

*Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Forest Preserve Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.*

DeKalb County Government  
Sycamore, Illinois

**Forest Preserve Operations Committee Minutes  
January 22, 2019**

The DeKalb County Forest Preserve Operations Committee met on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 in the Legislative Center's Gathertorium in Sycamore, Illinois. Chairman Paul Stoddard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those Members present were Mrs. Misty Haji-Sheikh, Mr. Tim Hughes, Mr. Chris Porterfield, Mr. Craig Roman, Mr. Jeff Whelan, and Chairman Paul Stoddard. Ms. Maureen Little was absent. A quorum was established with six Members present and one absent.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**It was moved by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Roman, and it was carried unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, seconded by Mr. Whelan and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the October 23, 2018 Meeting and the November 14, 2018 Special Meeting.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**MONTHLY REPORTS & ACTIVITIES**

The Committee briefly reviewed the Forest Preserve District's monthly reports for December 2018 and January 2019. The Forest Preserve District performed maintenance and safety checks of buildings and grounds. Facilitated seasonal snow removal, firewood cutting, splitting and stacking, storm clean-up, shelter house and toilet cleaning, litter pick-up and disposal, road grading, trail maintenance, and equipment maintenance. In addition staff scheduled shelter rentals and collected shelter and camping fees, and took drinking water samples. Shelter Houses and Lodges were used every weekend by boy scouts, families and other groups. Natural Resource Center Educational Staff taught school groups and made classroom visits. PDRMA Risk Management and Loss Control review and forest preserve safety is also currently in progress for 2019 compliance

The reports also illustrated photos of Forest Preserve Natural Resource Manager Josh Clark using a forestry mower to remove invasive non-native trees and shrubs in many forest preserves this winter. Additionally photos were reviewed regarding the progress of the Somonauk to Sannuak Trail and other winter activities that occurred around the area forest preserves. The December 2018 and January 2019 Natural Resources Management Activities Report was also distributed to the Committee.

- [December 2018/January 2019 Monthly Report](#)
- [December 2018/January 2019 Natural Resource Management Activities Report](#)

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Whelan shared that on January 20–21, 2019 there will be a Total Lunar Eclipse (Blood Moon). The total phase of this total lunar eclipse will be visible from North and South America, Europe and western Africa.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mrs. Haji-Sheikh moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Land Acquisition per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) at 7:10 p.m. Mr. Whelan seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Those voting yea were Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Porterfield, Mr. Roman, Mr. Whelan, and Chairman Stoddard. None were opposed and Ms. Little was absent.**

*The Committee entered back into their Open Meeting at 8:05 p.m., no action was taken.*

Chairman Stoddard shared that he would be to have the Committee meet at 7:00 p.m. during the winter months and once the weather started becoming nicer again meet at their regular 6:00 p.m. start time. The Committee agreed with this arrangement.

He also added that sometime this year he would like the Forest Preserve Committee to host a Bus Tour, similar to the one that the County Highway Committee takes annually. The Forest Preserve tour may have to be split up into the northern part of the County and the southern part or it could be a day-long event. Details are still being worked out, Chairman Stoddard shared.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, seconded by Mr. Hughes and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Chairman Paul Stoddard

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Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary