LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES

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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: November 3, 2016

MEMO TO: S. Michael Rummel, Chair

Finance and Administrative Committee

FROM: James L. Anderson

Director of Natural Resources

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the award of four Farm Licenses to the highest qualified bidders.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Public Access and Connections; Organizational Sustainability

FINANCIAL DATA: Awarding the licenses will generate \$111,292.63 annually and will be credited to the Farmland Management Fund (28642500-403000). Revenue generated by these licenses in 2016 was \$107,513.79. The total budgeted revenue for farm leases is \$414,900 for 2017.

BACKGROUND: The farming program is conducted with local farmers to provide cost-effective, interim land use and management until the District is ready to convert farmland to other forest preserve purposes. Four of the current license agreements are due to expire on December 31, 2016. Farm licenses were advertised in the News-Sun on September 23, 2016 and seven bids were received. All licenses were advertised for a 4-year term. The highest qualified bidders for each parcel are noted below:

	Term			Price
<u>Site</u>	Years	<u>Acreage</u>	Highest Bidder	per Acre
Dutch Gap – Hay	4	60.91	Steve Olson	\$140.00
Dutch Gap	4	461.10	Terry Brothers Grain Farm, LLC	217.55
Kestrel Ridge (Grazing)	4	38.12	Daniel B. Light	51.00
Pine Dunes – McClure (Hay)	4	4.80	Steve Olson	106.00

All of the Highest Bidders listed above have held District Farm Licenses in the past. All have successfully complied with program requirements.

REVIEW BY O	THERS:	Executive Director, Chief Operations Officer, Director of Finance
PRESENTER:	James L.	Anderson
APPROVED:		

Date:	Roll Call Vote: Ayes:Nays:
	☐ Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays:







