

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION
EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE 2ND DAY
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 – 7:06PM
FOREST PRESERVE PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON - PRESIDING**

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

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, T. Foster, P. McNeil, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, M. Moreno-Baker, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods, Holly Sparkman, Karen Dahlstrom, Karen Kinney, April Palmer, Jeff Craver

TOTAL PRESENT 22

E. Dewith, C. Layer, Nick Camlin

TOTAL ABSENT 3

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS - (NONE)** (Three calls were made.)

3. **PRESIDENTS COMMENTS:**

President Swanson stated, "President's Comments are simply that this is important work that we are engaged in and if something important comes to mind after this meeting...any Member of the Commission or any member of the public that is with us, you are very much encouraged to send that to any Member that you see here or to Mr. Craver."

4. **OTHER NEW BUSINESS:**

President Swanson added, "If you have suggestions to improve efficiency of the Forest Preserve Commission, you will see that Mr. Craver has shared some information on accountability, efficiency and improvement opportunities in the District. If you had a chance to review those, if you have any comments on the report submitted by Mr. Craver?"

Jeff Craver was recognized.

Mr. Craver stated, "I received a comment from Ms. Palmer that is...April, would you like to talk about Paymerang?"

Ms. Palmer answered, "Yes. Do you want me to come up there or can you all hear me...so that they can hear me?"

Ms. Oberbroeckling stated, "I would like her to come up."

President Swanson stated, "Actually, Rebecca would like you to come forward. Thank you, April."

Ms. Palmer stated, "As many of you may be aware already...last year, Rock Island County, on the county side, entered into an Agreement at no cost to the county for efficiency a third-party processor for our accounts payables. And, that has been a huge success. We actually have been generating revenue from that as opposed to paying for the service. The company is called Paymerang. All of our checks, ACH's and credit card payments go through that service provider. It keeps the county from being liable for incidences of check fraud, transitions from checks to ACH payments or credit card payments from being a liability to Rock Island County. Therefore, I am going through a process right now to do a proposal...I guess, if you will, from that same company to possibly take over doing the Forest Preserve AP (accounts payable) as well. Um, that is in the early stages right now, but it would provide the same efficiencies, possible cash back at no cost to the Forest Preserve, no liability and it does reduce staff time in the County Clerk's Office for stuffing envelopes with checks. Mailing costs are alleviated from the county and then possibly for the Forest Preserve, if we go forward with this as well. They are FBI trained, fraud trained staff that we can call on to ask questions through that company as well at any time that we would need to do so. So, those would be some of the cost savings and some of the efficiencies of running that process through the Paymerang Company, if it turns out to be the same for the Forest Preserve."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you, April. Are there any questions or comments about that? Alright, thank you very much. We appreciate those kinds of ideas."

Ms. Palmer stated, "Thank you."

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

6. President Swanson stated, "At this time, we would like to invite any public present to address the Committee and give any kind of input we have discussed at this meeting."

President Swanson stated, "Seeing none."

The next meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission Efficiency Committee is Tuesday, October 17, 2023, immediately following the Forest Preserve Commission meeting.

President Swanson declared the Forest Preserve Efficiency Committee Meeting recessed at 7:12pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Kinney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

KAREN KINNEY
COUNTY CLERK, SECRETARY & MEMBER
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE EFFICIENCY
COMMITTEE

KK:ro