

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION**

**JULY 19, 2022 – 6:05 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

**TOTAL PRESENT 23**

D. Clevenger, J. Woods

**TOTAL ABSENT 2**

2. President Swanson stated, "Thank you and thanks to Mr. Adams. The reason why we are so anxious to hear from Mr. Petersen is because he has one of those jobs where he has to take on vast amounts of responsibility without any additional pay. We did that to him with the AMOWA Forest Preserve and he's going to give us a general round-a-bout, and then answer any questions you have. Mr. Petersen, thank you very much for taking the time to be with us, the floor is yours."

Mr. Petersen stated, "Thank you, as Mr. Swanson said, I am Mike Petersen, Site Superintendent for Dorrance Park, Illiniwek Forest Preserve and now AMOWA Forest Preserve. I am excited about the new addition to the Forest Preserve District...but, I am going to give a brief on all three parks so everybody knows what's going on. Up at Dorrance...I'll start with Dorrance. Up at Dorrance a number of years ago, we made a decision to...we came to a decision to invest in the ball diamond up there. They were in need of repair. We installed the new lights and since then, we've continued to invest in the infrastructure up there, mainly with fencing around the ball diamonds. We received a little help from outside funding sources on that and we've continued putting fencing starting with the backstop fencing on Diamond #1; which includes foul ball netting down the first base line to protect the playground that is behind First Base. The trails up there continue to be in excellent condition. FORC, one of our cooperating partners is really doing a good job of maintenance up there and they are being used quite heavily. If you go up there any day of the week now, there are three, four or five cars in the parking lot. Before the trails, I mean...it was a ghost town up there. The only time you ever saw anybody at Dorrance was in the evening when ball games were going on. There is definitely an increased use up there since the trails were put in. Down at Illiniwek, we've continued over the last year with our natural resource work; which includes expanding our prairie plots. We have also done some work in our forestry area associated with the Indiana Bat and the Northern Long-eared Bat; which we discovered at Illiniwek three years ago which are threatened and endangered bat species. The work that we did there was just thinning the understory because

that's what those species enjoy...is the closed canopy, open understory. We have also installed some open bat boxes up there. We don't know if they are at Illiniwek yet this year. We are working with the Fish and Wildlife Service and they are going to put their bat detectors out in about two weeks and we'll find out what the species diversity is out there and also an indication of how many we have of all of the different species. And, we were getting a little concerned because we hadn't seen any Rusty Patch Bumble Bees, but over the weekend...we had a positive ID. So, it's the fifth year we've had the Rusty Patch Bumble Bee at Illiniwek; which is pretty cool. This is before we had any prairies at Illiniwek. There was no record of the bee being there. Since we've been doing all of this renovation and reconstruction work, it has come to Illiniwek. It's a success story for conservation. And finally, with AMÔWA ...the newest purchase or acquisition to the Forest Preserve District, we've had a number of activities out there...mainly associated with invasive species removal. So, Living Lands and Waters has sponsored three events out there for Honeysuckle removal. We have the day of caring coming up; which Living Lands and Waters is also sponsoring them out there and the District's staff is going to help with. So, we are hoping there will be 100 people out there, 100 volunteers for the purpose of the Honeysuckle removal. A forestry contractor has been out there removing Honeysuckle off of three acres. And, in June...the District's staff has been out there with the District's forestry mulcher. We've done somewhere between 10 and 15 acres of invasive and understory thinning with the forestry mulcher. Just walking around out there at the new preserve...it's interesting. The Honeysuckle is really thick out there...so, in those areas of really heavily infested areas of Honeysuckle, there is not a lot going on. But, once you move out of those areas...we are finding species like orchid species and some other rare plant species that is just interesting to see. So, once we get those invasive species removed and open that understory up, we have a solid base to go on with those species that are already present there. So, most of that work that I just described is on the AMÔWA West property. The AMÔWA East property; which was the former bank property...we are going to plant an area that is approximately 20 acres this fall. Miller Brothers Excavating is donating their forestry mulcher and an individual to run the equipment. They have been out there three or four days and they are going to come back this fall for another eight days, they said. So, that is very much appreciated from them. And, we also have got some really good news here in the last couple of weeks...the Fish and Wildlife Service is going to be donating \$25,000 for our prairie seed purchase. And, then I think it's ARCONIC...I believe it's the Arconic Foundation that we applied for a grant through them with the help of River Action. And we just received word here last weekend that we are going to get \$30,000 from that foundation to help us out with restoration efforts of the new preserve."

(Group applause)

Mr. Petersen continued, "Um, I guess I forgot to mention the bike path improvement at Illiniwek. So, the road and bike path improvement and also the

new public restroom...we are still in the planning phase of that and putting together construction documents. And we are also working with an engineering firm to put a parking lot out there at the new AMOWA Forest Preserve. So, AMOWA West is where the first parking lot will go. That's it, that's all I have."

President Swanson asked, "Do we have any questions for Mr. Petersen? It looks like Ms. Beck does, then I see Dr. Simmer and then Mr. Cremeens. So, as soon as you are ready...Dorothy Beck, first...I think she's on. (microphone)"

Ms. Kinney stated, "Oh, okay...okay, Dorothy you are on."

Commissioner Beck was recognized.

Ms. Beck asked, "This maybe is not the question you will answer best but, do bats live in bat houses all year?"

Mr. Petersen answered, "No. Around here? No. They will either hibernate in caves or they migrate. So, once you get past August 15<sup>th</sup>, most bat species are starting to migrate south. Unless they have a cave or a hibernaculum...and in this area, there is not too many caves so, they migrate."

Ms. Beck stated, "The ones that stay in people's attics stay all winter."

(Group laughter)

Mr. Petersen stated, "That's a hibernaculum."

President Swanson stated, "Dr. Simmer and then Mr. Cremeens."

Commissioner Simmer was recognized.

Mr. Simmer stated, "Uh...two things."

President Swanson stated, "Could you get on the microphone? That will help, thank you."

Mr. Simmer stated, "Two things...they have until August 15<sup>th</sup> to leave. And a hibernaculum...I've never heard that one before. It's good! Thanks! Um, I hadn't heard when we did the clearing of the Ash...was that what we did out there...the Ash?"

Mr. Petersen said, "Yeah."

Mr. Simmer asked, "Did you replant that or put prairie in? What did we do with that? I forgot how that's going...how is it going?"

Mr. Petersen answered, "That was the 9<sup>th</sup> Street project. We went in there and removed all the Ash and invasive species. It was replanted. So, Living Lands and Waters donated oh...I think it was like 400 trees."

Mr. Simmer asked, "All tree types?"

Mr. Petersen answered, "They had a bunch leftover after their 1 million tree..."

Mr. Simmer interrupted, "How big of an area was it?"

Mr. Petersen answered, "Like 3.25 or 3.50 acres. Some of it was put into prairie but not much...most of it was planted with bottom land hardwoods."

Mr. Simmer stated, "I didn't remember how big it was...thanks."

Commissioner Cremeens was recognized.

President Swanson asked, "Could you use your mic so the folks at home can hear?"

Ms. Kinney stated, "You are on."

Mr. Cremeens stated, "I would just like to thank Mike for coming tonight...it's a great job that him and his men are doing out there."

Mr. Petersen stated, "Thank you."

Commissioner Normoyle was recognized.

Ms. Kinney stated, "Okay, Angie."

Ms. Normoyle asked, "How does a bat detector work?"

Mr. Petersen answered chuckling, "That's a great question. This is a marvel of technology, modern technology. So, each bat species mates and emits a frequency distinct to the species. So, they have come up with these microphones that they put out that listens to all of these different noises at night. They put it through the program and after they are done with all of the recordings, the program will pick up those frequencies specific to each species."

President Swanson stated, "And for all of us who grew up with Batman with Adam West...we thought bat detector was something entirely different. Slipped on the utility bill. Are there any other questions for Mr. Petersen? Before I let you go, I just want to say it was 2015 when Mr. Craver gave me the tour of the facilities of the District and told any Member he would happily show you around...he told me, 'You gotta meet this guy Petersen, he's got a lot of good ideas and great vision.'

And, boy is it just a joy to watch that vision come into focus. So, thank you, Mr. Petersen."

Mr. Petersen answered, "I appreciate it, thank you."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you."

Mr. Morthland stated, "Mr. President?"

President Swanson stated, "Mr. Morthland, please!"

Commissioner Morthland was recognized.

Mr. Morthland stated, "Thank you, sir. Yeah, I drive past Dorrance at least once a day and that bike trail just has happy cyclists reliving their experience every day while I drive by. It's like watching an episode of cops. They are just going over about what a great time they have had and you can just see it. It's wonderful! It's great that Dorrance is getting the attention it deserves and I appreciate what you are doing and am really excited about it...I just wanted to say thanks."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you, Mr. Petersen. We really appreciate your leadership. Alright, we are going to see if we can set a land speed record for the rest of these. We'll stop anywhere you want, to discuss things."

2. Commissioner Vyncke moved to approve the June 21, 2022, Commission Minutes, as presented. Commissioner Adams seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

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

**TOTAL YES 22**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

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

4. **PRESIDENTS COMMENTS:**

President Swanson stated, "Nothing more for President's Comments other than it's great to get out to see the parks...please do so as soon as you can."

5. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to approve the Claims and Forest Preserve Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$269,519.23, as presented. Commissioner McNeil seconded.

Commissioner Simmer 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

**TOTAL YES 22**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

6. Commissioner M. Moreno moved to waive the reading and approve the Transfers of Appropriation, as presented. Commissioner L. Moreno seconded.

Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Adams 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

**TOTAL YES 22**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

7. Commissioner Normoyle moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding FY 22 Personal Property Replacement Tax and FY 22 Expenditures, as presented. Commissioner Enburg seconded.

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

**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 salaries, goods and services, 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 \$36,500.00 shall be increased in the Forest Preserve General Fund #130 to the following:

| AMOUNT      | APPROPRIATION    | DESCRIPTION                       |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| \$36,500.00 | 130-32-10 335.15 | Personal Property Replacement Tax |

SECTION 3. An amount of \$36,500.00 shall be increased in the Forest Preserve General Fund #130 to the following:

| AMOUNT      | APPROPRIATION    | DESCRIPTION                |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| \$10,000.00 | 130-32-90 631    | Professional Services      |
| \$4,000.00  | 130-32-91 524    | Small Tools & Equipment    |
| \$3,000.00  | 130-32-92 411.10 | Seasonal Salaries          |
| \$2,000.00  | 130-32-92 413    | Employee Health Benefits   |
| \$7,500.00  | 130-32-92 522    | Operating Supplies         |
| \$1,500.00  | 130-32-92 522.PS | Operating Supplies-Proshop |
| \$7,500.00  | 130-32-92 526    | Food                       |
| \$1,000.00  | 130-32-92 631    | Professional Services      |

SECTION 4. This Resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

---

Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

---

Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

Commissioner Simmer 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

**TOTAL YES 22**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

8. Commissioner Langdon moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding FY 22 Niabi Fund Appropriation Amendment – Rhino Yard Improvement, as presented. Commissioner Adams seconded.

President Swanson stated, “Just a note on that because I see that we have somebody from WHBF, we have a reporter on the line...’why would you need to improve the Rhino Yard?’ Mmmm...maybe it’s because Keto has been playing on Tinder. We’ll have to wait and see. So that’s the latest fact.”

(Group laughter)

President Swanson asked, “Are there any other questions or discussion?”

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

## RESOLUTION

RE: Fiscal Year 2022 Niabi Zoo Fund Appropriation Amendments for Zoo  
Rhino Yard Improvement Project

**WHEREAS**, Niabi Zoo added a rhinoceros to the animal collection in 2021, and

**WHEREAS**, additional improvement for the rhinoceros exhibit were required, and

**WHEREAS**, staff anticipate an additional rhinoceros at some time in the future to be housed with the current animal, and

**WHEREAS**, funds for improvements were raised through donations to the Niabi Zoo Foundation to be given to 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.** Revenues in the amount of \$29,367.00 shall be increased from the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

| AMOUNT      | APPROPRIATION | DESCRIPTION                        |
|-------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| \$29,367.00 | 131-32 364.10 | Contributions from Private Sources |

**SECTION 3.** Expenditures in the amount of \$29,367.00 shall be increased from the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

| AMOUNT      | APPROPRIATION | DESCRIPTION                  |
|-------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| \$29,367.00 | 131-32-08 767 | Infrastructure over \$15,000 |

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

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

---

Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

---

Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

Commissioner Simmer 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

**TOTAL YES                    22**

**TOTAL NO                    0**

Motion carried.

9. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding FY 23 General Fund Appropriation Amendments, as presented. Commissioner M. Moreno seconded.

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

**RESOLUTION**

FY 23 Appropriation Amendment – Misc. Adjustments

**WHEREAS**, as the General Fund begins a new fiscal year several appropriation amendments are required since the adoption fiscal year 2023 appropriations were approved, and

**WHEREAS**, Personal Property Replacement Taxes are estimated to be greater than originally appropriated, and

**WHEREAS**, the ratification of the labor agreement has increased labor costs, and

**WHEREAS**, 2022 property taxes payable in 2023 for the new park acquisition will be due, 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 \$21,310.00 shall be increased in the Forest Preserve General Fund #130 to the following:

| AMOUNT      | APPROPRIATION    | DESCRIPTION                         |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| \$21,310.00 | 130-32-10 335.15 | Personal Property Replacement Taxes |

SECTION 3. An amount of \$21,310.00 shall be increased in the Forest Preserve General Fund #130 to the following:

| AMOUNT     | APPROPRIATION    | DESCRIPTION      |
|------------|------------------|------------------|
| \$755.00   | 130-32-10 411.00 | Salaries & Wages |
| \$5,599.00 | 130-32-90 411.00 | Salaries & Wages |
| \$4,881.00 | 130-32-91 411.00 | Salaries & Wages |
| \$4,075.00 | 130-32-92 411.00 | Salaries & Wages |
| \$6,000.00 | 130-32-10 699    | Property Taxes   |

SECTION 4. This Resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

---

Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

---

Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

Commissioner Mielke 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

**TOTAL YES                    22**

**TOTAL NO                    0**

Motion carried.

10. Commissioner Sowards moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding FY 23 Niabi Fund Appropriation Amendments, as presented. Commissioner Simmer seconded.

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

## RESOLUTION

### FY 2023 Niabi Zoo Fund Appropriation Amendments – Misc. Adjustments

**WHEREAS**, Niabi Zoo was not able to acquire a concessionaire for the 2022 operating season after requesting proposals from the public, and

**WHEREAS**, management and oversight of the concession operations at Niabi Zoo will be conducted by District staff, and

**WHEREAS**, funds are required for staffing and concession operation expense for the FY 23 Niabi Zoo Fund, and

**WHEREAS**, the contracted zoo face painter was not renewed, and

**WHEREAS**, the ratification of the labor agreement has increased labor costs, and

**WHEREAS**, continued COVID-19 self-imposed restrictions as well as H5N1 Bird Flu have reduced Outreach Program and Animal Feeding Experience revenue, and

**WHEREAS**, the support for Visit Quad Cities has increased from 25% to 30% of Hotel/Motel Taxes received, 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.** Revenues in the amount of \$38,900.00 shall be decreased from the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

| AMOUNT      | APPROPRIATION | DESCRIPTION                    |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| \$17,900.00 | 131-32 347.24 | Zoo Animal Show/Outreach Fee   |
| \$1,000.00  | 131-32 347.32 | Zoo Face Painter Fee           |
| \$20,000.00 | 131-32 347.27 | Zoo Animal Feeding Experiences |

**SECTION 3.** Expenditures in the amount of \$30,822.00 shall be increased from the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

| AMOUNT      | APPROPRIATION    | DESCRIPTION                |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| \$12,835.00 | 131-32-08 411.00 | Salaries & Wages           |
| \$2,290.00  | 131-32-10 411.00 | Salaries & Wages           |
| \$4,947.00  | 131-32-18 411.00 | Salaries & Wages           |
| \$10,750.00 | 131-32-10 991.12 | Transfer to Other Agencies |

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

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission,  
Rock Island County, Illinois, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

---

Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

---

Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

Commissioner Vyncke moved to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Deppe 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

**TOTAL YES 22**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

11. Commissioner McNeil moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding Support for the Quad City Convention & Visitor's Bureau, as presented. Commissioner Simmer seconded.

Commissioner Normoyle was recognized.

Ms. Kinney stated, "Yes, Angie...you are still on."

Ms. Normoyle asked, "That's great. Uh, there was a change here, correct?"

President Swanson answered, "There is, that's correct."

Ms. Normoyle asked, "Let's just expand upon this a little bit?"

President Swanson stated, "Sure."

Ms. Normoyle added, "It's an increase and we are kind of moving towards a more of a typical mold for funding?"

President Swanson answered, "Right. I will try to get the background right. Nationally, the percentage a municipality gives of its hotel/motel tax to the local destination marketing association is about 55%. That's nationally. In Des Moines, it's 75%...and that's used to put ads on our TV saying hey, spend your dollars in Des Moines. Uh...unfortunately, the average in the Quad Cities, it is about 17%. So, we are trying to move the needle. Bettendorf is considering a similar thing for its hotel properties and the City of Moline is considering theirs at 25% and considering increasing it. So, we can be the first. Thank you very much for that question. Are there any other questions or discussion?"

Commissioner Simmer stated, "Lead by example."

President Swanson stated, "Lead by example...I like the way...it sounds better that way. I like it."

## RESOLUTION

### RE: SUPPORT FOR THE QUAD CITY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

**WHEREAS**, tourism is a major factor in the economic health of the Quad Cities region, generating \$800 million per year in direct visitor spending and employing 7,000 residents in the hospitality industry, and

**WHEREAS**, the Quad Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau and other regional partners rely on hotel/motel taxes generated by the work of our local hospitality industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the state government is facing budget challenges may not be able to provide additional tourism support; and

**WHEREAS**, surrounding states are increasing their expenditures in tourism and heavily targeting Illinois residents in their advertising campaigns; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County wishes to support the Quad Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau through hotel/motel funds received from Rock Island County; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District hereby shall provide the Quad Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau thirty percent (30%) of the net funds received in hotel/motel funds to maintain tourism at the existing levels and to continue to grow visitor revenues for the State of Illinois, local governments, the hospitality industry and destination facilities like the Rock Island Forest Preserve District's Niabi Zoo.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.

---

Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

---

Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

Commissioner Simmer 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

**TOTAL YES 22**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

12. Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the service agreement with MindFire Communications for social media, as presented. Commissioner Sowards seconded.

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

**TOTAL YES 22**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

13. Commissioner Simmer moved to change the Purchasing Policy to the Procedure Manual, as presented. Commissioners Normoyle and Cremeens seconded.

Commissioner Adams moved to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Vyncke 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

**TOTAL YES 22**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

14. Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the purchase of a John Deere tractor and attachments, minus trade-in for \$20,422.67, as presented. Commissioner Brunk seconded.

Commissioner Simmer was recognized.

Mr. Simmer asked, "What attachments are for the mower? A deck?"

Ms. Kinney stated, "He's on."

President Swanson stated, "What are the attachments was the question, Mr. Craver is checking for those at home. We think there was a deck attachment."

Mr. Craver answered, "A deck, a forklift for pallets, a quick hitch and hardware to add weight to the rear wheels."

President Swanson stated, "Okay, that's a good question. Are there any other questions or discussion? Oh, I am sorry...somebody at home."

Mr. Morthland stated, "Yeah, Mr. President. This is Rich."

President Swanson stated, "Yes, please Mr. Morthland."

Mr. Morthland stated, "As a farmer, those are wonderful things to put on that kind of equipment and so, good choice!"

President Swanson stated, "Thank you for that endorsement."

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

**TOTAL YES                    22**

**TOTAL NO                    0**

Motion carried.

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

President Swanson stated, "While you are thinking...I would like to add my thanks to Dr. Moreno for the riding herd in Executive Committee in my absence. Thank you for that. Seeing none, we'll continue with our agenda."

16. Commissioner M. Moreno moved to approve all Routine Reports from the Director and Departments Heads of the Forest Preserve Commission, as presented. Commissioner Adams seconded.

Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioners Vyncke and 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

**TOTAL YES** **22**

**TOTAL NO** **0**

Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission is Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 5:30pm, immediately following the meeting of the Rock Island County Board.

President Swanson declared the Forest Preserve Meeting recessed at 6:30pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



KAREN KINNEY  
COUNTY CLERK AND SECRETARY  
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

KK:rw