

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020**

On Tuesday, April 7, 2020, pursuant to the Illinois Governor's Executive Orders 2020-7, 2020-10, and 2020-18, the Lake County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners met in Special Session via Audio and Video conference and not at the Lake County Building.

1.0 Call To Order – President Kyle called the meeting to order at 10:29 a.m.

2.0 Roll Call of Commissioners – Secretary Gragnani called the roll and 21 Commissioners answered Present: Altenberg, Barr, Carlson, Clark, Cunningham, Danforth, Durkin, Frank, Hart, Hewitt, Kyle, Maine, Martini, Paxton, Pedersen, Rummel, Simpson, Taylor, Vealitzek, Wasik, and Wilke. There were no Commissioners absent.

Motion by member Barr, second by member Simpson to suspend the Rules of Order and Operational Procedures to the full extent necessary to a) to allow Commissioners to attend this meeting in accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders 2020-7 and 2020-18, which allow all Commissioners to attend this meeting by video or audio conference; b) allow members of the public to make public comment via audio or video means, and c) allow any members of the public who are attending this meeting in person, to the full extent necessary to observe and participate in this meeting, to keep their audible signals activated on their electronic devices and to use their phones to call in to join this meeting remotely. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: **AYES: 21; NAYS: 0.**

3.0 Invocation or Moment of Silence – Hearing no objections, President Kyle dispensed with the Moment of Silence.

4.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Hearing no objections, President Kyle dispensed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

5.0 Public Comment – President Kyle asked if there was anyone in attendance who wished to comment on any matters on the agenda; there were no responses.

6.0 Appointment of At-Large Commissioner as Designated Officer, assuming approval of Item 7.0 President Kyle appointed Commissioner Mike Rummel as the At-large Commissioner for the Ordinance Delegating Authority to Designated Officers, assuming the Board approved Item 7.0. He noted that while the appointment only requires advice and consent of the Board, because of the nature of the audio/video meeting, he asked for a Roll Call vote from the Board to approve the appointment. With leave for the previous Roll Call, the motion passed by the following vote: **AYES: 21, NAYS: 0.**

7.0 Approve an Ordinance Delegating Authority to Designated Officers to Conduct Day-To-Day Operations within Budgetary Authority and to Take Action to Abate the Declared COVID-19 Disaster with Appropriated Funds – Executive Director Alex Kovach explained that the next Board meeting is not until May 12, 2020, and in conjunction with participating in the daily meetings with the Lake County department heads and Resource Committee, the District may need to act quickly on issues related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Mr. Kovach needs a mechanism to act, should something come up, for example, if the County needed use of a District facility, which would require putting an agreement in place. Any actions taken would only be within the approved 2020 budget and the appropriations that have been approved by the Board. The authority would be a consensus of four officers: Treasurer Paul Frank, President Kyle, Executive Director Kovach, and the At-large Commissioner, Mike Rummel. This will be more efficient for any matters that would require quick decision-making, rather than try to convene a special meeting of the full Board.

Commissioner Maine asked if the Forest Preserve statute is different than the County's, and why this is different than what the County is doing; why is there a need for the four people and not just the President's authority. Attorney Matt Norton explained that under the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, the County is a political subdivision of the State that has authority under that Act. The County Board Chair has the ability to declare an emergency, which would kick into effect the County's Emergency Management Plan; and the County Board has the authority to extend that emergency declaration from time to time. The Forest Preserve District is not covered by that statute and has no powers under that Act, so if the District is going to implement delegation authority during the course of an emergency, it has to create that authority for itself. This Ordinance is an effort to do that and not vest all the authority to one person but to a group of designated officers. The District is not subject to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act and does not have any powers under that Act; and so this Ordinance fashions a mechanism for the District.

Treasurer Frank thanked Commissioner Rummel for agreeing to serve as the At-large Commissioner and thanked President Kyle and Executive Director Kovach for bringing this approach forward and felt this an appropriate approach. Commissioner Barr thanked President Kyle for reaching out to a bipartisan group of officers for decision-making. With no further questions or comments, President Kyle asked for leave for the previous roll call and Commissioners responded Yes with no objections. **AYES: 21, NAYS: 0.**
EXHIBIT NO. 5638

8.0 Approve an Ordinance Amending the Electronic Attendance at Meetings Policy – Motion by Commissioner Martini, second by Commissioner Pedersen to approve an Ordinance amending the Electronic Attendance at Meetings Policy. With no questions or comments, President Kyle asked for leave for the previous roll call and Commissioners responded Yes with no objections. **AYES: 21, NAYS: 0.**
EXHIBIT NO. 5639

9.0 Other Final Action Necessary to Mitigate or Respond to the COVID-19 Disaster – Attorney Norton noted that this item was put on the agenda as a placeholder in case any developments had arisen that would need final Board action, however, there were no other items that needed Board action.

Commissioner Barr asked if this would be an appropriate time to request that the Rules Committee consider making a change that would allow the President to make a leave for previous roll call "without objection" in the future. Mr. Norton replied that at a special meeting the Board is limited to items on the agenda, and encouraged Commissioner Barr to discuss his request with President Kyle and Rules Committee Chair Durkin.

10.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None


President Kyle again asked if there was any public on audio or video who wished to make public comment. There were no responses.

11.0 Closed Session – None

12.0 Potential Action following Closed Session - None

13.0 Adjourn - With no further business, President Kyle declared the meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Julie Gagnani
Board Secretary

Approved: 5-12-2020

