

**Lake County Forest Preserve District  
Operations Committee Meeting Minutes - Monday, December 6, 2021**

On Monday, December 6, 2021, pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the November 12, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation and the Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the District's Operations 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** - Chair Vealitzek called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**2.0 Roll Call** – Committee Secretary Shelton called the roll. Five committee members responded: Jessica Vealitzek, Chair, Bill Durkin, Vice Chair, Jennifer Clark, Mary Ross Cunningham, Ann Maine. Absent: Catherine Sbarra and Terry Wilke.

**Also Present:**

Paul Frank	John Nelson	Beth Frederick
Angelo D. Kyle, <i>President</i>	Randy Seebach	Lisa Roberts
Alex Ty Kovach	Rebekah Snyder	Kim Mikus Croke
Mike Tully	John Tannahill	Matt Norton, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>
Jim Anderson	Alex Eichman	Maureen Shelton
Nan Buckardt	Dan Stearns	Shawn White
Mary Kann	Debbie Boness	Mick Zawislak, <i>Daily Herald</i>
Steve Neaman	Laurel Diver	

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

**4.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – None

**5.0 Approval of Minutes** - Motion by member Cunningham, second by member Durkin to approve the Minutes of the November 1, 2021 Operations Committee Meeting. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 5; NAYS: 0.

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

**7.0 Executive Director Comments** – Executive Director Kovach presented his report and commented on:

- Ryerson Education Net Zero building update;
- Chicago Regional Tree Initiative awarded the District its Public Natural Areas Award for Middlefork Buckthorn Eradication Initiative;
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation approved \$135,000 for the Barrington Greenway Initiative Pollinator Enhancement Program project;
- Ansel Adams: Early Works exhibition at Dunn Museum has been featured in SW Lake Lifestyle magazine;
- Preservation Foundation fall direct mail campaign began in November;
- Preservation Foundation voting members appointed Chuck Bartels and Chris Heier to the Board.

**8.0 Correspondence**

**9.0 Unfinished Business** – None

## 10.0 New Business

- 10.1 Recommend Approval of a Resolution authorizing the District to enter into an agreement with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning for the traveling exhibition *On to 2050*. Motion by member Clark second by Vice Chair Durkin to approve the recommendation. Mike Tully, Chief Operations Officer introduced the recommendation. Nan Buckardt, Director of Education explained the traveling exhibition in more detail. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.
- 10.2 Provide policy direction regarding Membership and Participation in Lake County Special Investigations Group. Mr. Tully explained that the District's Public Safety Department currently is a member of the Lake County Special Investigations Group (SIG). The District has participated in it on a part-time basis, under its former name, the Lake County Gang Crimes Unit for many years. The SIG has evolved, and the focus has changed and no longer matches the District's mission. The old Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that governed the District's involvement in the Gang Unit has expired, and a new MOU has been provided to the District by the Lake County Sheriff's Office for District's approval. The District's Risk Pool, PDRMA, reviewed the MOU and is concerned that if the District signs the MOU, it is taking greater risk. The Sheriff would also like the District to assign an officer to the SIG on a full-time basis, rather than the current part-time basis; our size doesn't allow us to do this without a significant impact to our services. With the Committee's consensus, staff's intention is to notify the Sherriff's within 30 days that the District will be leaving this group. A general discussion ensued. Committee Consensus directs staff to leave the Lake County Special Investigations Group.

This agenda item had a public comment and the commenter experienced technical difficulties.

- 10.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving (i) a Project Implementation Agreement with City Forest Credits for the verification and administration of Carbon Credits from the District's Reforestation Program and (ii) a Purchase Agreement with Regen Network for Regen's purchase of verified carbon credits from the District's reforestation planting efforts. Motion by member Cunningham second by member Clark to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully introduced the recommendation explaining that City Forest Credits is an organization that verifies the trees are creditable and will be around for 25 years. They also work with the buyers of the carbon credits. Jim Anderson, Director of Natural Resources explained the process for generating verified credits that can then be offered for sale. The initial Purchase Agreement is for 10% of the credits generating over \$17,000. Future years proceeds could be in a total amount of \$150,000.00. The District would like to see future proceeds be directed to the Preservation Foundation Endowment Fund. REGEN is the clearing house for the sale of credits. Mr. Anderson and Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel responded to questions and a discussion ensued. Following discussion, the motion to approve passed by a roll call vote: AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the Finance Committee for approval.

Due to technical difficulties public comment for Agenda Item 10.2 was given by Shawn White after Agenda Item 10.3.

Chair Vealitzek requested that staff confirm if the SIG position is on a part-time or full-time basis.

- 10.4 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for Helicopter Services for the Winter Deer Count to AM Air Service in the Contract Price of \$43,875.00. Motion by member Clark second by Vice Chair Durkin to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully summarized the recommendation. Mr. Anderson responded to questions. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

- 10.5 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the Woody Invasive Plant Control at Greenbelt Forest Preserve to Clean Cut Tree Service, in the Contract Price of \$100,820.00. Motion by member Cunningham second by member Maine to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully summarized the recommendation. Mr. Anderson responded to questions. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.
- 10.6 Recommend Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract to purchase a Caterpillar Compact Track Loader to Altorfer Industries, Inc. in the net amount of \$37,302.76 and Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Equipment as a Trade-in. Motion by Vice Chair Durkin second by member Maine to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully summarized the recommendation. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the Finance Committee for approval.
- 10.7 Approve Change Order No. 1 to the Contract with Waste Management of Illinois, Inc. for District-Wide Refuse and Recycling Services in an amount not-to-exceed \$70,729.20. Motion by member Cunningham second by member Clark to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully introduced the recommendation and John Nelson, Director of Operations and Infrastructure explained the process, noting that the project was originally bid in June 2021. One bid was non-responsive, and both bids received were over budget. The project was re-bid in August 2021 and again both bids were over budget and Waste Management’s bid was non-responsive. He explained that, following consultation with the District’s Corporate Counsel, it was determined that the District could negotiate a change order to extend the term, and amend provisions, of the 2016 Contract. Member Maine expressed her concerns with this change order. John Nelson responded to questions and Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel explained how the District was able to negotiate the change order. A general discussion ensued. During discussion Chair Vealtizek requested that the preserve recycling centers be labeled with the types of materials that can be recycled. Mr. Nelson will address the request and report back to the Committee. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 4; NAYS: 1 (Maine). The recommendation was forwarded to the Finance Committee for approval.
- 10.8 Golf Operations End of Season Update. Alex Eichman, Chief of Golf Operations gave a presentation to update the Committee on the District’s 2021 golf season and responded to questions.
- 10.9 Revenue Facilities End of Season Update. Dan Stearns, Chief Business Development Officer gave a presentation to update the Committee on the Revenue Facilities.
- 11.0 Miscellaneous Business** — None
- 12.0 Closed Session** — None
- 13.0 Potential Action Following Closed Session** – None

**14.0 Adjourn** – With no further business, Chair Vealitzek declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

**APPROVED:**

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>		<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
_____ Jessica Vealitzek, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Ann B. Maine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Bill Durkin, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Catherine Sbarra	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Jennifer Clark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Terry Wilke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Mary Ross Cunningham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

**Secretary's Note:** Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the December 10, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, and Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the Operations Committee met via audio and video conference on Monday, January 3, 2022. These Minutes were approved by a Roll Call vote at that meeting:

AYES: 6 (Clark, Cunningham, Durkin, Maine, Vealitzek, Wilke)  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1 (Sbarra)

*Maureen E. Shelton*  
Committee Secretary