

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION
JUNE 16, 2026 – 6:17PM
PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON – PRESIDING

1. **PRESENTATION:** Jason Anselment—General Counsel, Illinois Association of Park District

President Swanson stated, "Thank you everyone for your patience. I'd like to call this meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission to order. We have a presentation to start us off this evening. Jason Anselment, who is a great advocate for organizations like ours, as General Counsel of the Illinois Association of Park Districts, is going to be joining us remotely. I am grateful to have represented you, at a recent Park District gathering in Chicago. How are you doing Jason?"

Mr. Anselment stated, "Great, President Swanson. How are you doing"

President Swanson continued, "I am doing just great, and happy to have you with us. Ever since I got a little closer involved with what you are doing, I realized my fellow Commissioners would benefit from learning more. So, the floor is yours sir."

Mr. Anselment continued, "Well, it's an honor to be here, and I want to make sure that you can see my screen. I've got just a brief 10-minute presentation, because I know you want to get on with your meeting, so I'll keep it right at 10 minutes, but I trust you can see my screen."

President Swanson answered, "Yes, we can."

Mr. Anselment continued, "Great. Let me begin by saying the IAPD is the oldest statewide association of its kind, in the country. We've been around since 1928, so just like our great nation, we'll be celebrating an anniversary here in a couple years. Our offices are about a 2-minute walk from the State Capitol, and so if you're ever in Springfield, we always love it when members stop by. We are governed by a 19-member board of elected officials just like all of you, so we're always looking for people to get actively involved. I know President Swanson is on our Program Committee, and so if you're ever interested, we have many opportunities, many committees to get involved with IAPD. You've been a member, the Forest Preserve since, I think, at least 2009, and I don't know if that seems that long ago to all of you, but I've only been with the association since 2010. At that time, I only had 2 daughters, and now I've got 4. Back when I first started, our family vacations were to go around to forest preserves and park districts, and our very first family vacation of that kind was to the Quad Cities, and we were at Niabi Zoo back in 2011, and I can tell you, my kids, the 2 that are now in college, but they still remember that fondly. It is truly a crown jewel and really, a tribute to all of you and the work that you do. IAPD has many member benefits.

I'm going to really talk about 3 core services tonight, advocacy, being the first. Advocacy matters, as you probably all know in both your roles as County Board members, and Forest Preserve Board Members, because what happened next door here at the Capitol, affects all the authority that you have. How you conduct your meetings, your liability, everything from how you make purchases, the items that were on your agenda at the county board meeting and will be on the agenda just after this. Of course, a big thing for you all of us is grant funding, and that's a big part of IAPD's advocacy efforts, to make sure that there is grant funding, matching grant funding in the budget each year. You've certainly done a great job of availing yourselves of those grants. In fact, I believe you might have an agenda item related to your next OSLAD grant on the agenda tonight, that was certainly great news back in January. I know the Loud Thunder campsite improvements, I think were right, pretty much coincided with the pandemic, so we know how important that asset has been to the community, and you've done a great job at taking advantage of bike path grants as well. So, that's a big part of our advocacy. One of the other things we do, is we initiate legislation that really come from our membership, things that would help your agency operate more efficiently. We've raised the competitive bid limit, here in the last year or so. We clarified some trail signage requirements. It was very important to insulating the district and others from liability. We had a very unique situation, where a member had gotten a FOIA request that it turns out, was actually malware. It wasn't a FOIA request at all, and we were able to pass landmark legislation to fix that. I don't think we will have this signed by the Governor in time for you to file your budget appropriation ordinances electronically here soon, but next year you'll be able to do that just like your tax levies and your bond ordinances. So, oftentimes these benefit all local governments, and we certainly work with other agencies. In the last 40+ years, we've been one of the most successful in terms of passing legislation. I have to tell you, the membership deserves the credit for that, and you certainly have sent us bipartisan representatives. It is good to see Representative Morthland, I haven't seen you in a while, but always bipartisan support coming out of Rock Island County, and we really appreciate it, and it helps us because we are a bipartisan issue. As much as we like passing bills, I would say we spend much more time, fighting unfunded mandates and bills that would expose our members to liability, either through unfunded mandates or expanding tort liability. We have oftentimes attacks on local control, sometimes those are unintended. We've got this new e-bike legislation that probably will be signed soon. When that came out, it's great to have uniformity and new rules, but we all know that not all trails are really suitable for those types of devices, so we were able to preserve that authority in the final version, because it was not in the original version. So, that is a big part of our advocacy efforts. I think one of the things that's important to our members is really our bill review services. We do review every bill. The magnitude of legislation in Springfield only grows every year, so you can see there almost 10,000 bills filed, almost 3,000 amendments in the last couple years. So, we track a lot of legislation, and then we keep you updated through updates and alerts. I know many of you have come to those legislative breakfasts over the years, and

certainly that's a great opportunity to connect with your legislators. We have events, and then the website is a great way to stay informed as well. If you don't get our emails and you want them, please call the office. I'll have our number at the end of the presentation, certainly want to make sure you have all of the information that you need. Again, the website is a great repository of all kinds of legislative information. Another big service we do is research, and this helps us not just in advocacy, but I know that it's helped our members as well. So, we had a statewide citizen satisfaction survey back in 2023. We've done employment analysis that I think have demonstrated what a significant role we play, you all play as employers within the State of Illinois. We're coming out very soon with an agency expenditure analysis that I'll touch on in just a second because the Forest Preserve did fill out that survey, and you'll be getting your own individualized report. For instance, this is one of my favorite stats that came out of that independent research, 2 or 3 years ago on the heels of the pandemic. You know, when the county is trying to attract businesses or residents to the community, we talk about quality of life, and this independent research demonstrated that forest preserves and park districts are providing, some of the top assets to, and have those attributes that people are looking for when they look for quality of life in terms of recreational programs and open space, and the number of forest preserves and parks. You can see there, the 2 of the top 3 beat out even the quality of public schools, so very important research. Then, this expenditure analysis that I touched on, Jeff will share that with you here in the coming weeks. It will help demonstrate, number one, some benchmarking, but also help you demonstrate the financial impact that you're having on the local economy. So, we're very excited about that. As I close out, education is also a big part of what we do. President Swanson mentioned the annual conference, I want to commend that to all of you. If you get the opportunity, we have a legal symposium, where we go over all of the new laws that have passed, legislative conference, lots of other opportunities. I think I first met Kai at a boot camp, probably a decade ago, the way time flies. That is a great opportunity for new and seasoned elected officials to learn about the OMA and FOIA, those kinds of requirements. Then, we do webinars and workshops, oftentimes those are complimentary. I just want to commend you to a couple here in the next 2 days. There are new federal ADA rules, and while they've been delayed as they relate to your websites, they're still around the corner, and that's a complimentary webinar, it's not too late to register tonight or tomorrow morning. So, I would commend that one to you. Then, the OSLET cycle is opening up here, within the next 2 weeks. We're going to have IDNR as well as a grant consultant that will give you some tips on 2026 applications. We have a governance and leadership forum next week, so lots of opportunities to stay on top of legal and other requirements. If you've never been to the Illinois State Fair, please come on the 22nd of August, it is a great way to help raise awareness about forest preserves and conservation. We've got awards recognition programs, if you have businesses that you would like to recognize. I mentioned the symposium and the conference, there are so many other services and again, I want you to be able to get on with your meeting tonight. I know I've

talked with staff over the years, we do offer legal consultation and work with local counsel as well. We do a lot of board development, I mentioned those awards in recognition and public awareness. All of this information is on our website under the "About Us" membership tab. There's a whole guide to membership benefits, but most importantly I want you to know you can call the office and we are happy to spend time answering whatever questions that you have. We really are here to serve you. Appreciate all that you do to improve the quality of life. A very impressive meeting earlier, what a great County Board that you have. So, thank you one and all."

President Swanson stated, "Well, Jason, thank you very much for taking the time to be with us this evening. I'll look around to see if we have any questions from Commission members, Mr. Morthland, let's hear from you."

Commissioner R. Morthland stated, "Jason, I just wanted to say hi, it's good to see you again. I will tell everyone that I always had a very warm welcome at IAPD, and that you guys are tremendous partners. Having come from this body, to go down to Springfield, you make really great thing happen. So, thank you, it's wonderful to see you again."

Mr. Anselment stated, "It was a surprise to see you, I knew you were on the board but it's great to see you. Thanks so much, and President Swanson, always good to see you."

President Swanson stated, "And you too sir, thank you for your time, and I wish you a pleasant evening. Thank you. All right, well friends, I was in such a hurry to get going, and that's just a sign the Novocain is starting to wear off. I came straight from the dental visit, and the numbness is going, so I'm in a rush. Not so much in a rush that we can't have a roll call, whenever Madam Clerk is ready to give us a roll call to call this meeting to order officially."

2. Karen Kinney, County Clerk, called the roll:

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

TOTAL PRESENT 16

T. Foster, M. Moreno-Baker, J. Woods

TOTAL ABSENT 3

President Swanson stated, "Thank you very much friends, for your patience with that. I am going to try something just a little bit different so we can separate the

comments, questions from the motions and the seconds. For motions and seconds, simply raise a hand, and I'll call your name so the Clerk has your name that way. That way that'll save the button for when you want to make a comment, questions that kind of thing. We'll just see how that works, because this is the first time. If it doesn't, we'll do it exactly the way we did during county board. You guys okay with that? Alright."

3. Commissioner D. Adams moved to approve the May 19, 2026 Commission Minutes as amended, Commissioner B. Vyncke seconded.

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – President Swanson stated, "Now, I have not received a formal call for public comment, and I'm not going to put our guests on the spot, but we so rarely have guests. If any of you would like to introduce yourselves, we'd be very happy to know who is joining us this evening. If I could just ask you to go over to the podium if you're so inclined. You don't have to, but I'm grateful for your attendance. Thank you, Emma."

Ms. Bowes stated, "Hi, my name is Emma Bowes. I am a student at Augustana College here in Rock Island, going in to my Senior year. I am a triple major in Environmental Studies, Religion and Anthropology, and I'm here tonight to really learn more about how this board actually works. I've been doing a lot of research, in how preserves and natural areas are protected and conserved, especially in the State of Illinois. So, I figured no better research could be done than to actually be here and watch you guys do your thing, very intriguing."

President Swanson stated, "Thank you, Emma. Thank you for being with us. Emma comes from Colorado, so they know a thing or 2 about protecting natural resources out there. Would either of you like to say your names? You don't have to."

Ms. Oliveri stated, "I'm Lillie Oliveri, I am a rising Junior at Augustana College. I am studying Environmental Studies and Sociology, and like Emma, I was curious how the county board works, and I just want to learn more about the Forest Preserve Commission."

Ms. Ocenasek stated, "My name is Emilia, I am a rising Sophomore majoring in Biology and Environmental Studies. Same as them, I am just doing more research on the preservation of land."

President Swanson stated, "We're so very happy to have you with us, and I think you know my day job, so if you have any questions from tonight that you'd like to

unpack, send me an email and I'll do my best to connect you with the information. Thank you also for letting me put you on the spot."

President Swanson made 2 additional calls for public comment.

5. **PRESIDENTS COMMENTS:**

President Swanson stated, "Not much to address in terms of President's comments, however, I don't know how closely you looked at the reports this month, I'm going to swear you all to secrecy. It's an open meeting, so I can't swear you to secrecy, but I'd ask you be discreet. Our Pallas's Cats at Niabi have had a litter. We haven't told the public yet, in fact it is so early, we do not know the genders yet. If you read the report you will see 0.0.3, which means they don't know the gender yet. So, at the appropriate time a big ballyhoo will be made of it, but I thought you all deserved to know a little bit in advance. Pallas's Cats are the ones they call grumpy cats because their default face is like that. They're cute, and I cannot wait to see what the kittens look like. That's something I wanted you all to know about, some exciting news from Niabi. We will have a chance for questions later on in the meeting."

6. Commissioner R. Simmer moved to approve the Forest Preserve Claims and Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$520,333.97 Commissioners L. Burns and C. Layer seconded.

(*Note—Claims & TD's begin on next page.)



FM100E98:Forest Preserve Committee - AP by G/L

Invoice Due Date Range 05/01/26 - 05/31/26

Vendor	Invoice No.	Invoice Description	Status	Held Reason	Invoice Date	Due Date	G/L Date	Received Date	Payment Date	Invoice Amount
Fund 608 - Marvin Martin Fund										
Department 32 - Forest Preserve										
Object detail 762.00 - Buildings \$2,000-\$4999										
108147 - CHENOWETH CONSTRUCTION	04292026	remove window, and install replacement	Open		05/28/2026	05/28/2026	05/28/2026			5,920.00
		Object detail 762.00 - Buildings \$2,000-\$4999 Totals						Invoice Transactions 1		\$5,920.00
101828 - HAHN READY MIX	491856	Deer Haven parking lot project	Open		05/28/2026	05/28/2026	05/28/2026			1,160.55
101828 - HAHN READY MIX	492031	Deer Haven parking lot project	Open		05/28/2026	05/28/2026	05/28/2026			1,324.20
		Object detail 763.00 - Infrastructure \$2,000-\$14,999 Totals						Invoice Transactions 2		\$2,484.75
		Department 32 - Forest Preserve Totals						Invoice Transactions 3		\$8,404.75
		Fund 608 - Marvin Martin Fund Totals						Invoice Transactions 3		\$8,404.75
		Grand Totals						Invoice Transactions 554		\$293,774.03

* = Prior Fiscal Year Activity

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STATE OF ILLINOIS

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* SS
*THE FP COMMITTEE 6/9/26
SESSION

FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND

MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT,

YOUR COMMITTEE ON FOREST PRESERVE REPORTS THAT THEY HAVE EXAMINED ALL CLAIMS
PRESENTED BEFORE THEM BY THE COMMITTEE TO PAY CLAIMS PRIOR TO COMMISSION ACTION.

SS-ILCS 5/1-6005, SS-ILCS 5/1-6006 1996 ILLINOIS COMPILED STATUTES.

APPROPRIATION NUMBER							
VENDOR	FUND	DEPT	BASIC EL.	OBJ.	DATE	CK#	AMOUNT
CardConnect	130	32	90	873.00	5/4/26	AWD	364.18
CardConnect	130	32	91	873.00	5/4/26	AWD	624.03
CardConnect	130	32	92	873.00	5/4/26	AWD	2,569.88
Illinois Department of Revenue	130		208.10		5/15/26	ACH	2,480.00
Petty Cash - Indian Bluff	130		102.00		5/22/26	ACH	5,000.00
Petty Cash - Indian Bluff	130	32	92	631.00	5/22/26	ACH	480.00
Petty Cash - Indian Bluff	130	32	92	526.00	5/22/26	ACH	15,104.30
Morrow Brother's Ford	130	32	91	768.00	5/29/26	709513	43,673.00
Amalgamated Bank	130	32	10	872.00	5/29/26	ACH	62,301.25
Morrow Brother's Ford	131	32	08	768.00	5/1/26	709512	39,307.00
Petty Cash - Niabi Zoo	131	32	08	631.00	5/1/26	ACH	110.00
CardConnect	131	32	10	873.00	5/4/26	AWD	4,156.22
Illinois Department of Revenue	131		208.10		5/15/26	ACH	1,310.00
Petty Cash - Niabi Zoo	131	32	10	631.00	5/15/26	ACH	3,150.00
Petty Cash - Niabi Zoo	131	32	10	639.00	5/15/26	ACH	1,112.00
Petty Cash - Niabi Zoo	131	32	RC	991.12	5/15/26	ACH	500.00
Petty Cash - Niabi Zoo	131	32	10	639.00	5/29/26	ACH	168.00
Petty Cash - Niabi Zoo	131	32	10	632.00	5/29/26	ACH	502.25
Amalgamated Bank	131	32	10	872.00	5/29/26	ACH	15,225.00
State of IL-Dept of Employment Security	133	32		636.00	5/15/26	ACH	11,426.00
MidAmerican Energy	335	32	35	765.00	5/29/26	709514	8,996.83
Camlin-Treasurer FP General Fund	608	32	35	337.70	5/1/26	ACH	8,000.00
Total							226,559.94

FOREST PRESERVE PRESIDENT

MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER

074

A roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call:

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, E. Dewith, C. Enburg, C. Layer, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, C. Ramos, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

TOTAL YES 15

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

7. Commissioner B. Vyncke moved to waive the reading and approve the transfers of appropriation, Commissioner B. Perkins seconded.

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County, Illinois, has adopted Annual Budgets and Appropriation Ordinances for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, and

WHEREAS, it now appears desirable and necessary that certain adjustments be made between Appropriation Items in the Forest Preserve Fund and Niabi Zoo Fund in said Annual Appropriation Ordinances, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County, Illinois, that the amounts set forth below are hereby transferred from the unexpended balance of certain appropriation items in the Forest Preserve Fund as contained in said Budgets and Appropriation Ordinances to certain other such Appropriation Items within the same Fund, as follows: within the same Fund, as follows:

Amount	Appropriation #	Description	Revised
\$5,000.00 from	130-32-98 638	Repairs & Maintenance	\$0.00
\$4,000.00 from	130-32-93 763	Infrastructure \$2000-14999	\$0.00
\$7,690.00 from	130-32-90 764	Machine & Equipment \$1000-4999	\$5,310.00
\$9,214.00 to	130-32-10 631	Professional Services	\$27,299.00
\$3,569.00 to	130-32-93 638	Repairs & Maintenance	\$3,765.00
\$3,907.00 to	130-32-90 524	Small Tools & Equipment under \$1000	\$6,607.00
\$4,788.00 from	131-32-10 522.GS	Gift Shop Merchandise Supplies	\$134,161.00
\$4,788.00 to	131-32-08 763	Infrastructure \$2000-14,999	\$4,788.00
\$10,000.00 from	131-32-08 631	Professional Services	\$157,661.00
\$10,000.00 to	131-32-08 522	Operating Supplies	\$310,000.00
\$1,500.00 from	130-32-91 633	Travel	\$0.00
\$900.00 from	130-32-92 522	Operating Supplies	\$99,795.00
\$ 1,400.00 to	130-32-90 764	Machine & Equipment \$1000-4999	\$6,710.00
\$1,000.00 to	130-32-91 768	Machine & Equipment over \$5000	\$71,082.00
\$7,000.00 from	130-32-90 411.10	Seasonal Salaries & Wages	\$44,000.00
\$7,000.00 to	130-32-90 638	Repairs & Maintenance	\$25,100.00
\$3,000.00 from	130-32-90 523	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	\$10,650.00
\$3,000.00 to	130-32-90 524	Small Tools & Equipment under \$1000	\$9,607.00
\$7,000.00 from	130-32-90 522	Operating Supplies	\$20,771.00
\$7,000.00 to	130-32-90 631	Professional Services	\$12,050.00
\$9,000.00 from	130-32-91 411.10	Seasonal Salaries & Wages	\$61,000.00
\$1,600.00 to	130-32-91 524	Small Tools & Equipment under \$1000	\$10,630.00
\$7,400.00 to	130-32-91 638	Repairs & Maintenance	\$32,650.00
\$12,452.00 from	130-32-92 768	Machine & Equipment over \$5000	\$53,484.26
\$6,790.00 to	130-32-10 644	Outside Contractual	\$140,140.00
\$5,662.00 to	130-32-92 523	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	\$32,875.74
\$1,400.00 from	130-32-90 630	Training & Education	\$800.00
\$1,400.00 to	130-32-92 764	Machine & Equipment \$1000-4999	\$3,853.00
\$4,200.00 from	131-32-07 633	Travel	\$0.00
\$39,307.00 from	131-32-18 768	Machine & Equipment over \$5000	\$55,784.31
\$20,000.00 from	131-32-18 522	Operating Supplies	\$40,000.00
\$10,000.00 from	131-32-18 644	Outside Contractual	\$12,240.00
\$9,440.00 from	131-32-10 522.GS	Gift Shop Merchandise Supplies	\$124,721.00
\$284.00 to	131-32-07 634	Publishing	\$330.00
\$570.00 to	131-32-08 412.10	Seasonal Overtime	\$1,661.00
\$5,000.00 to	131-32-08 522	Operating Supplies	\$315,000.00
\$5,500.00 to	131-32-08 524	Small Tools & Equipment	\$13,600.00

\$455.00 to	131-32-08 528	Zoo Animals	\$455.00
\$5,272.00 to	131-32-08 633	Travel	\$10,522.00
\$400.00 to	131-32-08 634	Publishing	\$659.00
\$892.00 to	131-32-08 635	Printing & Duplicating	\$892.00
\$2,790.00 to	131-32-08 638	Repairs & Maintenance	\$2,790.00
\$515.00 to	131-32-08 639	Rentals	\$715.00
\$402.00 to	131-32-08 642	Dues & Memberships	\$650.00
\$2,470.00 to	131-32-08 764	Machine & Equipment \$1000-4999	\$2,470.00
\$23,171.00 to	131-32-10 631	Professional Services	\$80,111.00
\$3,371.00 to	131-32-10 632	Communications	\$18,599.00
\$4,500.00 to	131-32-18 523	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	\$38,300.00
\$3,100.00 to	131-32-18 524	Small Tools & Equipment	\$8,850.00
\$12.00 to	131-32-18 632	Communications	\$275.00
\$6,660.00 to	131-32-18 638	Repairs & Maintenance	\$49,105.20
\$6,340.00 to	131-32-18 763	Infrastructure \$2000-14999	\$6,340.00
\$11,243.00 to	131-32-18 764	Machine & Equipment \$1000-4999	\$15,163.00
\$13,878.00 from	130-32-92 413	Employee Health Benefit	\$61,340.00
\$3,878.00 to	130-32-92 764	Machine & Equipment \$1000-4999	\$7,731.00
\$10,000.00 to	130-32-92 411.10	Seasonal Salaries & Wages	\$175,000.00

ADOPTED by the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County,
Rock Island, Illinois on the 16th day of June, 2026.
The Revised Appropriations shall be in full force and effect from and after this date.

A roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call:

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, E. Dewith, C. Enburg, C. Layer, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, C. Ramos, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

TOTAL YES 15

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

8. Commissioner L. Burns moved to waive the reading and approve the resolutions regarding FY 2026 DFCI EV Charging Station Grant Improvement, FY 2026 DFCI Fund – Zoo Open Space Land Acquisition & Development Grant

(*Note—Resolutions begin on next page.)

RESOLUTION

FY 2026 Development of Forests & Construction Fund-Electric Vehicle Charging Station Grant Improvements

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve District was awarded grant funds to install electric vehicle charging stations at District facilities, and

WHEREAS, claims and expenditures for the design and construction documents have been received, and

WHEREAS, construction and construction administration claims from vendors have been 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. Funds in the amount of \$58,496.83 are available from unappropriated funds within Fund #335 Development of Forest and Construction of Improvements until the grant award is received to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$58,496.83	335-32-35 765.00 CCFI31-60-765	Construction in Progress

SECTION 3. Revenues in the amount of \$58,396.83 shall be increased from grant funds to be received to the Development of Forests & Construction Fund #335 in the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$58,496.83	335-32-35 331.70 CCFI31-00-33170	Federal Grant – Electric Vehicle Charging Station Grant

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

ADOPTED by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 9th day of June, 2026.

Kai Swanson, President
Forest Preserve Commission

Karen Kinney, Secretary
Forest Preserve Commission

RESOLUTION

FY 2026 Development of Forests & Construction Fund-Zoo Open Space Land
Acquisition & Development Grant Program

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve District was awarded \$527,800 in grant funds from the Open Space Land Acquisition & Development grant, and

WHEREAS, the funds will be used to install an outdoor splash pad, outdoor educational deck, and dinosaur dig area at Niabi Zoo, and

WHEREAS, claims and expenditures for the design and construction documents have been 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. Funds in the amount of \$6,121.75 are available from unappropriated funds within Fund #335 Development of Forest and Construction of Improvements until the grant award is received to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$6,121.75	335-32-35 765.00	Construction in Progress
	OSLA28-50-765	

SECTION 3. Revenues in the amount of \$6,121.75 shall be increased from grant funds to be received to the Development of Forests & Construction Fund #335 in the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$6,121.75	335-32-35 334.70	State Grant – Electric Vehicle
	OSLA28-00-33470	Zoo OSLAD Grant

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

ADOPTED by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 9th day of June, 2026.

Kai Swanson, President
Forest Preserve Commission

Karen Kinney, Secretary
Forest Preserve Commission

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A roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call:

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, E. Dewith, C. Enburg, C. Layer, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, C. Ramos, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

TOTAL YES 15

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

9. Commissioner B. Vyncke moved to remove from display and approve FY 2027 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 Forests & Construction of Improvement Fund. Commissioner D. Adams seconded.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
ROCK ISLAND COUNTY)

I, Karen Kinney, Forest Preserve District Secretary for the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District, County of Rock Island, State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinances, is a true and correct copy of the original Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinances passed by the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County, Illinois, at a meeting duly convened and held on the 16th day of June, 2026, and executed by the President of said District thereafter the passage at such duly convened meeting held on the 16th day of June, 2026.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the corporate seal of the Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, this __16__ day of June, 2026.

Karen Kinney, Secretary
Rock Island County Forest Preserve District

A roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call:

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, E. Dewith, C. Enburg, C. Layer, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, C. Ramos, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

TOTAL YES 15

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

10. Commissioner C. Layer moved to approve the Zoo Director employment agreement amendment 6. Commissioner R. Simmer seconded.

(*Note—Agreement begins on next page.)

ZOO DIRECTOR EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

AMENDMENT 6

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 \$129,896.00 annually, which is calculated as an hourly rate of \$62.45 per hour for a 40-hour work week for payroll purposes.

2. Zoo Director agrees that beginning July 1, 2026 the annual salary shall be \$130,998.40, which is calculated as an hourly rate of \$62.98 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: _____

Date: _____

Forest Preserve Secretary
Karen Kinney

Date: _____

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A roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call:

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, E. Dewith, C. Enburg, C. Layer, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, C. Ramos, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

TOTAL YES 15

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

11. Comments from Commissioners

Commissioner E. Dewith stated, "I just want to let you guys know, that's Augustana, this is Augustana, Go Augustana, we represent. I also had a dog that was born at Niabi, my Dingo."

Commissioner R. Simmer stated, "I have 2 that that have graduated from Augustana, the last one just finished her SLP this semester. I'd like to tell you that Mr. Swanson does a multitude of talents, and my grandson at just 3 years old is driving his John Deere tractor around last night at my house. He just wears the wheels off this thing. Just a couple of weeks ago, he pulls up and he's got his little radio on, and what's he got on it? Mr. Swanson doing his talk show on this thing, listening to that as he's driving around the dang neighborhood. I said "He is always pushing it." We'll have to talk to him about that."

12. Commissioner L. Burns moved to approve all routine reports from the Director and Department Heads to the Forest Preserve Commission, Commissioner E. Dewith seconded

A voice vote was taken.

Motion Carried.

President Swanson stated, "The next meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission will be Tuesday, July 21, 2026, in these chambers following County Board."

President Swanson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



KAREN KINNEY
COUNTY CLERK AND SECRETARY
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

KK: ah