

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION**  
**JUNE 18, 2024 – 6:15PM**  
**PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON - PRESIDING**

President Swanson stated, "Thank you very much friends, the hearing now being closed, I will call the (June 18<sup>th</sup> 2024) Forest Preserve Commission Meeting to order. And, Ms. Kinney, we get to call the roll one more time."

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, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke  
J. R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL PRESENT      15**

E. Dewith, C. Layer, R. Morthland, J. Woods

**TOTAL ABSENT      4**

Ms. Kinney stated, "We have a quorum."

2. President Swanson stated, "Thank you, Madam Clerk. This evening, we have a presentation and I will turn things over to our District Director, Jeff Craver, who will be giving a little context on some of the stuff we will be talking about in just a minute. Mr. Craver, the floor is yours."

Mr. Craver stated, "Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I'm just going to take this opportunity to take a couple of minutes to talk about the Appropriation Ordinances for the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget. They are on the agenda for your approval or consideration here tonight. For the most part, the Budget is a roll over from last year. We rolled over our operating supplies and our service agreements with our vendors. Revenues for the most part...same thing, they got rolled over. Luckily, we've been...our level of service has been pretty high over the last couple of years and thank goodness because the personal property replacement tax has taken a little bit of a decrease than what we have received in the prior years. So, with a little bit of a fee increase...golf still being strong, our fee increases with our camping fees and golf still being strong, we have been able to offset that a little bit. It's also helped us offset our personal property replacement tax. Revenue, has been the work of the Treasurer, Mr. Camlin by maximizing the District's Funds in the investment pool. He maximized that. So, that's a little bit of an offset. So, basically, we covered our basic needs. We are trying to control what we can control. We are listening to the public input...the survey that was conducted last fall, we are going to try to address some of those things that we can. However, when it comes time to make equipment repairs compared to the prior year's budget, there is a significant decrease. We were able to acquire last year a skid steer for Illiniwek, new gators at Illiniwek and Loud Thunder. We did a roof repair

on the residence at Illiniwek. We were able to purchase those fairway mowers last month and the maintenance says they are performing great. They have several hydraulics, electric motors that bring things up and down and obviously need hydraulic oil, lines to break and so...we've had our fairway mowers breakdown in the past and left hydraulic oil on the greens; which obviously kills the grass on the greens. So, he wanted me to send a thank you to the Board when I spoke to him. So, needless to say, we able to do a lot of those things thanks to that bump in personal property replacement tax. Unfortunately, this year, we will be implementing the new world system time and attendance; which you approved a couple of months ago. We will be looking for a new vehicle and a gator at Loud Thunder and an aerator for the golf course. So, the amount of capital equipment that we are purchasing has kind of come down a little bit. The zoo...obviously, everyone knows the zoo is struggling this year with reduced admission fees and the snow damage. Hopefully, next year we will have the majority of the zoo put back together for the full season other than the palace cat exhibit; which is going to be offline. There was not going to be enough funds there...we are short on funds as it is to make all the needed repairs and upgrades due to the snowstorm. One of our highlights, though is...the back-order of golf carts will be coming in the spring of 2025. We will be working on controlling what we can control...Forest Management Plans for AMOWA and Loud Thunder. And, again, really going back and trying to address some of the messaging in some of the social media and other marketing efforts. One of the big recommendations was for a photo shoot. Many of our photos of our kids and those who participated...some are even bigger than me, err...taller than I am. So, we are hoping to get that done next month. Anybody want to be models next Thursday and Friday? No takers? I don't know why I asked...(chuckles). So, the Improvement Fund, we've had some overages with the Illiniwek project. And so, the funds that were dedicated in 2025 are covering some of those overages and the remaining will be put towards the snow damage deficit; which is \$300,000.00...is what we budgeted. So, with that being said, we look forward to our upcoming Levy Ordinances for this new year 2026 and hopefully, folks can take into account the report that we submitted that I did. We assessed all the roads and parking areas. To resurface our roads and parking areas...most of them are chip and seal, was \$3.2 million. To remove and replace with some of it being asphalt and some of it chip and seal was \$6 million. To remove and replace with IDOT standards and quality base, asphalt on top is \$8.1 million dollars. I am really struggling to address some of these things and also trying to address the needed bathroom upgrades at Dorrance, the building there...it's shifting and sinking. It is shifting so bad that the plumbing in the walls is cracking. We had to tear down the restroom facility at Deere Haven, there was a small shelter combo bathroom there. It was designed without a shut-off valve. So, every time they had to shut off the water, they had to break through the concrete block wall back to the point where the concrete and the board was shifted so bad, it was beyond repair...even with the help of our friends at HCCTV, Blackhawk College's highway construction training program. It was beyond our staff's capabilities and skills. The snack shack out at that golf course is probably as old

as the golf course. One of our biggest complaints was the condition of that restroom facility and the restroom facility at hole #9. Again, foundation shifting issues. Some of those don't have doors on the stall areas. We can paint them, we can scrub them...but, some of those things are beyond our staff's capabilities. And when you have a floating slab floor, the potential or possibility of that reoccurring is pretty good, from what we've been told. We get to the zoo...um, I don't want to drag on and on about similar things. Obviously, the palace cat exhibit...to bring in a modern house cat exhibit we found online is approximately \$1.6 million or possibly \$1.7 with the 2025 construction costs. The Carousel roof, as you know caved in from the snowstorm. It is an outdoor Carousel, but somebody should have put a pavilion on top of that. So, it's meant to be outside, but it's meant to have a hard-top cover on top of it. A hard-top cover, you are probably looking at...for one that size, you are looking at \$300,000.00 to \$400,000.00 because you are also looking at landscaping, concrete, electricity and possibly some engineering and design fees for what we already have. The area of the chain-link fence that sunk in along the outside areas...to remove that chain-link fence and bring in a stainless steel...high-tension, stainless steel fence over the big cats and the eagles is estimated around \$300,000.00. So, basically, we are doing the best that we can with the dollars that you do appropriate for us, but to make some of the grant matches and to address some of the needs that were presented in our public survey...and the complaints that we get, I need...the District needs some more dollars to work with. We did apply for a bike path grant. I believe the grant limit was \$200,000.00 and it's a matching grant of 50/50. So, a couple hundred thousand dollars doesn't get us too far and with the conditions of our roads. The (inaudible) at Illiniwek is 4 inches with a couple of inches of asphalt on top...that trail is used 365 days out of the year, and as you all know...climate change with our mild winters, soft bases...freezing temperatures one minute with 24 inches of snow and then the golf course is open in February for the first time in most people's memory ever. So, we are trying to do the best we can and look forward to try to be as resilient as we can due to the change of times and the needs of the citizens. If anybody has any specific questions about the upcoming budget, I am more than happy to answer those at this time."

President Swanson stated, "Alright, Mr. Craver, stay close by."

Mr. Craver stated, "Needless to say folks, the people do enjoy our services and enjoy coming out to our facilities. As you have heard, we can only do what we can do. Thank you."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you. Like I said, stay close because I am sure I am going to need you in another minute."

3. Commissioner Mielke moved to approve the May 23, 2024, Commission Minutes, as presented. Commissioners Sowards and McNeil seconded.

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

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

5. **PRESIDENTS COMMENTS:**

President Swanson stated, "Just briefly for President's Comments other than what Mr. Craver said. I wanted to let you know the Prairie Dogs are a definite hit. I don't know...I didn't hear any Cicadas in Rock Island, but they did manage to bring a lot of people out to the campgrounds. And, remember in addition to your modeling opportunities, head out to AMÔWA for the Bio-Blitz, the Bi-State Conservation Action Network will give us a good read on what's out there between plant and animal life. It starts at 2pm on Friday and goes for 24 hours. If you get a little free time within that window, we will figure out what we've got out at AMÔWA. Before I wrap up this section, Jeff, what are the days for the photo-shoot and how do people follow up on that?"

Mr. Craver answered, "They can contact me and I can tell them. We spend half a day at Illiniwek and half a day at the golf course. If anybody wants a free round of golf...?"

President Swanson asked, "Is it this Thursday and Friday or next Thursday and Friday"

Mr. Craver answered, "Next Thursday and Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>."

President Swanson reiterated, "The 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Well, I don't gotta face made for you, but I have cute grandkids. We'll see what happens. Thank you, Mr. Craver. That's it for my report. We'll have a chance for questions and comments a little bit later in the agenda."

6. Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the Forest Preserve Claims and Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$687,741.93, as presented. Commissioners L. Moreno and Vyncke seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, T. Foster, P. McNeil, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, M. Moreno-Baker, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke  
J. R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

7. Commissioner Burns moved to waive the reading and approve the Transfers of Appropriations as enumerated in your packets. Commissioner L. Moreno seconded.

Commissioner Brunk moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioners Sowards and Perkins seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, T. Foster, P. McNeil, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, M. Moreno-Baker, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke  
J. R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES                    15**

**TOTAL NO                    0**

Motion carried.

8. Commissioner Vyncke moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution RE: FY24 Illiniwek Recreation Trail Grant Appropriations, FY24 Niabi Zoo Appropriation – Zoo Foundation Donation for the Purchase of a Scissor Lift, FY24 Niabi Zoo Receipt of Funds, - Woodward Community Grant Fund, FY24 Niabi Zoo Improvements ARPA Grant Appropriations, FY24 Liability Fund Additional Appropriations Due to Insurance Settlement, and DFCI Fund Loan, as presented. Commissioner L. Moreno seconded.

(Note\*\* The Resolutions are in .pdf format and begin on the next page)

## RESOLUTION

RE: FY 24 Illiniwek Recreation Trail Grant Appropriations

**WHEREAS**, Illiniwek Forest Preserve was awarded \$200,000.00 from the Illinois Recreation Trail Grant program to construct a new restroom facility and make trail improvements, and

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Recreation Trail Grant program is a reimbursable grant, and

**WHEREAS**, while construction of phase 2 has begun with the design and installation of the lift station, construction of the restroom and site modifications, and

**WHEREAS**, construction continues on phase 2 that addresses the water, sewer and restroom, and

**WHEREAS**, payment is required for work completed, 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.

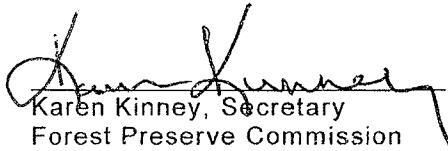
SECTION 2. Expenditures in the amount of \$49,157.61 shall be increased partially from grant revenue to be received & the balance from unencumbered funds to provide the required matching funds in the Development of Forests and Construction Improvement Fund #335 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$49,157.61	335-32-35 767 RTP 23	Infrastructure over \$15,000

SECTION 3. This resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

## RESOLUTION

FY 2024 Niabi Zoo Fund Appropriation – Zoo Foundation Donation for the Purchase of a Scissor Lift

**WHEREAS**, Niabi Zoo purchased a scissor lift in the amount of \$6,600.00, and

**WHEREAS**, the Niabi Zoo Foundation has agreed to reimburse the District for the cost of the purchase in the amount of \$6,600.00, 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 \$6,600.00 shall be increased from the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$6,600.00	131-32 364.10	Contributions from Private Sources


SECTION 3. Expenditures in the amount of \$6,600.00 shall be increased from the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$6,600.00	131-32-18 768.00	Machine & Equipment > \$5,000

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2024.

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

## 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 purchase of observational equipment and increase security throughout Niabi Zoo, and

**WHEREAS**, (WCGF23) Woodward Community Grant Fund in the amount of \$16,000 was awarded to Niabi Zoo in October of 2022, 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:

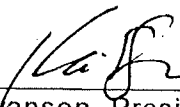
SECTION 1. An emergency exists as outlined above.

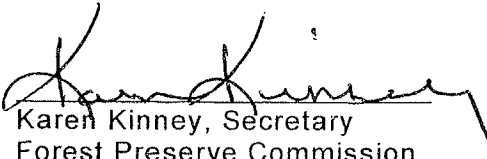
SECTION 2. An amount of \$1282.55 be transferred from unappropriated funds within the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$1,282.55	131-32-35 524.00-WCGF23	Small Tools & Equipment

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission



## RESOLUTION

FY 2024 Niabi Zoo Improvements ARPA Grant Appropriations

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserve District was granted funds from Rock Island County for improvements at Niabi Zoo, and

**WHEREAS**, design and engineering for the improvement projects has been performed, 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. Expenditures in the amount of \$150,459.79 shall be increased from grant revenue to be received in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

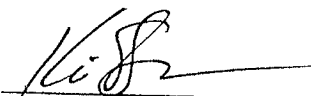
AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$150,459.79	131-32-35 767 ARPA24-60	Infrastructure over \$15,000

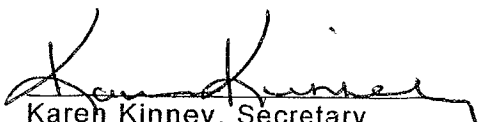
SECTION 3. Revenues in the amount of \$150,459.79 shall be increased from grant revenue to be received in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$150,459.79	131-32-35 331.10 ARPA24-00	Federal Grants-General Government

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

## RESOLUTION

Re: FY 24 Liability Fund Additional Appropriations Due to Insurance Settlement

**WHEREAS**, additional funds are required in the Forest Preserve Liability Fund #133 for the necessary expenses incurred for the 2024 Fiscal Year, and

**WHEREAS**, additional funds are required for professional services and other general liability insurance payments, and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available from unappropriated funds in the Forest Preserve Liability Fund #133, 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 \$27,466.94 be transferred from unappropriated funds in the Forest Preserve Liability Fund #133 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$27,466.94	133-32 369.98	Settlement Refunds

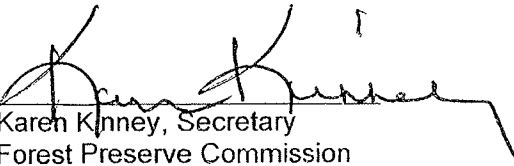
SECTION 3. An amount of \$32,715.54 be transferred from unappropriated funds in the Forest Preserve Liability Fund #133 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$32,715.54	133-32 768.00	Machinery & Equipment > \$5,000

SECTION 4. This Resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

**RESOLUTION**

RE: Development of Forest & Construction of Improvements Fund Loan from the Forest Preserve General Fund

**WHEREAS**, additional funds are required in the Development of Forest & Construction of Improvements Fund #335 for the necessary expenses incurred in the 2024 Fiscal Year, and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available from unappropriated funds within the District's General Fund #130 to loan to the Development of Forest & Construction of Improvements Fund #335, 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 \$30,000 be loaned from the District's General #130 to the Development of Forest & Construction of Improvements Fund #335.

SECTION 3. The above amount to be repaid to the District's General Fund #130 as funds become available.

SECTION 4. This Resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

Commissioner Adams moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner McNeil seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, T. Foster, P. McNeil, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, M. Moreno-Baker, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke  
J. R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES                15**

**TOTAL NO                0**

Motion carried.

9. Commissioner Mielke moved to remove from display and approve the 2025 Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinances for the General Fund, Niabi Zoological Preserve Fund, IMRF Retirement Fund, Liability Fund, FISSA Fund, Audit Fund, and Development of Forest and Construction of Improvements Fund, as presented. Commissioner Burns seconded.

(Note\*\* The Ordinances are in .pdf format and begin on the next page)

## CERTIFICATION OF BUDGET (Appropriation Ordinance)

I, the undersigned, duly elected, qualified and acting Secretary of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District, Rock Island County, Illinois, does hereby certify that the attached hereto is true and correct copy of the Budget (Appropriation Ordinance) of said Rock Island County Forest Preserve District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, as adopted on June 18, 2024 by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission.

SEAL

Date: June 21, 2024

  
Karen Kinney  
Secretary, Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2024 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2025. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District General Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2024 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2025. The specific amounts of the said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.


Classification	Estimated Expenditures	Amount From Other Sources	Amount Raised From Taxation
Objects & Purposes	\$1,307,983	\$-0-	\$1,307,983
Salaries & Wages	280,523	223,506	57,017
Personal Benefits	7,700	7,700	-0-
Uniforms	353,725	353,725	-0-
Operating Supplies	18,510	18,510	-0-
Professional Development	324,692	324,692	-0-
Professional Services	95,425	95,425	-0-
Public Utilities	250,897	250,897	-0-
Machinery & Equipment	20,000	20,000	-0-
Infrastructure	134,203	134,203	-0-
Interest on Bond Issue	210,000	210,000	-0-
Principal on Bond Issue	16,000	16,000	-0-
Credit Card Service Fee	85,072	85,072	-0-
Transfer To Other Agency	27,000	27,000	-0-
Transfer To Other Funds			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,131,730</b>	<b>\$1,766,730</b>	<b>\$1,365,000</b>
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2024			\$1,211,845
Estimated Cash Income: TAXATION			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$1,365,000	
OTHER INCOME		\$1,766,730	
			<u>\$3,131,730</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$4,343,575</b>
Estimated Expenditures			<b>\$(3,131,730)</b>
Estimated Cash On Hand as of June 30, 2025			<b>\$1,211,845</b>

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

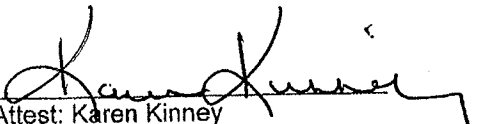
Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County  
Forest Preserve General Fund  
Fiscal Year 2025

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission of  
Rock Island County, Illinois

June 18, 2024  
Passed

June 25, 2024  
Published

June 28, 2024  
Effective

  
Attest: Karen Kinney  
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT, NIABI ZOOLOGICAL PRESERVE OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2024 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2025. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Niabi Zoological Preserve Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2024 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2025. The specific amounts are listed and totaled below.

Classification	Estimated	Amt. From	Amt Raised
Objects & Purposes	Expenditures	Other Sources	From Taxation
Salaries & Wages	\$1,811,212	\$161,212	\$1,650,000
Personal Benefits	287,161	287,161	-0-
Uniforms & Clothing	13,400	13,400	-0-
Operating Supplies	618,800	618,800	-0-
Professional Development	13,540	13,540	-0-
Professional Services	456,948	456,948	-0-
Public Utilities	127,765	127,765	-0-
Credit Card Service Fee	42,000	42,000	-0-
Principal on Bond Issue	305,000	305,000	-0-
Interest on Bond Issue	44,625	44,625	-0-
Machine & Equipment	43,425	43,425	-0-
Infrastructure	23,000	23,000	-0-
<u>Transfer to Other Agency</u>	<u>167,572</u>	<u>167,572</u>	<u>-0-</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,954,448</b>	<b>\$2,304,449</b>	<b>\$1,650,000</b>
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2024			\$(142,565)
Estimated Cash Income: TAXATION			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$1,650,000	
OTHER INCOME		<u>\$2,324,051</u>	
			<u>\$3,974,051</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$3,831,486</b>
Estimated Expenditures			<b>\$(3,954,448)</b>
Estimated Cash On Hand as of June 30, 2025			<b>\$(122,962)</b>

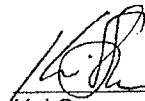
**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage.



**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County  
Niabi Zoological Preserve Fund  
Fiscal Year 2025



Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission of  
Rock Island County, Illinois

June 18, 2024

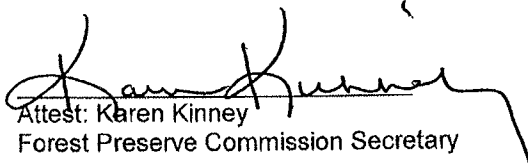
Passed

June 25, 2024

Published

June 28, 2024

Effective



Attest: Karen Kinney  
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2024 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2025. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District IMRF Retirement Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2024 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2025. The specified amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.


Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amt. From Other Sources	Amt Raised From Taxation
Retirement	<u>\$170,000</u>	<u>\$3,100</u>	<u>\$146,000</u>
Total	\$170,000	\$3,100	\$146,000
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2024			\$134,821
Estimated Cash Income:			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$146,000	
Other Income		<u>\$3,100</u>	
			<u>\$149,100</u>
TOTAL			\$283,921
Estimated Expenditures			\$(170,000)
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2025			\$113,921

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary, filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

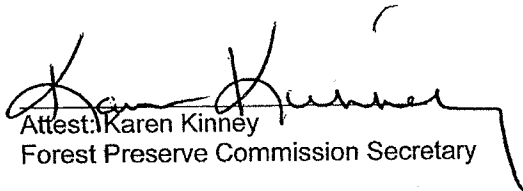
Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County  
IMRF District Retirement Fund  
Fiscal Year 2025

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission of  
Rock Island County, Illinois

June 18, 2024  
Passed

June 25, 2024  
Published

June 28, 2024  
Effective

  
Attest: Karen Kinney  
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2024 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2025. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Federal Income - Social Security Administration (FISSA) Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2024 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2025. The specific amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.

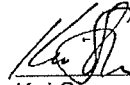
Classification	Estimated	Amt. From	Amt. Raised
Objects & Purposes	Expenditures	Other Sources	From Taxation
FISSA	<u>\$240,232</u>	<u>\$3,100</u>	<u>\$240,000</u>
Total	\$240,232	\$3,100	\$240,000
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2024			\$69,454
Estimated Cash Income:			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$240,000	
Other Income		<u>\$3,100</u>	
			<u>\$243,100</u>
TOTAL			\$312,554
Estimated Expenditures			\$(240,232)
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2025			\$72,322

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary, filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage thereof.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County  
Federal Income Social Security Administration Fund  
Fiscal Year 2025



Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission of  
Rock Island County, Illinois

June 18, 2024

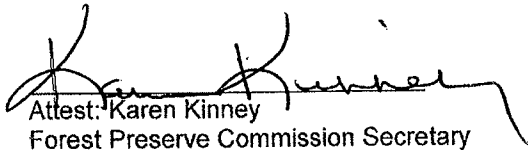
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Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2024 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2025. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Liability Insurance Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2024 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2025. The specific amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.

Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amt. From Other Sources	Amt. Raised From Taxation
Liability Insurance	<u>\$244,288</u>	<u>\$5,100</u>	<u>\$220,000</u>
Total	\$244,288	\$5,100	\$220,000
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2024			\$265,242
Estimated Cash Income:			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$220,000	
Other Income		<u>\$5,100</u>	
			<u>\$225,100</u>
TOTAL			\$490,342
Estimated Expenditures			\$(244,288)
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2025			\$246,054

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary, filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage thereof.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County  
Liability Insurance Fund  
Fiscal Year 2025



Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission of  
Rock Island County, Illinois

June 18, 2024

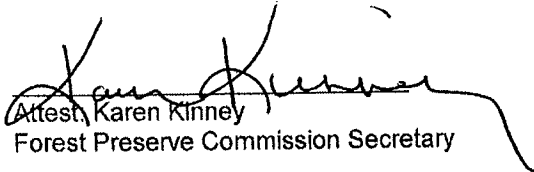
Passed

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Attest, Karen Kinney  
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2024 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2025. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Audit Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2024 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2025. The specific amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.

Classification	Estimated	Amount From	Amount Raised
Objects & Purposes	Expenditures	Other Sources	From Taxation
Audit Fund	<u>\$41,550</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$45,000</u>
Total	\$41,550	\$0	\$45,000
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2024			\$1,452
Estimated Cash Income:			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$45,000	
Other Income		<u>\$0</u>	
			<u>\$45,000</u>
TOTAL			\$46,452
Estimated Expenditures			<u>\$(41,550)</u>
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2025			\$4,902

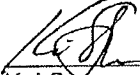
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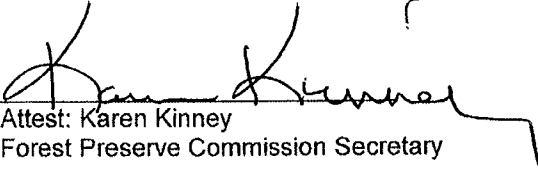
Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County  
Audit Fund  
Fiscal Year 2025

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission of  
Rock Island County, Illinois

June 18, 2024  
Passed

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Attest: Karen Kinney  
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2024 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2025. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Development of Forests and Construction of Improvements Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2024 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2025. The specific amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.


Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amount From Other Sources	Amount Raised From Taxation
DFCI Fund	<u>\$75,000</u>	<u>\$600</u>	<u>\$300,000</u>
Total	\$75,000	\$600	\$300,000
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2024			\$(110,784)
Estimated Cash Income:			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$300,000	
Other Income		<u>\$600</u>	
			<u>\$300,600</u>
TOTAL			\$189,816
Estimated Expenditures			<u>\$(75,000)</u>
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2025			\$114,816

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary, filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage thereof.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

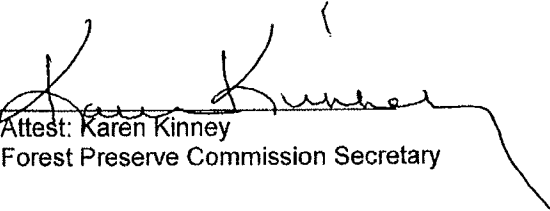
Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County  
Development of Forests & Construction of Improvements Fund  
Fiscal Year 2025

  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission of  
Rock Island County, Illinois

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Attest: Karen Kinney  
Forest Preserve Commission Secretary

- 9a. President Swanson stated, "At this time, I would entertain to address a typographical error in the calculating within the IMRF Retirement Fund that currently reads: \$157,200.00. However, based on information we received from the Fund, that should rightly be: \$170,000.00. Do we have a motion to amend?"

Commissioner Vyncke moved and Adams seconded.

President Swanson asked, "Are there any questions or comments? This is on the motion to amend. Seeing none, I believe we can just use a voice vote for the motion to amend if there are no objections. Seeing no objections."

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

- 9b. President Swanson stated, "Now, we have a motion and a second already on the floor for the main motion (Item 9 above), as amended. Any questions or discussion on that? Seeing none."

Commissioner Burns moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Simmer seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, T. Foster, P. McNeil, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, M. Moreno-Baker, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke  
J. R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

10. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to approve the amendment to the Districts Regular Part-Time & Temporary Employee Pay Policy, as presented. Commissioner Vyncke seconded.

Commissioner Burns moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Mielke seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, T. Foster, P. McNeil, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, M. Moreno-Baker, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke  
J. R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

11. Commissioner Perkins moved to approve the Compensation Philosophy & Policy, as presented. Commissioner M. Moreno-Baker seconded.

Commissioner Vyncke moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner L. Moreno seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, T. Foster, P. McNeil, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, M. Moreno-Baker, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke  
J. R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES                15**

**TOTAL NO                0**

Motion carried.

12. Commissioner Mielke moved to approve the Zoo Director Employment Agreement Amendment, as presented. Commissioner Foster seconded.

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

ZOO DIRECTOR EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

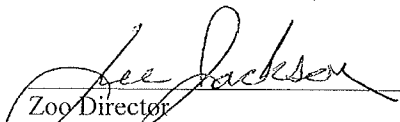
AMENDMENT 4

The Parties, Lee Jackson, "Zoo Director" and the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District entered into an Employment Agreement, "Agreement" on the 29th of April, 2016. That Agreement is still in effect. The District and Zoo Director agree to the following modification to the compensation provisions of the Zoo Director's Employment Agreement;

1. Zoo Director's annual salary is presently \$127,233.60 annually, which is calculated as an hourly rate of \$61.17 per hour for a 40-hour work week for payroll purposes.

2. Zoo Director agrees that beginning July 1, 2024 the annual salary shall be \$128,891.60, which is calculated as an hourly rate of \$61.97 per hour for a 40-hour work week for payroll purposes.

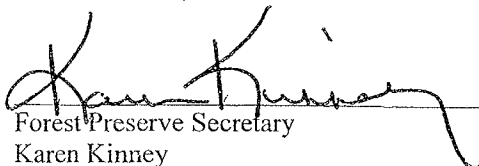
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County has caused this Amendment to the Agreement to be signed and executed in its behalf by its President and duly attested by its Secretary, and the Zoo Director has signed and executed this Agreement, effective upon mutual execution by the Parties.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Zoo Director  
Lee Jackson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Forest Preserve Commission President  
President Kai Swanson

Date: 6/11/2024

Date: 6/18/2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Forest Preserve Secretary  
Karen Kinney

Date: 6-20-2024

Commissioner Perkins moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner L. Moreno seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, T. Foster, P. McNeil, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, M. Moreno-Baker, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke  
J. R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES                15**

**TOTAL NO                0**

Motion carried.

13. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to approve the MindFire Communications INC fiscal year 2025, Work Plan & Proposal at \$65,475.00, as presented. Commissioners Perkins and Vyncke seconded.

Commissioner Brunk moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Burns seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, T. Foster, P. McNeil, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, M. Moreno-Baker, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke  
J. R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES                15**

**TOTAL NO                0**

Motion carried.

14. **Comments from Commissioners: (Two)**

President Swanson asked, "Any comments from Commissioners?"

Commissioner Westpfahl was recognized.

Mr. Westpfahl stated, "Well, I have had several complaints from constituents of mine about out there at Loud Thunder and mushroom hunting. And, someone came out there, took their mushrooms and fined them for illegal whatever. Now, we encourage people to go out there and go see nature and go mushroom hunting and stuff like that and somebody comes along, takes their mushrooms and tells them it's illegal. If you can't hunt mushrooms out there, you better start putting' up signs out there telling them they can't do it."

President Swanson stated, "It's a very good point, Mr. Westpfahl. As you might recall from an earlier gathering, we have been looking at this policy...the somebody who took them were State authorities. Uh, the State..."

Mr. Westpfahl interrupted, "I don't care who did it."

(Overlapping comments between Mr. Westpfahl and President Swanson)

President Swanson added, "Well, I am just providing for your fellow Commissioners, Mr. Westpfahl, some information that you've left open-ended. Those somebody's were State Officials. There is no implication that I know you are making these are county officials, but I am just clarifying that for your fellow Commissioners. They were State Officials from the Department of Conservation. And, a Forest...as per State Code, says nothing can be taken from public lands without permitting certification. Now, as many of you know, the practice has long been...our practice in Rock Island County that our Superintendents have tended to not enforce that. People wanted to go out, especially, around morrell time and find those mushrooms. If you have got good neighbors if you will, and let that happen. And so, now that the State is enforcing that; which is beyond our control to intervene...we have no right to intervene in that. Then, what we are talking about as a Commission, especially through the Executive Committee, about publicizing that...that you are going to run the risk of not following State law. I haven't determined the exact nature of that, but I thank you for bringing that to our attention. I have not heard that anyone was in fact given a fine. I heard that some were confiscated, but you had an allegation that someone was fined?"

Mr. Westpfahl stated, "Yep, they told me they were fined \$65.00. Now, whether there is any truth to that or not, I don't know."

President Swanson stated, "Okay, well that would be good to know and if they would contact me."

Mr. Westpfahl added, "I will look into that for ya."

President Swanson added, "I appreciate that very much and they are welcome to contact me or Mr. Craver directly. But, I want every Commissioner to know that this is the State enforcing a State guideline. This is not a sudden change on part of the Forest Preserves staff. Did you want to add something to that, Mr. Craver?"

Mr. Craver stated, "As you recall...uh, who was that from the Illinois Nature Preserve came in and addressed the Forest Preserve Commission and talked about the different destinations that the Illinois Nature Preserves, their Commission, can be placed on lands. And that is the Ordinance that they, the law enforcement officer, was using as the justification for confiscating and issuing those permits. None of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District lands have that Illinois Nature Preserve Commission designation. So, Illinois Nature Preserves are highly off-limits to a lot of things, especially, the removal of anything from those. Yes, in our Ordinances, it does say that you are not supposed to remove any dirt, soil, plant, animal and so on...without a license or permit to do so. Morrell mushroom hunting has been something that has been tolerated by the staff throughout the years. We have also, as Mr. Westpfahl stated, we have also



encouraged it and has been something that's been tolerated and passed on down. We have no authority over law enforcement officers, it's a law enforcement matter. But, that individual is more than welcome to can contact me and I can direct them to someone else. But, in the past, the State Conservation officers have patrolled our Preserves and they will enforce wildlife codes or what have you. I do believe this is a misunderstanding from a new officer that thought since we are called Rock Island County Forest Preserves, that all of our lands have that dedication. So, I think it was just unfortunately, a mistake and hopefully, it won't happen again. But, moving forward, we have started this discussion at the Forest Preserve Executive Committee how we will be moving forward and will inform the public what the rules are and hopefully, we have had clarification with the Conservation Officers."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you, Mr. Craver. Any other questions on this matter or any other questions?"

Mr. Westpfahl stated, "Yeah, I have one more question.

President Swanson stated, "One second, let me get your mic on there. Please."

Mr. Westpfahl asked, "What happened to the mushrooms they confiscated?"

(Group laughter)

President Swanson stated, "I'll save Mr. Craver time at the mic. As indicated, they are welcome to contact Mr. Craver or me and we will follow up for them. Thank you, Mr. Westpfahl."

Mr. Westpfahl added, "I don't think they know either."

President Swanson stated, "Well, since you are in communication with them, you would be a great conduit of information. I appreciate it. Mr. Simmer. Dr. Simmer, sorry."

Commissioner Simmer was recognized.

Mr. Simmer asked, "You're fine. Yeah, in the 40+ years that I have been hunting and fishing all through Rock Island County, every time you get a new officer...they have their things they go for with a strong arm. Everybody has their opinions and we've been getting away with it for a long time. I know when I first started, you couldn't hunt mushrooms on all those kinds of properties for...and then, as far as the Blackhawk State Park...ya can't go. We have been lenient and have kind of gave in. And so, we'll talk about everything and we will correct that before next season."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you, Dr. Simmer."

Mr. Craver stated, "The Blackhawk State Historic site is one of those designated areas in Rock Island County that has the Illinois Nature Preserve Commission. And so, that's why...and again, that same Conservation Officer also busted some people who were (inaudible) at AMÔWA. So, they are out there doing us some good and we welcome them in our parks."

Mr. Simmer stated, "It's just that we haven't seen them...it's been a few years and we haven't seen any of them."

Mr. Craver added, "But, there is a new enforcement officer."

President Swanson stated, "That's right, that's right. Alright, thank you very much for that...that was very helpful. Are there any other questions on that or any other topics?"

15. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to approve all Routine Reports from the Director and Departments Heads of the Forest Preserve Commission, as presented. Commissioners Foster and M. Moreno-Baker seconded. (Record)

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

President Swanson stated, "Between now and the next meeting, I wish you all a good Independence Day on July 4<sup>th</sup> and also for Juneteenth. There is a great way to celebrate that by going to the Arsenal at 10am for celebration of the 108<sup>th</sup> USCT; which is stationed on the Arsenal. With that, I want to thank you all for your time and dedication of these important matters."

The next meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission will be Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 5:30pm, in these chambers, following the meeting of the Rock Island County Board in the Rock Island County Office Building, 1504 Third Avenue, Rock Island, Illinois. Time is 6:44pm and we are in recess.

President Swanson declared the Forest Preserve Meeting recessed at 6:44pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

  
KAREN KINNEY  
COUNTY CLERK AND SECRETARY  
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

KK:ro