

**Lake County Forest Preserves  
Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 3, 2021**

On Monday, May 3, 2021 pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the April 2, 2021, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, the Governor's Executive Orders No. 2021-6, and the Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the District's Legislative Committee met via audio and video conference and at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

**1.0 Call to Order** -With a quorum present, Chair Clark called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**2.0 Roll Call** – Committee Secretary Shelton called the roll and four committee members responded: Jennifer Clark, Chair; Gina Roberts, Vice Chair; Linda Pedersen and Jessica Vealitzek. Paras Parekh was present after the roll call.

**Also Present:**

Angelo Kyle, <i>President</i>	Mary Kann	Jim Siefken
Carissa Casbon	Steve Neaman	Pati Vitt
Alex Ty Kovach	John Nelson	Kim Mikus
Mike Tully	Rebekah Snyder	Maureen Shelton
Nan Buckardt	Debbie Boness	Matt Norton, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>
		Derek Blaida, <i>Legislative Consultant</i>

**3.0 Pledge of Allegiance** – Chair Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4.0 Addenda to the Agenda** - None

**5.0 Approval of Minutes** - Motion by member Roberts, second by member Vealitzek to approve the minutes from the November 2, 2020 Legislative Committee. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 4; NAYS: 0.

**6.0 Public Comment** – Chair Clark asked if there was anyone attending who wished to provide public comment for items not on the agenda. There were no responses.

**7.0 Correspondence** – None

**8.0 Unfinished Business** – None

**9.0 New Business**

9.1 Update on previously reviewed Legislation. Executive Director, Ty Kovach introduced this item and explained that this is legislation that we reviewed at the last Legislative Committee meeting that has had notable updates. Mike Tully, Chief Operations Officer provided a recap of these updates and the District's legislative consultant, Derek Blaida provided additional information on these bills and responded to questions.

Member Parekh joined the meeting at 11:18 am.

9.2 Review of new State Legislation. Mr. Tully reviewed the bills and provided the Districts proposed position on each bill. Discussion was had on some of the bills and Steve Neaman, Director of Finance, Mary Kann, Director of Administration, Pati Vitt, Manager Restoration Ecology, and

Derek Blaida responded to questions. There was a consensus from the committee on all of the Districts positions on these bills.

9.3 Springfield update. Mr. Blaida provided an update on the current legislative session and the the State budget. He responded to questions from committee members.

9.4 Discussion on strategy to educate the Lake County delegation on tax rate bill. Mr. Kovach explained that the District’s main legislative initiative is to amend the Downstate Forest Preserve Act maximum tax rate. This discussion is how to educate the Lake County delegation on the proposed amendment. Mr. Tully provided suggestions to the committee. The consensus of the committee was to have a special Legislative Committee meeting at Independence Grove the night of a concert. After the meeting adjourns, a social reception will follow.

**10.0 Miscellaneous Business – None**

**11.0 Closed Session – None**

**12.0 Potential Action Following Closed Session – None**

**13.0 Adjourn –** With no further business, Chair Clark declared the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>		<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jennifer Clark, Chair			Linda Pedersen		
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gina Roberts, Vice Chair			Jessica Vealitzek		
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Paras Parekh					

Committee Secretary’s Note: Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the October 15, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, and Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the Legislative Committee met via audio and video conference on Monday, November 1, 2021. These Minutes were approved by a Roll Call vote at that meeting:

AYES: 3 (Clark, Pedersen, Vealitzek)  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 2 (Parekh, Roberts)

*Maura E. Shelton*  
Committee Secretary