

**Lake County Forest Preserves
Finance Committee Minutes – May 8, 2025**

On Thursday, May 8, 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 quorum present in the room, Chair Gina Roberts called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2.0 Roll Call – Committee Secretary Gragnani called the roll and four committee members responded: Chair Gina Roberts, Vice Chair Ann Maine, Marah Altenberg, and Linda Pedersen. Sandy Hart joined the meeting at 1:05 p.m. and Diane Hewitt joined the meeting at 1:18 p.m. Absent: Angelo Kyle

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
Ron Davis
Steve Neaman

Michael Bonn
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 Altenberg, second by member Pedersen to approve the minutes of April 3, 2025. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

6.0 Public Comment for items not on agenda – None

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach reported on:

- On June 10th after the County Board meeting there will be a training session for Commissioners;
- On May 14th after the Forest Preserve Board meeting there will be a special Finance Committee meeting for a personnel matter;
- Funding status update on the \$15 million Army Corps project at Dutch Gap Forest Preserve; the amount of drain tile is double the estimate so there will be additional costs to the District.

8.0 Unfinished Business - None

9.0 Correspondence – None

10.0 New Business:

10.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Three-Year Contract for Cybersecurity Detection and Response Services to CDW-Government, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$221,880.00
Motion by member Altenberg, second by member Maine to approve the recommendation. Executive Director Kovach gave an overview of the recommendation for additional cybersecurity services for the District and Administration Director Kann responded to questions. With a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.2 Approve Temporary Residential License Agreements with four individuals working contractually for the District - Motion by member Hart, second by member Altenberg to approve. Director Kovach gave an overview and with a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

10.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for Upgrades to Building Automation Controls at the Operations and Public Safety Facility to Trane U.S., Inc. in the Contract Price of \$70,295.00 - Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Hart to approve the recommendation. Director Kovach gave an overview of the contract and with a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.4 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the purchase of a new Toyota Sienna Hybrid Van to American Vet Works, Inc. in the Contract Price of \$44,270.00 - Motion by member Maine, second by member Altenberg to approve the recommendation. Director Kovach gave an overview of the vehicle purchase and responded to questions. With a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.5 Recommend approval of an Ordinance (i) awarding a Contract for Maintenance Area Improvements at Countryside Golf Club to Maneval Construction Company, Inc. in the Contract Price of \$258,605.00, and (ii) amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget to use funds in the amount of \$198,353.00 from the Enterprise Fund for such services - Motion by member Hart, second by member Maine to approve the recommendation. Director Kovach noted that the existing parking lot dates back to 1991 and has reached the end of its life cycle. Director Eichman added that the project includes some expansion and will also correct longstanding drainage issues. With a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

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 Ray Lake Forest Preserve - Motion by member Hart, second by member Altenberg to approve the recommendation. Natural Resources Director Pati Vitt provided a background and reviewed the concept plan for the project. Included is the re-meandering and restoration of a portion of Manitou Creek, and the replacement and re-routing of an existing 24" storm sewer pipe with a 30" pipe, all with the least amount of impact while optimizing maximum mitigation credits. The project will also include streambank mitigation credits. She reviewed the funding for the storm sewer, which will depend on whether SMC decides to fund the storm sewer. 154 acres of upland will be restored as a buffer to the wetlands in lieu of the licensee fee unless SMC funding comes through, in which case the District would do the storm sewer with the SMC funding and HGS will pay the license fee. Director Kovach added that the District received a \$1million Clean Energy grant for the purchase of the property; and the project when completed will provide an estimated \$2.6 million annual in ecosystem services. Director Vitt responded to questions and with a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

11.0 Miscellaneous Business – None

12.0 Closed Session – None

13.0 Potential Action Following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjournment - Chair Roberts adjourned the meeting at 1:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Julie Gragnani, Committee Secretary

Date Approved: 6-2-2025