

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION**

**MAY 17, 2022 – 6:41 PM**

**PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON PRESIDING**

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

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

**TOTAL PRESENT 24**

D. Clevenger

**TOTAL ABSENT 1**

2. President Swanson stated, "We do have a quorum, thank you so very much. I am very grateful for the opportunity tonight, friends to get a briefing...we usually do this on a regular basis. Tonight, we will hear from Ben Mills, the Ranger at Loud Thunder. And if you have any questions after the presentation, you are welcome to it. I'll just say to Ben, all of you colleagues in the preserves are doing great stuff, but I really appreciate the way you reach out to the community in so many ways. So, thank you for being here with us."

Mr. Mills stated, "Thank you, Kai. Alright, well....it's been a few years since I have been able to come in and talk to you guys and give you an update on what we've been doing out at the preserve. I am going to try to keep this fairly brief but still cover the main points. And so, we all know that Covid happened a couple of years back and we don't have very many positive things to say about that. But, one thing that was very positive from my staff's standpoint at the preserve was, it brought people back outdoors. The lake saw record numbers of boats. Our revenues went up at our boat rentals. Our campsites were full. Revenues were high and there were people that were just patronized walking the trails and using the amenities that we have to offer. And, with life going back to normal a little bit, some of that has dropped off but we are higher than pre-pandemic. And so, that's been very encouraging at the preserve. Also, leading up to the pandemic, we are building new campgrounds and doing a lot of renovations at the park. I think everybody here knows to some extent that we build a brand-new full hookup campground. We call it Deer Haven at the preserve. We also put in 18 sites that are full hookups for equestrians and others. It's kind of an overflow for some of the others that need spots. And we also improved 11 primitive campsites...we just put in water and electric on those and upgraded our existing White Oak Campground. So, all of that led up to the pandemic where we didn't have anything to do, then all of the sudden people were seeing what we had to offer in a brand-new campground. So, that really lended itself to a perfect situation for people to discover Loud Thunder if they hadn't already known about it...and even

if they did, the saw the amenities were being improved at the preserve so that helped out a lot. We are really getting our names on the map. We've been seeing a lot of people coming, not just from Rock Island County but also from all around the United States, which has been great. One thing with all the new improvements with the preserve...we've done a lot of full hookups and we were hoping to see people utilize them in their facilities and their RV's. We are kind of finding out that's not been the case. So, our shower building with the commodes and showers on that side of the property has really been getting hit hard. Instead of having my tanks drained every two years, now, it's now once or twice a year, depending on how much traffic they are getting. And we are finding some people are standing in lines for the showers and standing in lines to use the commodes. And so, I have just been watching that. If you watch my reports, I will keep everybody updated on that as we move forward. Another thing I just kind of want to address is some of the infrastructure on our roads on the preserve are really starting to show their age. Some of the construction equipment had an impact on that and are already on their last leg. The staff and I were going through and patching the roads together as we identify a problem, we get on it as soon as we can. It's just something to get on you guys' radar now that in the next few years, you'll really need to start thinking about doing some improvements on our infrastructure like our roads. As far as my Forest Management Plan, the staff has been working diligently on the Forest Management Plan at the park, unfortunately EAB (Emerald Ash Bore) has finally reached Loud Thunder Forest Preserve. We kind of dodged it for a long time, but about two years ago, we started noticing our Ash trees were dying at a record rate. We put one on the ground and took some of the bark off and we saw the tell-tale sign. With the Emerald Ash Bore, arriving at the Preserve, this last year we have been spending a lot more time removing hazard trees, i.e., dead ash trees over camp sites where we have patrons and in areas we do maintain. We don't want any trees or hazards harming any patrons. So, we have been focusing on that. We've planted over 35 acres of prairie on the preserve in the last few years. About 95% of the seed for that was donated to us, whether it was River Action Committee or the Fish and Wildlife Service. That's been amazing...those partnerships have been paying off for us at the preserve. As I said earlier, our boat rental has been outstanding. That's kind of a compilation of West Lake being drained and not renting boats for a couple of years. But, I just like to think it's the service we offer more boats, um we have a better lake...everything we have to do with Loud Thunder is better in my regard. But, the boat rental has been doing really well we are hoping to see that moving forward. At Lake George, the fishing has been great...everyone here can remember when we redid some of the work on the spillway and drained the lake 16 feet. When we did that, I think the DNR has come in to talk to you about that - but we greatly reduced the gizzard shad in the lake. And so, that made fishing better on the lake...that's still, depending on who you are talking to. From where I am sitting, fishing is still excellent on the lake. Our guys at the fisheries, they are coming in and they are netting in the spring and they are shocking the lake in the fall. They are setting creole limits and stocking the lake accordingly. And so, the

DNR is happy with what they have been seeing. Last fall, one of the biologists talked to me and noticed an invasive plant in the lake, mostly localized to the boat rental area...it's called Eurasian Milfoil. This stuff, it can be pretty nasty but it's so localized, they are not too concerned about it...but if a prop on one of our trolling motors goes over it and cuts chunks off, every one of those chunks will get deposited somewhere else around the lake and that will become another plant. So, we are keeping an eye on it...the biologists are well aware of it and are keeping an eye on it. And, if the time comes they make the judgement call, we will hit it with some herbicide and take care of that. So, at this point, they are not too concerned and they are not going after it. Also, I will put that in my reports moving forward. If you pay attention to my reports, you will see that. Um, the only other thing that I was really going to...that I am kind of working with our conservation officers on is, out at the preserve this year if you rent a boat, I am required to give you or you are required to watch a safety training video prior to renting a boat. So, that will have a slight impact...hoping it will have only a slight impact on our patronage at the preserve. But regardless, I need to do it just to be compliant with laws of the State. So, other than that...that's basically what's been going on. I am sorry, I am just trying to keep this brief for everybody and give you guys what's going on at the preserve. If there are any questions from anybody, feel free."

President Swanson stated, "Please make sure you use your microphones. It looks like Angie's got a question."

Commissioner Normoyle was recognized.

Ms. Normoyle asked, "So, for the video...is that each time somebody rents a boat or is that per season?"

Mr. Miller stated, "Thanks for asking. I should've specified...so, it would be one time per season. And, it's depending...there is one video that is 24 minutes and the other video is 16 minutes."

Commissioner Deppe was recognized.

Mr. Deppe stated, "I just wanted to say kudos for the Veteran's Hunt for Veteran's with special needs that we do every year. Kudos to him and everybody that takes part in that. And then my question is, in the two new parks...are they going to Mr. Peterson or him?" (Mr. Mills)

President Swanson stated, "I think Mike will be primarily, but Ben's got a pretty specific...well, I will let you answer it, but at forestry skill set you guys always work together."

Mr. Mills added, "Yeah, Mike will oversee the day to day on them and if he has any issues...you know, that we got to get together on, we definitely will. We share

our equipment sometimes now. I've got some pretty specialty equipment out at the preserve that lends itself to some of the things that he will be doing, and so..."

Mr. Deppe stated, "Good team."

President Swanson stated, "It's a great team! I have got another couple of questions while others are thinking... Is it possible, we are going to hear from Dr. Simmer in a moment, but is it possible to watch that video in advance?"

Mr. Mills answered, "Yes. So, you can watch the video from your home, from your phone...it's rentalboatsafety.com and you just go to that site. We are going to put it up on our Facebook page and we are trying to get it out to the public. Everybody that's been looking for boat rentals, we've been letting them know that it is something new that we will be instituting. We are trying to get the word out there...but it can be watched at your home...."

President Swanson asked, "Maybe get an email or something that says...?"

Mr. Mills answered, "They do not actually do not give you a confirmation. So, I have to take you at your word that you've taken it."

President Swanson stated, "Oh!"

Mr. Mills added, "It's one of those kinds of deals."

President Swanson stated, "You can ask him some good questions."

Mr. Mills stated, "Right. Yes, it lasts for one year and you can do it from any location you like."

Commissioner Simmer was recognized.

Mr. Simmer asked, "Do you have pictures of those fish you catch out there?"

(Group laughter)

Mr. Mills answered, "No, I don't have any pictures for ya."

Mr. Simmer stated, "Uh-huh. Do you sell cars too, Ben?"

(Group laughter)

President Swanson stated, "Ben I do have another question for ya regarding the staff and I am so grateful for everything you are doing. Just one little anecdote, the interest you are getting with West Lake is not to be discounted. I had a

glowing testimonial from the Leone family from Scott County who had never camped in Rock Island County but because they couldn't get boats at West Lake, they came over and camped with ya for a weekend and did the boats and I don't think they will ever go back. They are coming back to Loud Thunder every year now. Kudos for that, but will staffing...do you think staffing will be rebounding a little bit? I know it's hard to get folks out there, and it's young people and so forth?"

Mr. Mills stated, "Yeah...and so, this year I am very hopeful and looking forward to getting into the season. It looks like we have a pretty good crew. I know last year, it was tough to hold on to people at the boat rental position. But, this year going into it, I think we got pretty good staff."

President Swanson asked, "Any other questions for Mr. Mills? We have a lot of appreciation for your leadership and thank you for your time. On behalf of the whole team, we give Mr. Mills our thanks."

(Group applause)

Mr. Mills stated, "Thank you, very much."

3. Commissioner Adams moved to approve the April 19, 2022, Forest Preserve Commission meeting minutes, as presented. Commissioner Woods seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

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

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (NONE) Three calls were made.**

5. **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

President Swanson stated, "Just very, very briefly...you'll note that the preserves are open after a pretty ridiculously tempered spring. The weather is starting to improve and we are starting to see the activity that goes with it. I hope you get out to all of the forest preserves in Rock Island County. We note that the work on the East Moline Preserves has begun with preliminary stuff there. Very exciting report, I think you saw from Mr. Craver...but Niabi has received a \$160,000 grant from the Carver

Trusts to help with its project on painted dogs. If you remember back, there was a time not that long ago that we could not attract these very important foundations in our community. And now that we are, it's a testament entirely to Mr. Jackson and his team and pivot towards science. So, we are very grateful for their leadership. There will be time here at the end for Comments from Commissioners and I'll be available for questions at any time throughout."

6. Commissioner Langdon moved to approve the Claims and Forest Preserve Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$218,720.01, as presented. Commissioner Beck seconded.

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

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

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

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

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

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

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

8. Commissioner Normoyle moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding the FY22 Appropriation Amendment Personal Property Tax, as presented. Commissioner L. Moreno seconded.

**RESOLUTION**

FY 22 Appropriation Amendment – Personal Property Replacement Tax & FY 22  
Expenditures

**WHEREAS**, Personal Property Replacement Tax is estimated to be greater than appropriated, and

**WHEREAS**, additional expenditures are required throughout the General Fund for goods and services, and

**WHEREAS**, property was acquired before adoptions of appropriation and property tax for such property is due, and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available from unappropriated funds within the General Fund #130 of the District, 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 \$65,000.00 shall be increased in the Forest Preserve General Fund #130 to the following:

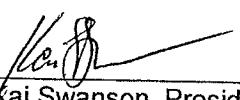
AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$65,000.00	130-32-10 335.15	Personal Property Replacement Tax

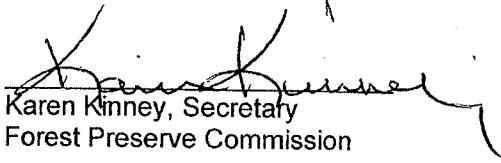
**SECTION 3.** An amount of \$50,000.00 shall be increased in the Forest Preserve General Fund #130 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$1,000.00	130-32-10 630	Training & Education
\$10,000.00	130-32-10 631	Professional Services
\$3,000.00	130-32-10 632	Communications
\$1,000.00	130-32-10 634	Publishing
\$35,000.00	130-32-10 699	Property Tax Expense
\$12,500.00	130-32-90 638	Repairs & Maintenance
\$2,500.00	130-32-90 639	Rentals

**SECTION 4.** This Resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022.

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

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

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

**TOTAL YES                    23**

**TOTAL NO                    0**

Motion carried.

9. Commissioner Woods moved to approve the Ordinance Establishing the Compensation of Members & Officers of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District, as presented. Commissioner Adams seconded.

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

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION  
OF MEMBERS AND OFFICERS OF THE ROCK ISLAND  
COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, members of the County Board of Supervisors for Rock Island County, Illinois, are ex-officio members of the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District as the boundaries of the District are co-extensive with the boundaries of the county as stated in the Downstate Forest Preserve Act 805 ILCS 805/3a, and

WHEREAS, in service as a Forest Preserve Commissioner, Commissioners will be compensated by means of a salary established by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission in the manner provided by the Downstate Forest Preserve Act 70 ILCS 805/et. seq., and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of 50 ILCS 145/2, the compensation of elected officers of units of government, which compensation is to be fixed by units of local government, shall be fixed at least one hundred eighty days before the beginning of the terms of the officers whose compensation is to be fixed, and

WHEREAS, the provisions of 70 ILCS 805/3a authorize the Forest Preserve Commission to establish an annual salary for such positions that shall be payable from the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District Treasury, and

WHEREAS, the provisions of 70 ILCS 805/8 provides that the person exercising the powers of the president of the board shall have power to appoint officers and such employees as may be necessary, and

WHEREAS, the provisions of 70 ILCS 805/3a state that no Forest Preserve Commissioner shall file for a per diem payment for services rendered on the same day for which he filed for a per diem payment as a county board supervisor, and

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District, in open meeting this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022, as follows:

1. That members of the Rock Island County Board of Supervisors, who are ex-officio members of the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District, shall receive no other compensation than that provided for them as members of the County Board of Supervisors, unless otherwise herein set forth.
2. That the person elected by the Board of Commissioners to serve as President thereof shall serve for a term of two (2) years. The Commission President shall be paid as follows effective December 1, 2022, the salary for the first year of the term shall be four thousand eight hundred dollars (\$4,800.00). Effective December 1, 2023, the salary for the second year of the term shall be four thousand eight hundred dollars (\$4,800.00).

Payments shall be equally disbursed monthly from the Forest Preserve District Treasury. This salary is in addition to whatever compensation is provided for members of the County Board of Supervisors.

3. That Forest Preserve Commissioners assigned by the President to serve on the Forest Preserve Executive Committee shall be paid as follows effective December 1, 2022, the salary for the first year of the term shall be one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00). Effective December 1, 2023, the salary for the second year of the term shall be one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00). Payments shall be equally disbursed monthly from the Forest Preserve District Treasury. This salary is in addition to whatever compensation is provided for members of the County Board of Supervisors.
4. That the President of the Commission upon the first meeting of the Commission after his/her election as President of the Commission on the first Monday of December in even numbered years shall appoint the District's Officers. That the person(s) appointed by the President of the Commission and approved by a majority vote by the Board of Commissioners shall serve for a term of two (2) years.

The Treasurer of the District shall be paid as follows effective December 1, 2022, the salary for the first year of the term shall be two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). Effective December 1, 2023, the salary for the second year of the term shall be two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00).

The Secretary of the District shall be paid as follows effective December 1, 2022, the salary for the first year of the term shall be two thousand dollars (2,000.00). Effective December 1, 2023, the salary for the second year of the term shall be two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00).

The Auditor of the District shall be paid as follows effective December 1, 2022, the salary for the first year of the term shall be three thousand eight hundred sixty dollars (\$3,860.00). Effective December 1, 2023, the salary for the second year of the term shall be three thousand eight hundred sixty dollars (\$3,860.00).

Payments shall be disbursed monthly from the Forest Preserve District Treasury.

5. That the President of the Commission may at any time appoint any additional officer(s) deemed necessary for the operation of the District. These officers shall serve under the term of the President and shall serve at the pleasure of the President.
6. That members of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission will receive a per diem of thirty-six dollars (\$36.00) for meetings involving Forest Preserve business, not including regularly scheduled committee meetings, commission meetings or inspections. Payment shall be

disbursed from the Forest Preserve District Treasury.

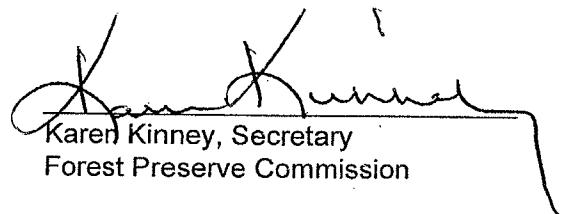
7. That members of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission will receive mileage for meetings and inspections involving District business.
8. That members of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission are subject to the District's Reimbursement Policy pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Travel and Expense Control Act.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022.



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Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve  
Commission



Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

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

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

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

10. Commissioner Normoyle moved to approve the IMEG Proposal for Engineering Services for the new East Moline Forest Preserve parking lot design at \$16,200.00, as presented. Commissioner L. Moreno seconded.

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

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

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

11. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to approve the BKP Proposal for the New Prairie Dog Exhibit at \$43,500.00, plus expenses, as presented. Commissioner Normoyle seconded.

Commissioner Deppe was recognized.

Ms. Kinney stated, "One second...you are on, Jeff."

Mr. Deppe asked, "Do you plan on building it this summer?"

President Swanson answered, "I don't know if the construction will be able to begin..."

Mr. Deppe added, "I was just reading the report and that's what it said. I wasn't sure we would be ready."

President Swanson asked, "If you would please come to the mic, Mr. Craver."

Mr. Deppe added, "It would be awesome."

President Swanson stated, "It WOULD be awesome."

Mr. Craver answered, "I find it very unlikely that construction will start this summer...possibly this year. As you know, the architect will have to go through design and the bidding phase and with the Board only meeting once a month, you know...if we are lucky, we will get it out to bid and we'll take a look at the environment and what would be the most appropriate time to get that out to bid to get the best prices for the district."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you for your question, Mr. Deppe."

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

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

**TOTAL YES                    23**

**TOTAL NO                    0**

Motion carried.

12. Commissioner Adams moved to approve the District's meeting dates and holiday schedule, as presented. Commissioner Deppe seconded.

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

**Schedule of Regular Meeting Dates for the Rock Island County Forest Preserve  
District and Forest Preserve Executive Committee meetings for the calendar  
year 2022 pursuant to the Open Meetings Act**

Pursuant to Section 2.03 of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2.03, the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District has prepared and makes available this Schedule of Regular Meeting Dates for the calendar year of 2022. The Rock Island County Forest Preserve District may schedule other special meetings, emergency meetings, and reconvened meetings as deemed necessary and as allowed by law pursuant to Section 2.02 of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2.02, in addition to any amendments or other modifications to the regular meeting date schedule. All regular meetings unless otherwise notified shall take place at 5:30 PM in the Rock Island County Chambers in the Rock Island County Building, 1504 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Rock Island, Illinois, immediately following the meeting of the Rock Island County Board of Supervisors as follows:

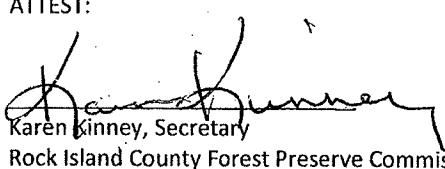
January 18	July 19
February 15	August 16
March 15	September 20
April 19	October 18
May 17	November 15 amended to November 22
June 21	December 20

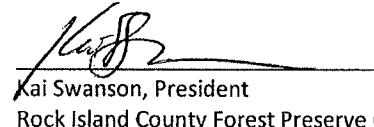
The Forest Preserve Executive Committee will meet at 8:30 AM in the Rock Island County Chambers in the Rock Island County Building, 1504 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Rock Island, Illinois unless otherwise noted.

January 11	
February 8	
March 8	
April 12	
May 10	
June 14-Niabi Zoo, 13010 Niabi Zoo Road, Coal Valley, IL 61240	
July 12-Indian Bluff Golf Course, 6200 78 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Milan, IL 61284	
August 9-Loud Thunder Forest Preserve, 19406 Loud Thunder Road, Illinois City, IL 61259	
September 13-Illiniwek Forest Preserve, 836 State Avenue, Hampton, IL 61256	
October 11 amended to October 12	
November 8 amended to November 15	
December 13	

These schedules of regular meeting dates as adopted pursuant to a vote of the Forest Preserve Commission, of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District, at the regular meeting on December 21, 2021.

ATTEST:

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission

## ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT HOLIDAY POLICY

All offices and departments of Rock Island County Forest Preserve District government, the days of operation of which are subject to the discretion of the board, shall be closed upon the day designated by Statute to be observed as the holiday. If any one of the following holidays should fall upon a Sunday the following Monday shall be held and considered such holiday. If any one of the following holidays should fall upon a Saturday the preceding Friday shall be held and considered such holiday. It is the policy of the Forest Preserve District to observe the following days:

New Year's Day, December 31, 2021  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 17, 2022  
Presidents Day, February 21, 2022  
Good Friday, April 15, 2022  
Memorial Day, May 30, 2022  
Juneteenth, June 20, 2022  
Independence Day, July 4, 2022  
Labor Day, September 5, 2022  
Columbus Day, October 10, 2022  
Election Day, November 8, 2022\*  
Veterans Day, November 11, 2022  
Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2022  
Friday after Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 2022  
Christmas Eve, December 23, 2022  
Christmas Day, December 26, 2022  
New Year's Day, January 2, 2023

\*The day on which members of the House of Representatives are elected.

No other day shall be considered unless designated by the Forest Preserve Commission.

Only active full-time employees shall qualify for Holiday pay. Part-time regulars and temporary employees shall not qualify for paid holidays.

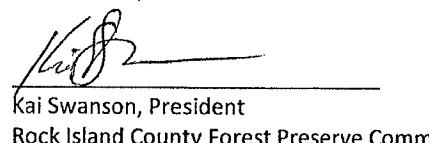
Full-time exempt employees required to work on District observed holiday, shall be allowed to take another day off within a thirty (30) day period following the worked holiday. Holidays are not cumulative for exempt employees, therefore, if another day off is not taken in lieu the worked holiday within the thirty day period, the holiday will be forfeited.

When a holiday occurs on a Saturday it shall be observed on the proceeding Friday and when a holiday occurs on a Sunday it shall be observed on the following Monday with the exception of Niabi Zoo which will observe the actual day the holiday falls.

These schedules of holiday dates as adopted pursuant to a vote of the Forest Preserve Commission, of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District, at the regular meeting on December 21, 2021.

ATTEST:

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission

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

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

**TOTAL YES                    23**

**TOTAL NO                    0**

Motion carried.

**13. Comments from Commissioners: (One)**

Commissioner L. Moreno was recognized.

Mr. L. Moreno stated, "Tell the good news about the monkey."

President Swanson stated, "Oh yeah, thank you very much. Uh, you know...if you are not a Facebook friend of the zoo, what are you doing? I mean...talk about cuteness overload. We have now, Bitinzi, a new member of our primate family out at the zoo. I mean...come on!! I think my grandkids are cute, but this is seriously cute."

(Group laughter)

President Swanson added, "And, of course, the Fennec Foxes had their first pair of kits. And, we love our Amur Leopards and every time they post a video, it gets thousands of hits from really, all over the country. There is a whole group of people who just want to look at baby animals. Who knew? So, we hope you'll friend up the Facebook page. But, thank you very much, Dr. Moreno for lifting up Bitinzi and welcoming Bitinzi. Are there any other comments from Commissioners?"

**14. Commissioner Woods moved to approve all Routine Reports from the Director and Departments Heads of the Forest Preserve Commission, as presented. Commissioner Adams seconded.**

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

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

**TOTAL YES**      **23**

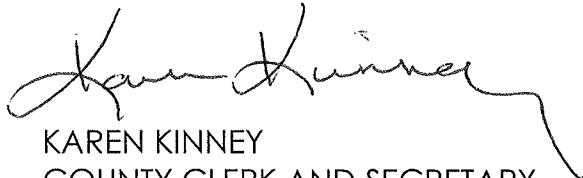
**TOTAL NO**      **0**

Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission is Tuesday, June 21, 2022, at 5:30pm, immediately following the meeting of the Rock Island County Board.

President Swanson declared the Forest Preserve Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



KAREN KINNEY  
COUNTY CLERK AND SECRETARY  
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

KK:rw