

**Lake County Forest Preserves
Finance Committee Minutes – November 3, 2022**

On Thursday, November 3, 2022, the Lake County Forest Preserve District's Finance Committee met at the District's General Offices in Libertyville, Illinois.

1.0 Call to Order – Vice Chair Paul Frank called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2.0 Roll Call - Committee Secretary Julie Gragnani called the roll and seven committee members responded: Paul Frank, Vice Chair; Carissa Casbon, Michael Danforth, Sandy Hart, Kevin Hunter, Paras Parekh, and John Wasik. Absent: Julie Simpson, Chair; Ann Maine.

Also Present:

Angelo Kyle, President	Ken Jones	Matt Ueltzen
Mike Tully	Julie Gragnani	Laurel Diver
Mary Kann	Sandy Meyers	Kim Mikus Croke
Steve Neaman	Matt Norton, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>	<u>On Zoom:</u>
John Nelson	Betsy Gates Alford, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>	Nan Buckardt
John Tannahill	Deb Boness	Ronald B. Schmidt

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Casbon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Approval of Minutes – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Hart to approve the minutes of September 1, 2022; and October 3, 2022 joint committee meeting. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

6.0 Public Comment for items not on agenda – None

7.0 Executive Director Report – Chief Operations Officer Mike Tully reported on:

- Electricity production from the new photovoltaic array installed on Ryerson Welcome Center roof;
- Golf Operations surpassed \$5 million in gross revenue for the second straight season;
- Guided night-time strolls during October;
- Preservation Foundation event for the On To 2050 exhibition at the Dunn Museum;
- Videos from the Dunn Museum Latinx project featured at College of Lake County;
- Oaktober tree and shrub sale results and recent adaptive fishing program;
- Construction industry professionals visited the Ryerson construction site as part of their PHIUS training;
- \$500,000 commitment to the Community Campaign for the Foundation; Endowment total is now just under \$4 million;
- Grant application to Illinois EPA Section 319 Program was accepted, for Long Lake restoration;
- Valent BioSciences donated \$15,000 for replacing invasive trees at the General Offices;
- Summary of social media post showing fall colors; Fall 2022 Horizons newsletter is out;
- Mass mailing to residents within the Buckthorn Eradication Pilot Project area around Middlefork;
- Chicago Region's Tree Initiative Summary report for Lake County.

Questions and Discussion ensued regarding adaptive programming, and programming dollars for ADA and adaptive programs. Member Hart commented on future legislation to allow the forest preserves to get the same type of funds that park districts receive for ADA improvements. Mr. Tully and Restoration Ecology Manager Matt Ueltzen responded to questions regarding the buckthorn removal pilot project.

8.0 Unfinished Business – None

9.0 Correspondence

9.1 Written correspondence received regarding request from Village of Third Lake (Item 10.1) - A petition and various emails received from residents on Third Lake were distributed to the committee.

10.0 New Business

10.1 Policy direction regarding a request to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Third Lake – Chief Operations Officer Mike Tully explained that the District was notified by a local resident that the Village of Third Lake had placed buoys on Third Lake that appeared to be anchored on lakebed owned by the District, which was later confirmed. Mr. Tully met with the Village Mayor, who explained that every summer for the past 10 years or so, the buoys have been placed there by local residents to mark a slalom waterski course; this part of the lake is sheltered and offers calm water the skiers prefer. About three years ago these residents were asked by the Village to form a club to obtain liability insurance coverage. Mr. Tully advised the Mayor that he could not grant permission for this activity and would need policy direction from the Board on entering into a formal agreement with the Village or the ski club that would allow this use. The District was added as additional insured on the club's insurance for the rest of this summer while the Village put a request in writing to keep the buoys on District land.

When the request was received there were additional requests included. The Village asked the District to: 1) agree to the village's regulation of motorized watercraft on the surface of Third Lake: Mr. Tully explained that staff sees no benefit in agreeing to this request; 2) agree on the village's ability to treat for invasive species on the portion of the lakebed owned by the District: Staff does see a benefit to this request; and 3) allow for the placement of the seasonal buoys anchored on the District's portion of the lakebed: staff sees no benefit to the District regarding this request. There are no negative ecological or operational impacts from the buoys and correspondence was received from several residents stating that the skiing is a nuisance. The District could grant a license for recreational use of its property but it would be handled as a new use and would have to be widely available to the general public. Mr. Tully noted that the Planning Committee's recommendation was to proceed with pursuing their request #2 only. He responded to questions and a general discussion ensued.

Vice Chair Frank called for public comment; comments were given by the following:

- Ronald Schmidt (on Zoom): referred to the signed citizen statement; opposed the Village requests and favored the District working with the Village on weed control on an annual basis only.

The consensus of the committee was that they concurred with the Planning Committee; the District's focus should just be on control of invasive species.

10.2 Invoices and Requisitions – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Hunter to approve the legal bills for the months of August and September 2022; and retainer for month of October 2022. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the invoices were circulated for signatures.

10.3 Monthly Financial Report – Finance Director Steve Neaman summarized the financial report for month ending September 30, 2022 and responded to questions. Member Hunter commented that he would like to see the report hyperlinked to the agenda.

10.4 Approve Changes to the Temporary Wage Schedule for 2023 – Motion by member Hart, second by member Parekh to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully noted that the wages are all going up by \$1.00 to match the minimum wage increases. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

10.5 Approve a 4.7% increase for residential license fees, and authorize execution of Residential License Agreements for District housing units – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Wasik to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully summarized the recommendation, noting that the fees are established per District policy by a fair-market appraisal conducted every five years and adjusted in other years based on fluctuations in the Consumer Price Index. He responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. With a voice vote being had, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

10.6 Recommend approval of an Ordinance approving a License Agreement with HGS, LLC, for the Development and Operation of a Wetland Mitigation Bank at Prairie Stream Forest Preserve - Motion by member Hunter, second by member Wasik to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully summarized the project to develop a new wetland mitigation bank at Prairie Stream Forest Preserve. It will result in a high-quality restoration at no cost to the District, and funds received for wetland credits will go into the Endowment. Restoration Ecology Manager Matt Ueltzen responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.7 Recommend approval of a Resolution Approving a Partnership Participation Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Restoration of Dutch Gap Forest Preserve, and to rescind a prior Resolution - Motion by member Wasik, second by member Hunter to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully explained that the ACOE provided the wrong type of agreement when the Board previously approved the Resolution for this project. This Resolution rescinds the prior Resolution and approves the correct Partnership Participation Agreement. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.8 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the purchase of entry fencing and gate materials for the off-leash dog area at the Duck Farm Forest Preserve to Technology International, Inc., in the Contract Price of \$55,285.00 - Motion by member Hunter, second by member Wasik to approve the recommendation. Land Preservation Manager Ken Jones showed the site on a map and explained that because bids came in higher than budget, the decision was made to purchase materials with the budgeted funds and do the work in-house. Also, the lowest bid was rejected as non-responsive. Mr. Jones responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.



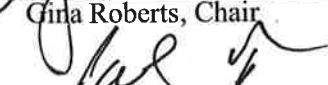

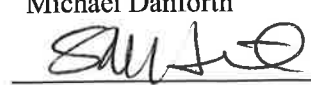
11.0 **Miscellaneous Business** – Attorney Matt Norton introduced his new partner, Betsy Gates Alford, who will be assisting in providing the District’s legal services.

12.0 **Closed Session** – None

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

14.0 **Adjournment** - With no further business before the committee, Vice Chair Frank declared the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

APPROVED:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>		<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
 Gina Roberts, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Sara Knizhnik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Paul Frank, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Ann B. Maine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Danforth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Wasik	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Sandy Hart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			