

Forest Preserves of Winnebago County
BOARD MEETING
Forest Preserve Headquarters
November 15th, 2023

PRESENT

Judy Barnard – Via Phone
Mike Eickman
Audrey Johnson – Absent
Gloria Lind
Cheryl Maggio
Jerry Paulson
Jeff Tilly

STAFF

Mike Holan, Executive Director
Steve Chapman, Director of Finance
Vaughn Stamm, Director of Operations
Mike Brien, Director of Natural Resources
Sherry Winebaugh, Human Resources Manager
Renee Pixler, Communications Coordinator
Kristy Knapp, Administrative Services Manager

GUESTS

Alex Mills
Debbi Hamilton
Alex Marshall
Chris Samuelson
Liz Wiener
Andrea Wallace Noble

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 PM, by President Jeff Tilly. Recording secretary Emily Wendlandt called the roll.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE Cheryl Maggio led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL of AGENDA and MINUTES Mike Eickman made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 25, 2023 Board Meeting. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.** Judy Barnard made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 25, 2023 Budget Hearing. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.** No changes or additions were made to the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS and PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

NEW BUSINESS Gloria Lind addressed the cleaned-up trailer park next to Fuller Memorial Forest Preserve.

ACTION ITEMS

Bills for October – Gloria Lind made a motion to authorize the payment of the bills for October in the amount of \$708,626.63. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

2024 Board Meeting Schedule – The 2024 Board Meeting Schedule will continue to be the third Wednesday of every month, except where noted. It is understood that additional meetings may be scheduled or dates and times changed as needed with proper notification. Gloria Lind made a motion to approve the 2024 Board Meeting Schedule. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

Acceptance of Bids for Ledges Golf Course Pump Station Replacement – Director of Operations, Vaughn Stamm, presented to the board regarding the Ledges pump station project. A mandatory pre-bid meeting was held on Friday October 27th, and the qualified lowest bidder was Leibold Irrigation, Inc., Dubuque Illinois. The total cost of the project as specified is \$260,050.00 for which the staff budgeted \$290,000.00 for this

project in the 2024 budget. Gloria Lind made a motion to approve the Acceptance of Bids for Ledges Golf Course Pump Station Replacement. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

Acceptance of Purchase for Backhoe –Vaughn Stamm presented to the board in regards to the purchase of a replacement backhoe as a part of the 2024 capital budget. The piece of equipment would be provided from West Side Tractor Sales in Rockford, Illinois and would be for a 2024 John Deere 410 P Backhoe Loader with bucket and fork accessories for \$131,792.47. Jerry Paulson made a motion to approve the purchase of a replacement backhoe. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

Acceptance of Purchase for Mower – Director of Natural Resources, Mike Brien, presented to the board regarding the acceptance of bids for a flex wing mower. The Land Pride RCB5715B flex wing mower is available for purchase through State of Illinois Contract 23-416CMS-BOSS-P-55229. Jerry Paulson made a motion to approve of the acceptance of bids for a flex wing mower for \$32,708.30. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

5-Year Farm Agreements –Mike Brien presented to the board the 5-year farm agreements for County Line, Macktown, Severson Dells, and Seward Bluffs Forest Preserves. The District has moved from annual to 5-year farm agreements in order to allow tenants to recoup more of the cost associated with nutrient inputs, incentivize conservation practices, and reduce administrative burden. The District accepted sealed bids from all members of the public interested in executing the 5-year farm agreement at one or more preserves. Jerry Paulson made a motion to approve of the 5-year farm agreements for County Line, Macktown, Severson Dells, and Seward Bluffs Forest Preserves. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

Acceptance of Purchase of Four Trucks Off of State Bid from Landmark Ford – Mike Brien presented to the board for the acceptance of purchase of four trucks off of State bid from Landmark Ford for the price of \$212,359.00. Mike Eickman made a motion to approve the acceptance of purchase. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

Acceptance of Purchase of Four Trucks Off of State Bid from Morrow Brothers Ford – Mike Brien presented to the board for the acceptance of four trucks off of state bid from Morrow Brothers Ford of Greenfield, Illinois for the price of \$200,335.00. Judy Barnard made a motion to approve the acceptance of purchase. **Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

STAFF REPORTS

Preserve Operations - Vaughn Stamm, Scott Stewart, Scott Wallace, and Bryan Helmold submitted a written report.

Land and Development/Volunteer Program Report – Mike Brien, Mike Groves and Keith Krey submitted a written report.

Golf Operations – Vaughn Stamm, Rich Rosenstiel, Tyler Knapp, and Mark Freiman submitted a written report.

Marketing – Renee Pixler submitted a written report.

Human Resources – Sherry Winebaugh submitted a written report.

Law Enforcement – Sheriff's Department submitted a written report.

CLOSED SESSION

Gloria Lind made a motion to go into closed session at 6:13 pm. At 6:23 pm, the meeting returned to open session. No action was taken while in closed session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNICATIONS

December 8 – Employee & Recognition Luncheon at Ledges Golf Course from 11:30am – 2:30pm.

December 9 – Walk With U Guided Walk at Headquarters Forest Preserve from 9:00am – 10:00am.

December 19 – Career and Volunteer Open House from 2:00pm-7:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Gloria Lind made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 pm **Motion passed unanimously.**

Next board meeting 5:30 PM, Wednesday, January 17th, 2023, Forest Preserve Headquarters

Respectfully Submitted,
Emily Wendlandt
Recording Secretary