

**Lake County Forest Preserves  
Finance Committee Minutes – May 27, 2021**

On Thursday, May 27, 2021, pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the April 30, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, the Governor's Executive Order No. 2021-9, and the Written Determination of the District President attached to the Agenda, the Finance Committee met via Audio and Video conference and at the Lake County Forest Preserve District's General Offices.

**1.0 Call to Order** - Chair Julie Simpson was present on Zoom and announced that Vice Chair Frank would run the meeting from the Committee Room since most committee members were present in the room. Vice Chair Frank called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**2.0 Roll Call** - Committee Secretary Julie Gagnani call the roll and seven committee members responded. In Committee Room: Paul Frank, Vice Chair, Carissa Casbon, Michael Danforth, Ann Maine, and John Wasik. Attending remotely via Zoom: Julie Simpson, Chair; and Sandy Hart. Absent: Paras Parekh

**Also in Committee Room:**

Angelo Kyle, President  
Mary Ross Cunningham  
Gina Roberts  
Alex Kovach  
Laurel Diver  
Julie Gagnani  
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel

**Also on Zoom:**

Jennifer Clark  
Linda Pedersen  
Jessica Vealitzek  
Rachel Bossard, Corporate Counsel

**3.0 Pledge of Allegiance** – Member Wasik led a Pledge of Allegiance.

**4.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – None

**5.0 Approval of Minutes** – Motion by member Maine, second by member Casbon to approve the minutes of May 6, 2021. The motion to approve passed by a roll call vote of: AYES: 7; NAYS: 0.

**6.0 Public Comment** – None

**7.0 Executive Director Comments** – None

**8.0 Correspondence** – None

**9.0 Unfinished Business** – None

**10.0 Closed Session** – Motion by member Maine, second by member Casbon to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 1:08 p.m. and returned to open session at 3:28 p.m.

**11.0 Potential Action Following Closed Session, including Approval of Engagement Letter and Legal Invoices** –

- Motion by member Maine, second by member Casbon to approve an engagement letter with Crowell and Moring. The motion to approve passed by a roll call vote of: AYES: 5, NAYS: 0.
- Motion by member Casbon, second by member Wasik to approve invoices from Crowell and Moring for legal services from February through April, 2021. The motion to approve passed by a roll call vote of: AYES: 6, NAYS: 0.

**12.0 New Business**

**12.1 Invoices and Requisitions** - Motion by member Casbon, second by member Wasik to approve Burke,

Warren, MacKay and Serritella invoices for legal services for February and March, 2021. The motion to approve passed by a roll call vote of: AYES: 6, NAYS: 0.

12.2 Policy direction regarding separation from the County’s insurance benefits programs, and further investigation of joining the Intergovernmental Personnel Benefit Cooperative Insurance Collective in the 2022 calendar year – Executive Director Kovach made opening remarks, noting that the County is looking for insurance options other than self-funding prior to the 2022 open enrollment period. With uncertainty as to what those changes would be and if the District would be included, District staff has been looking into its own alternatives. Administration Director Mary Kann gave a presentation on preliminary findings, noting that the most cost effective option would be to participate in a cooperative or pool, rather than the commercial insurance market, due to the number of eligible employees. She reviewed the list of current programs provided to District staff and then summarized a comparison of three risk pools her staff has worked with.

Staff recommended further investigation into joining the Intergovernmental Personnel Benefit Cooperative (IPBC) as they offer Blue Cross Blue Shield and Delta Dental, and the District could port its current Plan over to theirs with little disruption. This would give the District the ability to direct its future plan options and designs, which it never had being part of the County’s Plan. Also, the District has the potential to receive subsidies should actual claim experience be lower than anticipated. The County likely received these in the past, however the District never directly benefitted from this. IPBC also has a wellness program and the District could receive reimbursements for each employee who participates. Staff felt that going to IPBC would have the least amount of disruption and the only change would be with the pharmacy coverage. Director Kann added that in meetings with County HR staff, they encouraged the District to break out on its own to benefit from being on its own. She added that with the District’s payroll system now separated from the County that could also reduce costs.

Staff responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. The consensus of the committee was to proceed with further investigation with IPBC.

**13.0 Miscellaneous Business – None**

**14.0 Adjournment** – With no further business, Chair Simpson announced that the next meeting was scheduled for July 1, 2021 and declared the meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>		<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
_____ Julie Simpson, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Ann B. Maine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Paul Frank, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Paras Parekh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Carissa Casbon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ John Wasik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Michael Danforth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____ Sandy Hart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

**Secretary's Note:** Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the June 25, 2021, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, the Governor's Executive Orders Nos. 2021-14, and Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the Finance Committee met via audio and video conference on Thursday, July 1, 2021. These Minutes were approved by a Roll Call vote at that meeting:

AYES: 6 (Casbon, Frank, Maine, Parekh, Simpson, Wasik)  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 2 (Hart (arrived after vote); Danforth)

Maureen E. Shelton  
Committee Secretary