."

President Swanson stated, "It's listed for \$105,000. But, you'll note that the motion enjoins the District to have its own appraisal and we would go no higher than 50% of that cost because it would be nice to have, but it's not imperative to have."

Mr. Langdon stated, "It's all wooded...I went and checked it out and it's a completely heavy wooded area."

President Swanson added, "Which is part of the Mission of the Forest Preserve Commission...is to preserve hardwood forests and lands in the county."

Mr. Langdon asked, "So, it would just sit idle then?"

President Swanson answered, "Well, already you'll notice a fair amount of what Indian Bluff does...it's right next to the land that we currently make available to the Rock Island County Emergency Management Agency. And, I do believe they do have a pistol range nearby. Uh, yeah...so, I mean...one of the key points of the Forest Preserve District is to preserve forests and land in Rock Island County. Hang on one sec...Mr. Deppe, you have a question? I want to make sure Mr. Deppe is live, if we could."

Ms. Kinney stated, "Okay, Jeff."

Commissioner Deppe was recognized.

Commissioner Deppe stated, "I believe the farmer had already cut trails into it, so the people that go out there and walk the asphalt are...if you listen to Mr. Craver, there are trails in the woods that people can walk. So, it's part of the Mission to get people out into the woods and I think it's a good idea."

President Swanson stated, "The land, I should note...on the West side and the entire Western border is with the Illinois National Guard 123<sup>rd</sup> Field Artillery Unit. So, that's also public land of a different nature, right? But that's in the public trust too. Uh, Mr. Craver do you have a comment? I want to make sure your mic is live and the red light is on."

Ms. Kinney asked, "Whose mic is that?"

President Swanson answered, "It was Moose's."

Ms. Kinney stated, "Oh, I can turn it on. Okay, Jeff."

Kurt Davis stated, "No, it's not..."

President Swanson added, "It's got no batteries in it...maybe step up to Mr. Morthland's mic. (To Ms. Kinney) Can you activate Mr. Morthland's mic? There we go."

Ms. Kinney stated, "Okay, try Rich's."

Mr. Craver stated, "Yeah, I apologize for the mistake that I made. The parcel there does not have a building and it's a commercial parcel, so it's never been given an address. And, I made the mistake by listing it as 5500; which I sent out to you folks and when I sent it electronically was because I wasn't sure who would all be here at the meeting, so I sent it electronically and I know everybody has an email address. So, I think I was a part of the confusion, Mr. Langdon, but there is no specific address to the property...5500 is a residential property that is not the property that we would be buying. It would be the property adjacent to it as President Swanson is outlaying in the packet in reference to the golf course. It's roughly 21 acres listed at \$105,000. Uh, the previous owner did cut some trails in there, uh...but for the most part it is relatively undisturbed. There is an access point off of the road to where a parking lot could be put in and trails could be refined and maintained for the public to use, or we could just leave it as a part of nearly 200 acres of Indian Bluff Golf Course and Preserve that would consist of and be managed to basically try and create habitat there for native species. Our biggest concern would obviously be as it is with all the other Preserves, our invasives and that's basically Honeysuckle, Autumn Olive, Asian Bittersweet and Garlic Mustard. Also, we would probably have to consider throughout our Preserves having Ash trees die off and opening up because of the Ash bore. But, it would be a nice addition to the District and if the Board should approve this motion tonight, I will move forward with an appraisal. I will get the appraisal done and they can make an offer and that offer will be contingent on that sale if they were to accept, the contingency would have to be approved for the final sale. And so, that's how we would proceed. There is a little possibility for some recreation there, but within our Mission and opportunities of acquiring land

adjacent to one of our properties when its available is usually pretty few, far and in between. The brother that reached out to us did say that's the reason why he kept it, maintained it and basically used it for a chance to escape and wanted the district to put (inaudible) on it...but due to its cost, you know it would be great, but it's not something that we are willing to offer full price for, so there are other options out there. Are there any other questions I can answer for folks?"

Commissioner Westpfahl was recognized.

Commissioner Westpfahl asked, "Yeah, I would like to know who currently owns the property? What's the name of the person who is trying to sell it?"

Mr. Craver answered, "Paul Rodgers."

Commissioner Westpfahl asked, "Who?"

Mr. Craver reiterated, "Paul, P-A-U-L Rodgers."

Commissioner Adams was recognized.

President Swanson stated, "Mr. Adams, please go ahead."

Commissioner Adams asked, "I would like to know how much the taxes are a year on that property? And, I am sure you don't have that tonight, but can you email that to me?"

President Swanson asked, "Mr. Craver, would you see to it that happens?"

Mr. Craver stated, "Uh, sure. I think that's public record and I think I could share that with the whole Commission without uh any..."

President Swanson interrupted, "Yeah, we can provide that to anyone...that's not an OMA matter. I mean it's covered under OMA. Thank you, Mr. Adams. And, if Mr. Peterson were here from Illiniwek, he would point out something from a long time ago...that 500 years ago, that was a solid White Oak forest that existed from what's extreme Western Ohio across Indiana and Northern Illinois and ended right here. And, it would be great at any time that we can restore some of that White Oak forest. That's what we do at Illiniwek and that's what we would love to do here too, at some point. Mr. Craver?"

Mr. Craver stated, "(no mic on...very inaudible) Until we know every bug known to affect the White oak, like the Ash bore does to the Ash's..."

President Swanson stated, "That's why we do what we do...to protect the indigenous species."

Mr. Craver added, "Well...we do what we can."

President Swanson stated, "Yes, we do what we can. Are there any other questions on that matter?"

Commissioner Vyncke moved to approve the previous roll call vote.  
Commissioners Brunk, Cremeens and Normoyle seconded.

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loffin, R. Brunk, L. Burns, D. Clevenger, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, C. Enburg, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, D. Mielke, M. Moreno, R. Morthland, A. Normoyle, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 20**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

**11. Comments from Commissioners: (None)**

12. Commissioner Beck moved to approve all Routine Reports from the Director and Departments Heads of the Forest Preserve Commission, as presented.  
Commissioners Enburg and Normoyle seconded.

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

D. Adams, D. Beck, L. Boswell-Loffin, R. Brunk, L. Burns, D. Clevenger, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, C. Enburg, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, D. Mielke, M. Moreno, R. Morthland, A. Normoyle, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 20**

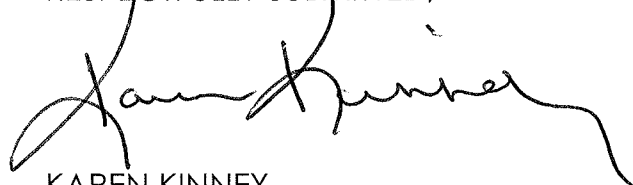
**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission is Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 5:30pm, immediately following the meeting of the Rock Island County Board.

President Swanson declared the Forest Preserve Meeting recessed.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Kinney", with a long, sweeping underline.

KAREN KINNEY  
COUNTY CLERK AND SECRETARY  
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

KK:rw