

**Lake County Forest Preserves  
Finance Committee Minutes – February 6, 2025**

On Thursday, February 6, 2025, the Lake County Forest Preserve District's Finance Committee met at the District's General Offices in Libertyville, Illinois.

**1.0 Call to Order** – With a physical quorum present, Chair Gina Roberts called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and the committee confirmed a request for electronic attendance request from Sandy Hart due to County business.

**2.0 Roll Call** –Committee Secretary Gragnani called the roll and seven committee members responded: Chair Gina Roberts, Vice Chair Ann Maine, Marah Altenberg, Sandy Hart, Diane Hewitt, Angelo Kyle, and Linda Pedersen.

**Also Present:**

Jessica Vealitzek, President  
Alex Kovach, Executive Director  
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel  
John Nelson  
Mary Kann  
Rebekah Snyder

Alex Eichman  
Alyssa Firkus  
Dan Stearns  
Pati Vitt  
Steve Neaman

Ron Davis  
Julie Gragnani  
Sandy Meyers  
Laurel Diver  
Debbie Boness

**3.0 Pledge of Allegiance** – Member Altenberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – None

**5.0 Approval of Minutes** – Motion by member Kyle, second by member Altenberg to approve the minutes of January 9, 2025 open and closed sessions. 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 Comments** – Executive Director Kovach his report and highlighted on:

- Preservation Foundation statistics and update;
- Recent real estate closings; current total acres is 31,290;
- 2024 Hike Lake County program had its highest participation ever with 1,840 hikers;
- Bob Ross exhibit was attended by 11,333 people; admission and store sales of \$99,260;
- Profiles in Excellence event was attended by over 150 people;
- Statistics update on Horizons, social media, golf gift card sales;
- Awards received from Illinois Park and Recreation;
- New invasive species in Lake County: Oriental Weatherfish and Round Goby;
- Director Rebekah Snyder distributed a recap of the current status of federal grants.

**8.0 Unfinished Business** - None

**9.0 Correspondence** – None

## **10.0 New Business**

10.1 Invoices and Requisitions – Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Altenberg to approve the legal billing for the month of November 2024. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the invoice was passed for signatures.

10.2 Approve addition of Ecological Technician position at 24 FTE - Motion by member Altenberg, second by member Kyle to approve the recommendation. Executive Director Kovach noted that this position will be funded by a 3-year Preservation Foundation grant that has 500 unused grant hours. With a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

10.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a three-year Contract for Health and Welfare Plan Nondiscrimination Testing with Segal, in the Contract Price of \$41,000.00 – Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Altenberg to approve the recommendation. Director Kovach summarized the contract and Administration Director Mary Kann provided additional information. With a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.4 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a five-year Contract for the lease of Axon Tasers and Related Components to Axon Enterprise, Inc. in the Contract Price of \$106,920.00 - Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Kyle to approve the recommendation. Director Kovach summarized the contract with input from Public Safety Director Ron Davis. With a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

## **11.0 Miscellaneous Business – None**

12.0 **Closed Session** – Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Kyle to go into closed session for the purpose of reviewing approved closed session minutes for release or retention and deletion of verbatim recordings. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 1:20 p.m. and returned to open session at 1:25 p.m.

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

14.0 **Adjournment** - Chair Roberts noted that the next meeting would be a joint meeting with the Operations and Planning Committee on March 6, 2025 and adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Julie Gragnani  
Committee Secretary

Date Approved: 4-3-2025