

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
April 26, 2022**

The DeKalb County Forest Preserve Operations Committee met for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting at the Natural Resource Center at Russell Woods in Genoa, Illinois on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Those Members present were Ms. Mary Cozad, Mr. Patrick Deutsch, Ms. Maureen Little, and Chairman Craig Roman. Mr. John Emerson, Ms. Michelle Pickett, and Ms. Terri Mann-Lamb were absent at the time of roll call. A quorum was established with four Members present and three absent.

Others present included Forest Preserve District Superintendent Terry Hannan and Peggy Doty.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Cozad, seconded by Mr. Deutsch and approved unanimously by voice vote to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Little moved to approve the February 22, 2022 minutes as presented. Ms. Cozad seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

FY2021 YEAR-END BUDGET AMENDMENTS

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 FY2021.

Mr. Hannan noted that he reviewed the transfers and appropriations with DeKalb County Comptroller Robert Miller and Sikich, LLP, the County and Forest Preserve District's outside auditing firm.

It was moved by Mr. Deutsch, seconded by Ms. Little and approved unanimously to forward a Resolution approving the Year-End Budget Amendments to the full Board of Commissioners recommending its approval.

Ms. Terry Mann-Lamb and Ms. Michelle Pickett arrived. There were now six Members present and one absent.

MONTHLY REPORTS & ACTIVITIES

Mr. Hannan reviewed the Forest Preserve District's Monthly Reports for the months of January, February, March, and April 2022.

The monthly reports illustrated events that occurred throughout the months, projects such as seedings and the replacement of the Russell Woods Bridge, and the acquisition of land for the G2K Trail in Kingston Township.

The Natural Resource Management staff completed Spring controlled burnings and tree plantings throughout various preserves. Forest Preserve Maintenance staff snowplowed, picked up litter, worked on trail and road repairs, and electrical, drywall and painting of the Natural Resource Center.

Mr. Hannan recognized and thanked the Sycamore Lions Club for their volunteering to clean up the Great Western Trail for the 28th annual year.

Ms. Peggy Doty, Extension Educator, Environmental and Energy Steward with the University of Illinois Extension introduced herself to the Committee. Ms. Doty has worked as the Executive Director of Education at the Natural Resource Education Center at Russell Woods for almost 23 years where she performs countless educational classes and activities with students, campers, children, and adults. Ms. Doty is the only person in the State of Illinois that partners with a Forest Preserve District to provide education in a satellite office of the District's space. She described to the Committee the multitude of things she does for Boone, Ogle and DeKalb Counties.

Ms. Doty shared how the 1st annual NatureFest that happened on Saturday, April 23rd went. The University of Illinois Extension along with the DeKalb County Forest Preserve and the DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District hosted their first ever free outdoor NatureFest on Saturday, April 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Russell Woods Forest Preserve. It was a nature open house. There was a NatureFest passport and map available. Each table had a short hands-on activity and a volunteer to guide the experience and stamp the passport. The weather was great and the event was very well attended, Ms. Doty reported.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Mann-Lamb moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Land Acquisition per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) at 6:43 p.m. Mr. Deutsch seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Those Members voting yea were Ms. Cozad, Mr. Deutsch, Ms. Little, Ms. Pickett, Ms. Mann-Lamb, and Chair Roman. None were opposed and Mr. Emerson was absent.

The Committee entered back into their Open Meeting at 6:51 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ms. Cozad and seconded by Ms. Mann-Lamb to adjourn the Committee Meeting at 6:55 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Roman, Chairman

Terry Hannan, Recording Secretary

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