

Forest Preserves of Winnebago County
BOARD MEETING
Forest Preserve Headquarters
June 18th, 2025

PRESENT

Judy Barnard
Mike Eickman
Gloria Lind
Cheryl Maggio
Jerry Paulson
Emily Porter
Jeff Tilly

STAFF

Mike Holan, Executive Director
Steve Chapman, Director of Finance
Vaughn Stamm, Director of Operations
Kristy Knapp, Administrative Services Manager
Sarah Lorenz, Communications Coordinator
Mike Brien, Director of Natural Resource
Jody Kennay, Human Resources Manager

GUESTS

Ann Wasser Kyle Bevers Gary Anderson Brian Blakemore Alex Mills

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM, by President Jeff Tilly.

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

ROLL CALL Recording secretary Emily Wendlandt called the roll.

APPROVAL of AGENDA and MINUTES Gloria Lind made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 25th minutes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, AWARDS, and PRESENTATIONS

Gary Anderson – asked the Board for approval to send a letter to the Illinois SHPO in order for the Holt House to be considered for the National Register of Historical Places.

NEW BUSINES

Holt House Letter – Mike Holan mentioned that the corn crib and small barn that are stated in the letter have been removed from the property and as a result, should be removed from the letter. The Board agrees that the letter should be sent with the amendments mentioned.

Mike Holan announced to the Board who he has appointed to handle certain Executive Director duties while the organization is absent of one. The Board asked that the statement be made in writing.

ACTION ITEMS

Bills for May – Steve Chapman presented to the Board the bills for May. Gloria Lind made a motion to authorize the payment of the bills for May in the amount of \$815,410.61. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Architectural Services – Mike Brien presented to the board the resolution for architectural services. Jerry Paulson made a motion to approve of the resolution for architectural services. **Motion passed unanimously.**

STAFF REPORTS

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

Natural Resource Management – Mike Brien, Mike Groves, Keith Krey and Liz Hucker submitted a written report.

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

Communications Coordinator – Sarah Lorenz submitted a written report. Sarah Lorenz highlighted the Hooked on Fun event.

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

Jeff Tilly and the Board thanked Mike Holan for his time as Executive Director.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNICATIONS

1. June 19 – Preserve Pop Up with Rockford Public Library at Headquarters Forest Preserve from 1:00pm– 3:00pm.
2. June 20 – Calling Frog Hike at Pecatonica Forest Preserve starting at 5:30pm.
3. June 22 – Butterfly Hike at Kieselburg Forest Preserve starting at 1:00pm.
4. July 12 & 13 – Winnebago County Amateur at Macktown Golf Course.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:35 PM Gloria Lind made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel. Emily Porter made a motion to go back into open session at 6:02PM. Roll Call taken. No action was taken while in closed session. At 6:29 PM Gloria Lind made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel and land acquisition. Jerry Paulson made a motion to go back into open session at 8:59 PM. Roll Call taken. No action was taken while in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Cheryl Maggio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM; **motion passed unanimously.**

Next board meeting 5:30 PM, Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at Preserve Headquarters.

Respectfully Submitted,
Emily Wendlandt
Recording Secretary