

**FOREST PRESERVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

PRESENT: Committee members—D. Mielke, R. Simmer, K. Swanson, L. Moreno, J. Woods, E. Sowards(via phone).

ABSENT: C. Layer.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Craver, District Director; Lee Jackson, Niabi Zoo Director; Ben Mills, Loud Thunder Ranger; April Palmer, Auditor; Nick Camlin, Treasurer; Erin Hughes, Human Resources Director; Jim Grafton, County Administrator; John Remus, Lawyer in WC case.

President Swanson called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Executive Committee to order at 9:37 AM on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, in the second floor conference room in the County Building at 1504 3rd Ave, Rock Island, Illinois.

D. Mielke, R. Simmer, K. Swanson, L. Moreno, J. Woods, E. Sowards(via phone).

TOTAL PRESENT 6

C. Layer.

TOTAL ABSENT 1

President Swanson called for a motion approving the January Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION: Dr. Moreno moved to approve the January Committee meeting minutes. Ms. Woods seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the old year and new year claims and treasurer's disbursements in the amount of \$306,114.27.

MOTION: Mr. Mielke moved to approve the claims and treasurer's disbursements in the amount of \$306,114.27. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the transfers of appropriation.

MOTION: Dr. Moreno moved to approve the transfers of appropriation. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the resolution regarding the bike path grant improvement.

MOTION: Ms. Woods moved to approve the resolution regarding the bike path grant improvement. Mr. Mielke seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson made three calls for public comment.

There were no requests for public comment.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District Housing Agreement.

MOTION: Ms. Woods moved to approve the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District Housing Agreement. Dr. Moreno seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the IMEG proposal for the Bike Path Improvement.

MOTION: Dr. Moreno moved to approve the IMEG proposal for the Bike Path Improvement. Ms. Woods seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the IMEG proposal Lake George Pier & Access Grant Submittal.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the IMEG proposal Lake George Pier & Access Grant Submittal. Mr. Mielke seconded the motion.

Mr. Mills stated that over the years there has been limited access to Lake George. It can be hard to get to in the winter. Dr. Simmer was out the other day, and can attest to that. This pier would go in at the scenic outlook off Loud Thunder Road at the spillway. It would provide an accessible way to get from the road to the water's edge all year long.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Sikich proposal for audit services.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the Sikich proposal for audit services. Dr. Moreno seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Legat Architects proposal for Golf Simulator design.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the Legat Architects proposals for the Golf Simulator design. Dr. Moreno seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson asked if there were any questions regarding the routine reports presented in the packet.

There were no questions.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the routine reports of the District.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the routine reports of the District. Ms. Woods seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to enter closed session as per ILCS 120/2 (c) (11)- Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to enter closed session. Mr. Mielke seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

D. Mielke, K. Swanson, L. Moreno, R. Simmer, J Woods.

TOTAL YES 5

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

Closed session began 9:45 AM

Closed session ended 9:55 AM

President Swanson called for a motion to go back into open session.

MOTION: Dr. Moreno moved to return to open session. Ms. Woods seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson asked Mr. Craver if there was anything else that needed to be brought to the Committee's attention.

Mr. Craver stated that there was nothing further.

President Swanson called the meeting adjourned at 9:56 AM.

Submitted by: Cassie Sullivan
Forest Preserve Administrative Assistant