

Forest Preserves of Winnebago County
BOARD MEETING
Forest Preserve Headquarters
February 21, 2024

PRESENT

Judy Barnard
Mike Eickman
Audrey Johnson
Gloria Lind - Arrived at 5:38pm
Cheryl Maggio
Jerry Paulson
Jeff Tilly

STAFF

Mike Holan, Executive Director
Mike Brien, Director of Natural Resources
Sherry Winebaugh, Human Resources Manager
Renee Pixler, Communications Coordinator

GUESTS

Alex Mills
Ann Wasser
D. Hamilton

ROLL CALL The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM, by President Jeff Tilly. Recording secretary Emily Wendlandt called the roll.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE Audrey Johnson led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL of AGENDA and MINUTES Judy Barnard made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 17, 2024 meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.** Closed session was removed from the agenda.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, AWARDS, and PRESENTATIONS Ann Wasser presented to the board to provide an update on the recent events taking place at Severson Dells Forest Preserve and Nature Center.

NEW BUSINESS

Finance Report – Steve Chapman presented to the board the annual Finance Report. Chapman explained that our funds are in line with our budget for the fiscal year and that our revenues are in line with what was projected.

OSLAD Grant – Mike Holan mentioned to the board that we have received a \$389,000 OSLAD grant for Klehm Arboretum’s Nature Play Area, which will be installed over the next year and a half to two years.

Bills for January –Gloria Lind made a motion to authorize the payment of the bills for January in the amount of \$635,336.57. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Acceptance of Bids for Fertilizer and Chemicals – Vaughn presented to the board to approve the list of bids for fertilizer and chemicals for \$88,915.14. Audrey Johnson made a motion to accept the bids for fertilizer and chemicals. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Acceptance of Bids for Tow-Behind Flex Grooming Mower – Vaughn presented to the board the purchase of a Land Pride AFM 4216 Pull Behind Mower for \$23,567.25. Judy Barnard made a motion to accept the bids for the Tow-Behind Flex Grooming Mower. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Change to State Bid Purchase of F-350 Super Duty Pick Up Truck – Mike Brien presented to the board to approve the canceling of a previously approved state bid purchase of an F-350 Super Duty Pick-Up Truck. The previous truck that was approved for purchase has not yet been scheduled for production and does not have a projected date as to when that may happen. A similar truck that has already been built is available for state bid

for \$70,925, which is only \$435 more than the previous truck. Mike Eickman made a motion to accept the change to state bid purchase of the F-350 Super Duty Pick-Up Truck from Morrow Brothers Ford. **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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNICATIONS

February 22 – Restoration Work Day at Macktown Forest Preserve from 9:00am – 12:00pm.

February 29 – Restoration Work Day at Blackhawk Springs Forest Preserve from 9:00am – 12:00pm.

March 7 – Restoration Work Day at Roland Olson Forest Preserve from 9:00am – 12:00pm.

March 10 – Blacksmithing at Macktown Living History Museum starting at 2:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Audrey Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 PM. Motion passed unanimously. Next board meeting 5:30 PM, Wednesday, March 20, Preserve Headquarters.

Respectfully Submitted,
Emily Wendlandt
Recording Secretary