

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION
JANUARY 21, 2025 – 6:18PM
PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON - PRESIDING

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

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

TOTAL PRESENT 16

M. Moreno-Baker, R. Morthland, J. Woods

TOTAL ABSENT 3

President Swanson stated, "We do not have a presentation tonight we wanted everybody to get home and warm as early as they possibly could. However, I'm just curious we have some visitors with us this evening. It's great to see you and I'm just curious if you care to share why you are here. Is there something we, as a Commission, can do to help with your encounter with us this evening? We are putting you on the spot. Are you here as students?"

Mr. Layer stated, "Say what you gotta say."

Craver stated " They are students from Augustana for Political Science class"

(Girls Chuckled)

President Swanson stated, " Ok, I just wanna make sure if you guys have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask any member. We're now in the, having completed the County Board meeting. The County Board also sits as the Forest Preserve Commission. So, same cast of characters, but just a different, body. And if you do have questions, I know some folks to turn you over to. We are very happy to have you with us. So, if you have any questions, just please let us know."

2. Commissioner Adams moved to approve the December 17, 2024, Commission minutes, as presented. Commissioner Sowards seconded."

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

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

4. **PRESIDENTS COMMENTS:**

President Swanson stated, "We have lots to celebrate in the District. The District was awarded a Bike Path Grant for \$199,999.00. I'll chip in the extra buck, Jeff. This is important because it's hard to gain grants for maintaining and upgrading. It's easier to gain grants than to build new ones. So, this is great work on behalf of the District staff. A grant was also awarded in the District for Electric Vehicle charging stations for up to \$410,000.00 and an assessment report is included in the report section. Also, I have a question for all the Members of this Commission. As you probably don't know, I get to represent you all on the County's Health Care Planning Committee. That's the Committee that works with and sets the Budget for the Health Insurance for all of our employees. Well, they have a wellness team. The wellness team has an idea to do something like a poker walk or something like that to get people out doing something when the weather gets a little bit nicer in the spring. And, they've invited the Elected, Board/Commission Members to volunteer at this event. So, is this something...I'm gonna look around for a whole...show of hands. If anybody would have been...we'll start over here. If you'd be interested in volunteering, we'll get the details out later, but is anybody interested over here?"

Mr. Simmer State, " I think my leg is going to be broke that day.,"

President Swanson stated, "You get to stand still."

(Overlapping Commission Members Inaudible)

President Swanson asked, "Is it possible, Enyo? Carla? Alright, Larry? Okay...looking over here? Okay, L. Moreno, Brunk, Dave, Drue. So, just as long as you are open to the idea. What's that?

Board Member Dewith asked, "Do you have the date?"

President Swanson answered, "No, we just wanted to see if it was worth pursuing. It wouldn't be everybody, but if we had about three or four volunteers...you might be out at Niabi...you might be at Illiniwek...but as long as you are all generally interested, I am sure we can get four volunteers. Alright, thank you for the point of personal privilege. We will roll on with our report and questions will come later in the agenda."

5. Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the Forest Preserve Claims and Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$243,421.38, as presented. Commissioner Burns seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

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

TOTAL YES 16

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

6. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to waive the reading and approve the Transfers of Appropriations as enumerated in your packets. Commissioners Foster and Sowards seconded.

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

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

TOTAL YES 16

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

7. Commissioner Simmer moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes, as presented. Commissioner Burns seconded.

(Note** The Resolution is in .pdf format and begin on the next page)

Resolution
Rock Island County Forest Preserve District
Re: Open Meetings Act Review of Minutes of a Meeting Lawfully Closed

WHEREAS, the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission strictly adheres to all provisions of the Open Meetings Act as defined in 5 ILCS 120; and

WHEREAS, 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c), calls for periodic review of minutes of meetings lawfully closed to determine if the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of these minutes or that the minutes or portions therefor no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, during regular committee meetings held during the month of July, 2024; Rock Island County Forest Preserve has reviewed minutes of closed meetings for all previously held closed sessions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT *RESOLVED* that the following meeting minutes have been determined to contain matters where the need for confidentiality still exists:

<u>Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Reason for Closed Session</u>
08-08-1986	Personnel
12-05-1986	Personnel
02-08-1991	Personnel & Potential Liability
07-10-1992	Personnel
02-05-1993	Investments contracts
05-07-1993	Personnel
08-15-1995	Personnel
08-05-2005	Litigation
09-30-2010	Personnel
10-08-2010	Personnel
12-03-2010	Personnel
03-04-2011	Personnel
04-05-2012	Personnel
06-05-2012	Personnel
06-07-2012	Personnel
06-08-2012	Personnel
06-27-2012	Personnel
06-28-2012	Personnel
10-15-2012	Litigation & Personnel
07-11-2013	Personnel
09-12-2013	Litigation
11-14-2013	Litigation & Personnel
12-12-2013	Litigation & Personnel
01-16-2014	Litigation
11-13-2014	Personnel
02-11-2015	Personnel
04-16-2015	Personnel
10-14-2015	Personnel
11-10-2015	Personnel
02-16-2016	Potential Litigation
03-17-2016	Personnel
04-12-2016	Personnel

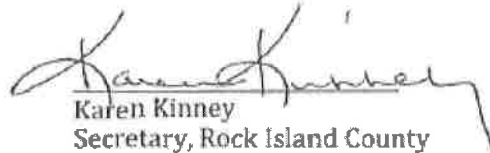
06-15-2016	Litigation
01-10-2017	Litigation
04-11-2017	Litigation
01-09-2018	Personnel
11-13-2018	Personnel & Land Acquisition
02-11-2020	Personnel
12-15-2020	Litigation
07-13-2021	Land Acquisition
07-20-2021	Land Acquisition
10-13-2021	Negotiations
01-11-2022	Land Acquisition
06-13-2023	Land Acquisition
03-21-2024	Land Acquisition
05-14-2024	Litigation
09-17-2024	Collective Negotiations
11-13-2024	Collective Negotiations

This *Resolution* to become effective immediately after passage. Minutes of those meetings determined to be made available for public inspection will be released as per the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2.06(b).

DONE IN OPEN MEETING THIS 21st DAY OF JANUARY, 2025



Kai Swanson
President, Rock Island County
Forest Preserve Commission



Karen Kinney
Secretary, Rock Island County
Forest Preserve Commission

Commissioner Sowards moves to approve the previous roll call vote.
Commissioner Foster seconded.

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

TOTAL YES 16

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

8. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolutions Niabi Zoo Improvements ARPA Grant Appropriations, and Niabi Zoo Appropriations – Woodward Community Grant, as presented. Commissioners Foster and Adams seconded.

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

RESOLUTION

FY 2025 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

WHEREAS, the balance to finish the project including retainage is now \$1,027,209.85, 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 \$86,459.40 shall be increased from grant revenue to be received in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$86,459.40	131-32-35 767 ARPA24-60	Infrastructure over \$15,000

SECTION 3. Revenues in the amount of \$86,459.40 shall be increased from grant revenue to be received in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$86,459.40	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 21st day of January, 2025.


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 \$1,968.50 be transferred from unappropriated funds within the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$1,968.50	131-32-35 638.00 WCGF23	Operating Supplies

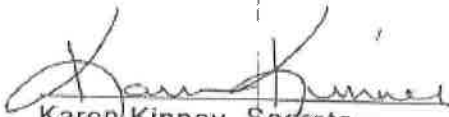
SECTION3. An amount of \$1,968.50 be transferred from grant funds already received to unappropriated funds within the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$1,968.50	131-32-35 337.70 WCGF23	Local Grants & Culture

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

ADOPTED by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 21st day of January, 2025.


Kai Swanson, President
Forest Preserve Commission


Karen Kinney, Secretary
Forest Preserve Commission

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

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

TOTAL YES 16

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

9. Commissioner Vyncke moved to waive the reading and approve the 2025 user fees for the District, as presented. Commissioners Foster and Sowards seconded.

Commissioner Westpfahl asked, "Where are they?"

President Swanson state, "They are in your packet."

Mr. Westpfahl stated, "One page."

President Swanson stated, "Did we get a...I know Mr. Westpfahl doesn't use the electronic packets. Mr. Craver, can we get a printed packet for Mr. Westpfahl?"

Mr. Westpfahl stated, "Just tell me what they are."

President Swanson answered, "Well, it would be about...you got it. The fees."

Mr. Westpfahl stated, "I got it right here."

President Swanson stated, "Okay, I was gonna say, it might be a little bit more of my voice than you want to hear."

President Swanson stated, "I do need a motion and a second. Mr. Vyncke moves and Mr. Foster and Ms. Sowards seconds. Do we have any questions or discussion?"

President Swanson added," Just to summarize, most of them are going up a little bit...we try to keep with the Jones. We are rolling this back to what it was before the reduction."

Commissioner Layer moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioners Simmer and Dewith seconded.

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

TOTAL YES 16

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

10. Commissioner Vyncke moved to approve the IMEG Agreement for design and construction documents of Bike Path Reconstruction, as presented. Commissioner Mielke seconded.

Commissioner Dewith move to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioners Simmer and Burns seconded.

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

TOTAL YES 16

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

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

12. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to approve all Routine Reports from the Director and Departments Heads of the Forest Preserve Commission, as presented. Commissioner Vyncke seconded.

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

13. President Swanson stated, "I hope people are getting out and about even though it was a little brisk today,"

Mr. Simmer stated, "It's Perfect for ice fishing."

President Swanson stated, "Yes, perfect for ice fishing...seeing none."

President Swanson stated, "I did wanna point out, that I wanna give thanks to Mr. Camlin. Due to his work, he has found a very favorable, investment instrument, for the, for the tax anticipation. It's got a different name now the TAN not the TAW. The tax and anticipation note, and he had a competitive bidding process, and it looks like our best bet is about 4% interest rate. And again, to remind you, our goal is not to use all of it. To use as little as we need to, but it's good to have that. I also wanna thank Mr. Camlin for that work. Also, Ms. Palmer, you spent the evening here. Is there anything you'd like to lift up for us?"

April Palmer stated "no, thank you."

President Swanson stated, "But we're grateful to have you with us. Any other questions about the packet in there? I would say, Mr. Craver, there's an item evaluating the accusation of vehicles. I haven't been accused of the cars since I had no Pinto, sins, but I think you meant the acquisition of vehicles."

President Swanson stated, "Friends, the next meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission will be Tuesday February 18, 2025, at 5:30pm, following the meeting of the Rock Island County Board in the Rock Island County Office Building, 1504 Third Avenue, Rock Island, Illinois in these Board Chambers!"

President Swanson declared the Forest Preserve Meeting recessed at 6:29pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karen Kinney", written over the printed name.

KAREN KINNEY
COUNTY CLERK AND SECRETARY
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

KK:ro