

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Joint Committee Meeting: Finance Committee; Planning Committee; Operations Committee
January 30, 2017**

The Finance; Planning; and Operations Committees met jointly on Monday, January 30, 2017. The meeting was held at the District's Operations and Public Safety Facility, 19808 West Grand Avenue, Lake Villa, Illinois.

1.0 Call to Order – At 8:30 a.m., with a quorum present of all committees, President Maine asked each Chair to call their committee to order:

- 1.1 Finance Committee:** Chair Mike Rummel called the Finance Committee to order. Members Present: Mike Rummel, Chair; Linda Pedersen, Vice-Chair; Steve Carlson, Bill Durkin, Aaron Lawlor, Audrey Nixon. Sandy Hart arrived at 8:40 a.m.
- 1.2 Operations Committee** –Chair Craig Taylor called the Operations Committee to order. Members Present: Craig Taylor, Chair; Mary Ross Cunningham, Vice-Chair, Chuck Bartels (via telephone); Steve Carlson, Bill Durkin, Diane Hewitt, Judy Martini, Audrey Nixon, Mike Rummel. Absent: Brent Paxton.
- 1.3 Planning Committee** –Vice-Chair Sid Mathias called the Planning Committee to order. Members Present: Paul Frank, Linda Pedersen, Craig Taylor, Tom Weber, Jeff Werfel, Terry Wilke. Chair Carol Calabresa arrived at 8:32 a.m. Sandy Hart arrived at 8:40 a.m.

Also Present:

Ann Maine, <i>President</i>	Jim Ballowe	Jim Anderson
Alex Ty Kovach	Mary Kann	John Tannahill
Mike Tully	Nan Buckardt	Rebekah Snyder
Steve Neaman	Katherine Hamilton-Smith	Julie Gragnani
Randy Seebach	John Nelson	Matt Norton, <i>Holland & Knight</i>

2.0 Pledge Of Allegiance – Linda Pedersen led the pledge of allegiance.

At this time, Chair Taylor announced that Operations Committee member Chuck Bartels requested to attend the meeting via telephone, in accordance with the District's policy on electronic meeting attendance. There were no objections and Chair Taylor declared member Bartels present.

3.0 Public Comment – None

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Executive Director Comments- Executive Director Kovach reported on the safety program, noting a focus on the safety culture of the District, adopting keystone safety practices for backing and accident review; identifying safety gaps, and moving from reactionary to prevention. He also noted that he sent out his first insider newsletter for the Preservation Foundation to 280 addresses with a total response goal of 6%.

6.0 Review proposed changes to the 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) – Mr. Kovach gave a presentation reviewing the proposed changes to the 10-Year CIP for FY 2017-18. He noted that the budget assumes no property tax freeze. Projects remain on the list with full funding until completely closed out, and there are insufficient funds for the local share of federal and state grants. Goals include a balanced 10-year CIP, account for maintenance and repair needs, ensure standards are maintained, focus on completing what has been started, align projects with Strategic Plan, and focuses on funding projects with no or minimal operating costs.

As listed on staff's recommendation memo, Mr. Kovach reviewed adjustments recommended to two existing funded projects on the CIP; and 10 projects recommended to be funded or added to the CIP. Staff responded to questions and various discussions ensued regarding the Spring Bluff projects and the costs and number of people who use trail tunnels in general.

Mr. Kovach then reviewed four strategic plan objectives recommended to be added to the CIP because they are considered capital projects. The objectives represent significant public access and habitat restoration projects and staff recommended they be added to the CIP to become major fundraising objectives for the Preservation Foundation. The committees discussed each objective and staff responded to questions.

Member Lawlor left the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Mr. Kovach then explained the CIP spreadsheet. He summarized the sources of funds, noting the Development Levy Fund will be expended in FY 21/22 and development bond funds will be expended in FY 17/18. The General Fund Balance Policy of 50% is projected to occur in FY 26/27, and after that, there will be negative numbers. Also, if there is a property tax freeze, there will be negative numbers on the spreadsheet in 3 to 4 years. He reviewed the numbers for ongoing restoration and tree planting, reforestation, repair of roads and parking lots, and facility and infrastructure improvements. He showed a list of completed project that came off the list, and a list of projects completed but not yet closed out. He reviewed a list of projects approved for removal from the CIP to be placed on the unfunded list, and illustrated the status of regional trails on a map.

Member Frank left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Kovach then reviewed the list of potential unfunded projects to consider for possible future inclusion into the 10-year CIP. The Tier 1 projects totaled nearly \$20 million and with the local share of just over \$9.1 million. A general discussion ensued and staff responded to questions. Mr. Kovach noted that all regional trail projects have been placed into Tier 1. Member Martini requested a slide showing the recommended deletions on the list of unfunded projects, and include the locations of the trail systems. Mr. Kovach said it could be prepared in time for the Finance Committee meeting.

The committees took a break at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened at 10:58 a.m. Chair Rummel asked staff to look at options on discretionary bond funding using limited bonds. Mr. Kovach said he would gather some information and bring it back at a future meeting. President Maine noted that a Rules of Order booklet was at each Commissioner's seat including the meeting calendars, and announced the Profiles in Excellence event at Greenbelt Cultural Center on February 5.

7.0 Review proposed changes to Fiscal Year 2017/18 Annual Budget Policies and Annual Strategic Action Plan - Mr. Neaman noted that the revisions reflect the change in focus to address tax cap pressures and operational needs. President Maine added that No. 6.2 on page 8 now includes a list of criteria for prioritizing the opening and development of new and existing forest preserves. Mr. Neaman briefly summarized the other major revisions in the document. Member Bartels requested that No. 2.8 on page 5 should include "ADA compliance" and President Maine agreed. Staff responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. The committees made no other changes to the document. It will go to the full Board for approval in February.

Member Bartels' phone connection was terminated at 11:30 a.m.

8.0 Executive Session – Finance Committee: Motion by member Durkin, second by member Hart to go into closed session to discuss the acquisition or lease of real property for the District and for the setting of a price for the sale or lease of District property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. **Operations Committee:** Motion by member Cunningham, second by member Martini to go into closed session to discuss the acquisition or lease of real property for the District and for the setting of a price for the sale or lease of District property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. **Planning Committee:** Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Wilke to go into closed session to discuss the acquisition or lease of real property for the District and for the setting of a price for the sale or lease of District property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 6, NAYS: 0. The committees went into executive session at 11:30 a.m. and returned to open session at 12:15 p.m.

9.0 Next Meetings – President Maine reviewed upcoming meetings: February 6, 2017: Operations Committee, Committee of the Whole, and Planning Committee. February 9, 2017: Finance Committee.

10.0 Adjourn – There was a consensus to adjourn the joint meeting at 12:15 p.m.

APPROVED:

Operations Committee:

YEA NAY

Planning Committee:


YEA NAY



 Craig Taylor, Chair




 Carol Calabresa, Chair



 Mary Ross Cunningham, Vice Chair

 Sidney Mathias, Vice Chair

 Chuck Bartels



 Paul Frank



 Steve Carlson



 Sandy Hart



 Bill Durkin




 Linda Pedersen



 Diane Hewitt



 Craig Taylor



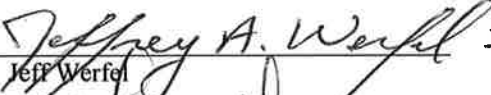
 Judy Martini



 Tom Weber

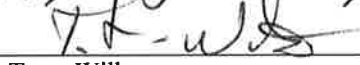


 Audrey Nixon



 Jeffrey A. Werfel

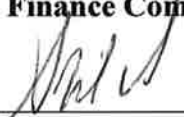
 Brent Paxton



 Terry Wilke

 S. Michael Rummel

Finance Committee:



 S. Michael Rummel, Chair



 Sandy Hart



 Linda Pedersen, Vice Chair

 Aaron Lawlor



 Steve Carlson



 Audrey Nixon



 Bill Durkin