

FOREST PRESERVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
DECEMBER 14, 2021

PRESENT: Committee members - K. Swanson, E. Sowards, D. Cremeens, A. Normoyle, L. Moreno(via Zoom), R. Simmer.

ABSENT: J. Woods.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Craver, District Director; Lee Jackson, Zoo Director; April Palmer, Auditor(via zoom); Louisa Ewert, Treasurer; Kurt Davis, Information Systems Director.

President Swanson called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Executive Committee to order at 8:33 AM on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, in the third floor chambers at the Rock Island County Building in Rock Island, Illinois.

K. Swanson, D. Cremeens, A. Normoyle, L. Moreno, E. Sowards. (R. Simmer arrived after roll was called{8:36am})

TOTAL PRESENT 6

J. Woods.

TOTAL ABSENT 1

President Swanson called for a motion approving the November Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Cremeens moved to approve the November Committee meeting minutes. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

Roll was called:

K. Swanson, D. Cremeens, A. Normoyle, L. Moreno, E. Sowards.

TOTAL YES 5

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the claims and treasurer's disbursements in the amount of \$744,808.45.

MOTION: Ms. Sowards moved to approve the claims and treasurer's disbursements in the amount of \$744,808.45. Ms. Normoyle seconded the motion.

MOTION: Ms. Sowards moved to adopt the previous roll call. Ms. Normoyle seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the transfers of appropriation in the General Fund.

MOTION: Ms. Normoyle moved to approve the transfers of appropriation in the General Fund. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

MOTION: Ms. Normoyle moved to adopt the previous roll call. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Resolutions pertaining to the Niabi Zoo Appropriations Amendments-Rhino Yard Project.

MOTION: Ms. Normoyle moved to approve the Resolutions pertaining to the Niabi Zoo Fund Appropriations Amendments-Rhino Yard Project. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

MOTION: Mr. Cremeens moved to adopt the previous roll call. Ms. Normoyle seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the resolution regarding the Designation of Banks and Other Depositories.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the resolution regarding the Designation of Banks and Other Depositories. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

Roll was called:

K. Swanson, D. Cremeens, A. Normoyle, L. Moreno, E. Sowards, R. Simmer.

TOTAL YES 6

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

President Swanson asked if anyone wished to make public comment.

There were no requests for public comment.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the regular 2022 meeting dates and holidays.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the regular 2022 meeting dates and holidays. Ms. Normoyle seconded the motion.

MOTION: Mr. Cremeens moved to adopt the previous roll call. Ms. Normoyle seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve Jeffrey Craver, Director, as the District's FOIA Officer for calendar year 2022.

MOTION: Ms. Normoyle moved to approve Jeffrey Craver, Director, as the District's FOIA Officer for calendar year 2022. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to adopt the previous roll call. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the 2022 fee schedule of the District facilities and services.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the 2022 fee schedule of the District facilities and services. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

MOTION: Ms. Normoyle moved to adopt the previous roll call. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the low bid for Niabi Zoo Rhino Yard Project.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the low bid for Niabi Zoo Rhino Yard Project. Ms. Normoyle seconded the motion.

MOTION: Mr. Cremeens moved to adopt the previous roll call. Ms. Normoyle seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Tyler Technologies quote for additional Financial Software and Maintenance.

MOTION: Ms. Normoyle moved to approve the Tyler Technologies quote for additional Financial Software and Maintenance. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Mr. Craver stated that the software in this quote builds on the existing financial software. The e-suit base is what the District will need to run the e-employee and e-timesheets. At this point in time the District is only looking to add in the e-employee option, and will be evaluating the need for the e-timesheet in future. At Niabi and Indian Bluff there is an electric time and attendance system, but that is getting to be outdated. The e-employee package will allow the District to send out paystubs and W-2s electronically. It will also allow communication between the employee and employer to be accomplished easier.

MOTION: Ms. Sowards moved to adopt the previous roll call. seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Conservation Fund Recipient Agreement-Enbridge Flanagan South Pipeline Project.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the Conservation Fund Recipient Agreement-Enbridge Flanagan South Pipeline Project. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

Mr. Craver stated that this is the additional \$75,000.00 to be put toward the purchase of properties in East Moline. The agreement included in the packet is a draft, but is not expected to have any material changes in the final draft.

Ms. Normoyle asked if this is simply another grant.

Mr. Craver stated that the Flanagan Pipeline Mitigation Funds were passed through to the Conservation Fund, so the agreement is actually with the Conservation Fund. The Flanagan Pipeline Mitigation Fund is just the account fund that they got from a mitigation project. I believe the funds were more to include bat habitat. When they built that pipeline it must have significantly impacted some bat habitat/created migratory issues. So that money went to the Conservation Fund, and the Conservation Fund works closely with the Fish and Wildlife Service. There was a concurrence from the Fish and Wildlife Service to give the District those funds. Can see in the agreement that Mr. Petersen wrote up a forest management/stewardship plan that includes steps to make it especially appealing for bat habitats.

MOTION: Ms. Normoyle moved to adopt the previous roll call. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson asked the Committee members if anyone had any questions regarding the routine reports of the District, or if anyone wished to bring attention to something from their report.

Ms. Ewert stated that there was one thing the Committee needed to be aware of in relation to tax assessment appeals. There should be more information next month, but this is what is known at the moment. There was a Property Tax Appeal Board decision made recently regarding thirteen parcels out in the Cordova area for Minnesota Mining Manufacturing covering 2017 through 2019, and the 2020 decision should be coming soon. The decision lowered the assessed value of some of the properties. That means the taxes collected during those years was too high, and the taxpayer is due a refund. The total is close to \$350,000.00, of which only a fraction is due from the District. Will keep the District informed as more information becomes available.

Ms. Palmer informed the Committee that the Audit would be ready for the Commission meeting next week.

Mr. Jackson informed the Committee that the Painted Dog Online Auction had concluded, and it brought in around \$9,000.00. There will be a review of the master Plan coming up in August. A review is done every five years until the plan is complete. Commission members are welcome in that process.

Ms. Normoyle asked Mr. Jackson what the events listed on the schedule as "Sensory Inclusion Dates" were.

Mr. Jackson stated that those are on the schedule to further Niabi's efforts to be an inclusive institution. Some in the Neuro-Diverse community have sensory processing difficulties, and those days will be more accommodating to that community.

Mr. Craver stated that Indian Bluff Golf Course is open today. The standard winter maintenance and forest management projects are keeping staff busy.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the routine reports of the District Department heads.

MOTION: Ms. Sowards moved to approve the routine reports of the District Department heads. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

MOTION: Dr. Moreno moved to adopt the previous roll call. Ms. Normoyle seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called the meeting adjourned at 9:07 AM.

Submitted by:
Cassie Sullivan
Forest Preserve Administrative Assistant