

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
February 23, 2021**

The DeKalb County Forest Preserve Operations Committee met virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, February 23, 2021. Chairman Roman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those Members virtually present were Ms. Mary Cozad, Mr. Patrick Deutsch, Ms. Maureen Little, Ms. Suzanne Willis, and Chairman Craig Roman. Those absent were Mr. Tim Hughes and Ms. Terri Mann-Lamb. A quorum was established with five Members present and two absent.

Others present via Zoom included Forest Preserve District Superintendent Terry Hannan, Gary Hanson, and Pete Stefan.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Willis and seconded by Ms. Cozad to approve the agenda as presented. Those Members voting yea were Ms. Cozad, Mr. Deutsch, Ms. Little, Ms. Willis, and Chairman Roman. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Deutsch and seconded by Ms. Little to approve the minutes from the January 26, 2021 Meeting. Those voting yea were Ms. Cozad, Mr. Deutsch, Ms. Little Ms. Willis, and Chairman Roman. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

FY 2020 YEAR-END BUDGET TRANSFERS

Mr. Hannan explained that this is an annual housekeeping item to transfer appropriations between line items or to approve supplemental appropriations for unanticipated expenditures that were incurred during FY 2020.

Mr. Hannan and DeKalb County Finance Director Pete Stefan reviewed the key transfers and appropriations with the Committee. Mr. Stefan shared that some of the expenses have been paid for with grants, donations, and insurance reimbursement. There were no additional questions.

It was moved by Mr. Deutsch, seconded by Ms. Willis and carried unanimously to forward the FY 2020 Year-End Budget Transfers Resolution to the full Board of Commissioners recommending its approval.

Ms. Mann-Lamb and Mr. Hughes arrived at 6:13 p.m. and 6:14 p.m. All seven Committee Members were now present.

FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT'S OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE & NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. Hannan provided a PowerPoint with a large number of photos illustrating the District's operations, maintenance, natural resource management, land preservation and land improvements, trails, natural resource education, and future goals.

Mr. Hannan additionally highlighted the big projects that are coming in FY 2021, which includes:

- The Great Western Trail 100-year-old railroad culvert replacement
- The Great Western Trail Extension through Sycamore Forest Preserve and connecting to Sycamore and Sycamore Parks and trails. *Grant partnership with Sycamore Park Dist.*
- Replace 60-year-old foot bridge across Kishwaukee River at Russell Woods.
- Asphalt entrance road at Russell Woods.
- A possible trail connection from Genoa to Kingston (G2K Trail).

To date, Mr. Hannan has been able to acquire more than \$4 million in Federal, State and private grants for the Forest Preserve District. All of that money really helps stretch the District's Land Acquisition Fund dollars which is really a great thing for DeKalb County. Mr. Hannan thanked all of the individuals who have donated money and/or land to the District over the years.

It was determined that the Committee would try to meet next month in-person at the Russell Woods Natural Resource Education Center in Genoa to meet with Ms. Peggy Doty.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Ms. Mann-Lamb to adjourn the Committee Meeting. Those Members voting yea were Ms. Cozad, Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Little, Ms. Mann-Lamb, Ms. Willis, and Chairman Roman. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Roman, Chairman

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary