

Lake County Forest Preserve District
Joint Committee Meeting Minutes: Operations Committee, Planning Committee, Finance Committee
September 23, 2019

The Lake County Forest Preserves' Operations, Planning, and Finance Committees met jointly on September 23, 2019. The meeting was held at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

1.0 Call to order – At 8:30 a.m. President Angelo Kyle convened the meeting and asked each committee chair to call their committee to order:

- Chair Jessica Vealitzek called the Operations Committee to order. Present: Mary Ross Cunningham, Bill Durkin, Ann Maine, Jessica Vealitzek, Terry Wilke. Absent: Brent Paxton and Craig Taylor.
- Chair John Wasik called the Planning Committee to order. Present: Dick Barr, Jennifer Clark, Adam Didech, Judy Martini, Linda Pedersen, Jessica Vealitzek, John Wasik. Diane Hewitt arrived at 8:40 a.m. Absent: Julie Simpson.
- Chair Terry Wilke called the Finance Committee to order. Present: Steve Carlson, Paul Frank, Ann Maine, Mike Rummel, John Wasik, Terry Wilke. Sandy Hart arrived at 8:32 a.m. Absent: Michael Danforth and Julie Simpson.

Also Present:

Alex Ty Kovach, <i>Executive Director</i>	Nan Buckardt	Alex Eichman
Mike Tully	John Nelson	Beth Frederick
Steve Neaman	Rebekah Snyder	Kim Mikus Croke
Mary Kann	Dan Stearns	Matt Norton, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>
Katherine Hamilton-Smith	Jim Siefken	Mick Zawislak, <i>Daily Herald</i>
Randy Seebach	Christy Marantos	Randy Kerkman
Jim Anderson	Ken Jones	Lynn Goodell

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Barr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 Public Comment – Randy Kerkman, Bristol, Wisconsin Village Administrator, thanked the District for its help with removing the restrictions of the Dutch Gap canal south of the state line to reduce flooding in their area.

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach reported on:

- Daughters of the American Revolution honored Bess Bower Dunn with a *Women in American History* award;
- Summary of parking lot, canoe launch, underpass and trail closures due to recent flooding;
- Small horse-pulled carts will now be allowed on all designated equestrian trails;
- The social media video on the opening of the Waukegan Savanna dog exercise area.

6.0 New Business – All Committees

6.1 Review proposed FY 2020 Annual Budget and recommend approval of the Annual Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year January 1 through December 31, 2020 – Chair Wilke introduced the item and Executive Director Kovach made opening remarks regarding this first calendar year budget following the transitional 18-month budget. Director Kovach explained the budget strategy and sustainability strategy used to develop the budget. Finance Director Neaman continued the presentation, explaining impacts including a reduction in the expected rate of return for investments in IMRF resulting in \$300,000 increase per year; the new minimum wage law; and a 4% to 6% reduction in the departments' commodities and contractuals to absorb some of these additional costs. Questions and comments from Commissioners were addressed as each budget section was reviewed and discussed.

Director Neaman noted that the estimated EAV increase in this budget is 1.5% and showed graphs of the historical change in the EAV and tax levy. In 2009 the tax levy was over \$60 million and 10 years later the 2019 estimate is \$49 million. He then gave an overview of operating expenses, debt service, capital spending, and breakdown of revenues. He summarized the resource changes including property values, Consumer Price Index, IMRF and minimum wage increases, position inventory (FTE), department restructuring, and \$2 million in new program requests. Of these, only \$110,000 in requests are being included in this budget due to funding constraints. Executive Director Kovach responded to questions on the program requests.

Director Neaman reviewed the budget by fund and by department, and reviewed the capital budget including \$1.7 million in capital improvement projects.

With no further questions, President Kyle called for each committee chair to recommend approval of the budget:

- Operations Committee, Chair Vealitzek: Motion by member Durkin, second by member Cunningham to recommend approval of the FY 2020 budget as presented and the Annual Budget Ordinance for FY 2020. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. Chair Vealitzek later asked
- Planning Committee, Chair Wasik: Motion by member Barr, second by member Hewitt to recommend approval of the FY 2020 budget as presented and the Annual Budget Ordinance for FY 2020. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.
- Finance Committee, Chair Wilke: Motion by member Carlson, second by member Rummel to recommend approval of the FY 2020 budget as presented and the Annual Budget Ordinance for FY 2020. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

The Budget Ordinance was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

7.0 New Business – Operations Committee and Planning Committee:

7.1 Recommend approval of Ordinance Approving First Amendment to Memorandum Of Agreement with the Department of the Army Regarding Fort Sheridan – Executive Director Kovach gave a history of the agreement and summarized the need for the first amendment because the administration of the cemetery is being transferred from the Army to the Veterans Administration.

- Operations Committee, Chair Vealitzek: Motion by member Cunningham, second by member Maine to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.
- Planning Committee, Chair Wasik: Motion by member Clark, second by member Martini to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

8.0 New Business – Operations Committee:

8.1 Approve a motion to retain as confidential all Committee closed session minutes not previously released – Executive Director Kovach noted that no minutes or recordings were being recommended for release at this time. Motion by member Cunningham, second by member Wilke to retain as confidential all Committee closed session minutes, or portions thereof, not previously released, and find that the need for confidentiality still exists as to such minutes or portions in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and the District's Policy on closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Records. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Chair Vealitzek clarified for the record that on item 7.1, the motion to approve the item was made by Operations Committee member Durkin, not Commissioner Wasik, as originally announced.

9.0 Adjourn Operations Committee – Chair Vealitzek declared the Operations Committee adjourned; next meeting is November 4, 2019. President Kyle turned the meeting over to Finance Committee Chair Wilke:

10.0 New Business – Finance Committee and Planning Committee:

10.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution Awarding Contracts for Woody Invasive Plant Clearing Winter 2019 at Multiple Forest Preserves to Clean Cut Tree Service, Grayslake, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$171,600.00; Integrated Lakes Management, Waukegan, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$56,987.74; Native Restoration Services, Lake Bluff, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$27,900.00; Clean Cut Tree Service, Grayslake, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$89,100.00; Integrated Lakes Management, Waukegan, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$28,133.73; Cardno Inc., Brookfield, Wisconsin in the Contract Price of \$66,807.00; and Clean Cut Tree Service, Grayslake, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$136,500.00 -

- Finance Committee, Chair Wilke: Motion by member Hart, second by member Maine to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

- Planning Committee, Chair Wasik: Motion by member Clark, second by member Martini to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

11.0 New Business – Finance Committee:

11.1 Approve a motion to (i) release Committee closed session minutes, (ii) retain as confidential all other Committee closed session minutes not previously released, and (iii) delete Verbatim Recordings – Motion by member Hart, second by member Rummel to (i) approve release of Committee closed session minutes, or portions thereof, as provided in Exhibit 1, and find that such minutes, or portions thereof, no longer require confidential treatment, (ii) retain as confidential all other Committee closed session minutes, or portions thereof, not previously released, and find that the need for confidentiality still exists as to such minutes or portions and (iii) delete verbatim recordings, all in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and the District's Policy on Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Records, and as provided in Exhibit 1. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

11.2 Recommend approval of an Ordinance Setting Forth the Annual Appropriations for Fiscal Year January 1 through December 31, 2020 - Motion by member Rummel, second by member Maine to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

11.3 Recommend approval of an Ordinance Providing for the Levy of Taxes for the District for Fiscal Year January 1 through December 31, 2020 - Motion by member Frank, second by member Hart to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

11.4 Recommend approval of Ordinance Partially Abating Taxes Heretofore Levied for Year 2019 to Pay Principal of and Interest on Taxable General Obligation Land Acquisition and Development Bonds Series 2010A (Build America Bonds - Direct Payment) and Taxable General Obligation Land Acquisition Bonds, Series 2010B (Build America Bonds - Direct Payment) and General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2019 - Motion by member Frank, second by member Rummel to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

12.0 Adjourn Finance Committee – Chair Wilke announced that the September 26, 2019 is canceled. He declared the Finance Committee adjourned; next meeting November 7, 2019. President Kyle turned the meeting over to Planning Committee Chair Wasik.

13.0 New Business – Planning Committee:

13.1 Approve a motion to (i) release Committee closed session minutes, (ii) retain as confidential all other Committee closed session minutes not previously released, and (iii) delete Verbatim Recordings - Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Hewitt to (i) approve release of Committee closed session minutes, or portions thereof, as provided in Exhibit 1, and find that such minutes, or portions thereof, no longer require confidential treatment, (ii) retain as confidential all other Committee closed session minutes, or portions thereof, not previously released, and find that the need for confidentiality still exists as to such minutes or portions and (iii) delete verbatim recordings, all in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and the District's Policy on Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Records, and as provided in Exhibit 1. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

13.2 Policy direction regarding request from Pulte Homes on behalf of the Village of Lindenhurst for proposed trail connections to Millennium Trail within Fourth Lake Forest Preserve – Planning Director Seebach gave an overview of a request from Pulte Homes for two at-grade trail connections from the new Briargate development to the Millennium Trail in Fourth Lake Forest Preserve. The connections would be built at Pulte's expense, subject to District approval of final design and specifications. The north connection is 85 feet long, and the south connection is 250 feet in length. Staff recommended approval of just the northern connection because the south connection would be on a steeper slope and would be costlier for the District to maintain. Also, the two connections would only be one-third mile apart, and the subdivision will have ample sidewalks. Attorney Norton noted that this is not a permanent, perpetual obligation to the District as Pulte has not asked for an easement, nor would the District grant an easement to a private company. Mr. Seebach responded to questions and the consensus of the committee was to proceed with staff's recommendation for the north trail connection.

13.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with Wauconda Township regarding Hope Grove Cemetery and Kettle Grove Forest Preserve - Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Vealitzek to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

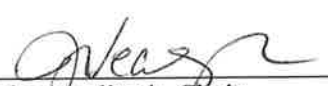
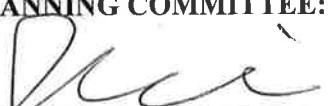


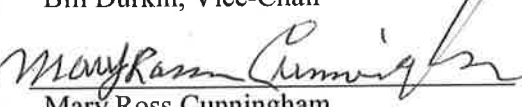
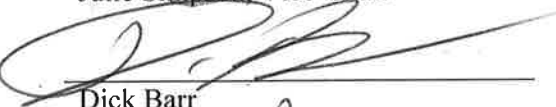
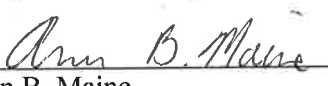


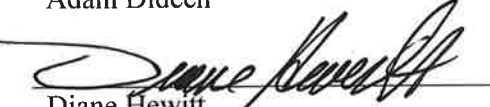
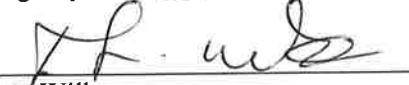
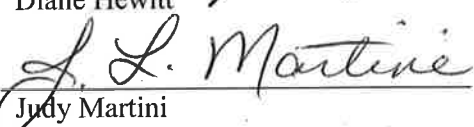

13.4 Recommend approval of a Resolution to purchase an approximately 99-acre property in Fremont Township, known as the Dearlove property, for \$958,000 as an addition to Ray Lake Forest Preserve - Mr. Kovach showed the property on a map and noted that this has acquisition has been one of the highest priorities for many years. Motion by member Vealitzek, second by member Clark to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

14.0 Old Business - None

15.0 **Closed Session** - Motion by member Barr, second by member Clark to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the purchase or lease of real property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 10:25 a.m. and returned to open session at 10:40 a.m.

15.0 **Adjourn** - Chair Wasik reminded the committee that the Open House for the Lakewood Master Plan would be held later that day from 5 to 7p.m. at the Fremont Township office. With no further business, Chair Wasik declared the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m. Next meeting: November 4, 2019.






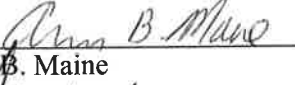



APPROVED:

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:	YEA	NAY	PLANNING COMMITTEE:	YEA	NAY
 Jessica Vealitzek, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 John Wasik, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Bill Durkin, Vice-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Julie Simpson, Vice-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Mary Ross Cunningham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Dick Barr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Ann B. Maine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Jennifer Clark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Brent Paxton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Adam Didech	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Craig Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Diane Hewitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Terry Wilke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Judy Martini	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			 Linda Pedersen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			 Jessica Vealitzek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Joint Committee Minutes – September 23, 2019

APPROVED:

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
 Terry Wilke, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Paul Frank, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Steve Carlson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Michael Danforth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Sandy Hart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Ann B. Maine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 S. Michael Rummel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Julie Simpson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 John Wasik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>