



**Forest Preserve District of Cook County
Board of Commissioners**

Journal of the FPD Board of Commissioners

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

10:00 AM

**Cook County Building, Board Room
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

INVOCATION BY: Reverend Mitchell L. Johnson

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There were no public speakers

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Commissioner LUIS ARROYO JR., seconded by Commissioner BRIDGET DEGNEN, that this was approve on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0004](#)

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY'S DEER GROVE WEST

WETLAND AND WOODLAND NATURE PRESERVE FOR RECEIVING A CHICAGO WILDERNESS EXCELLENCE IN ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION AWARD, AND THE FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY'S CONSERVATION CORPS AND *FLORA OF THE CHICAGO REGION* FOR EACH RECEIVING A CHICAGO WILDERNESS FORCE OF NATURE AWARD

WHEREAS, on November 14, 2019, the Forest Preserves of Cook County's Deer Grove West Wetland and Woodland Nature Preserve was honored with a Platinum Accreditation, the highest accreditation possible, from the Chicago Wilderness Excellence in Ecological Restoration Program and the Forest Preserves' Conservation Corps and the publication *Flora of the Chicago Region* by Gerould Wilhelm and Laura Rericha were both honored with a Chicago Wilderness George B. Rabb Force of Nature Award at a ceremony at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Excellence in Ecological Restoration Program recognizes the organizations managing the largest and highest-quality natural areas in the Chicago region and highlights projects that set an example of best practices in natural resource management and ecological restoration; and

WHEREAS, the 240-acre project area that received Platinum Accreditation is part of the 1,950-acre Deer Grove West Wetland and Woodland Nature Preserve located in Palatine, Illinois that supports savanna, dry-mesic upland forest, mesic upland forest, wet floodplain forest, sedge meadow and wetland communities that collectively provide habitat for hundreds of native plant and animal species; and

WHEREAS, Deer Grove Natural Areas Volunteers began restoration work at the site over 20 years ago, and in 2015 the Forest Preserves and Openlands expanded on this work through O'Hare Modernization Mitigation Account funding to remove invasive species, maintain the ecological health of existing habitat and restore hydrology to the site's wetland habitat; and

WHEREAS, today Deer Grove West Wetland and Woodland Nature Preserve is one of our region's best examples of places that benefit both wildlife and people; and

WHEREAS, the George B. Rabb Force of Nature Awards recognize individuals and organizations whose conservation, restoration, advocacy or educational activities in the region are inspirational examples for others; and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Corps was developed to mobilize people to restore nature to health, and to train the next generation of conservation leaders and forest preserve advocates by providing youth and adults with paid, hands-on restoration experiences on the Forest Preserves' nearly 70,000 acres of public land; and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Corps is coordinated in partnership with the Friends of the Forest Preserves, Student Conservation Association, Greencorps Chicago, and Audubon Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Corps is a Force of Nature because it strives to break down geographic

and racial barriers by creating a network where people of all backgrounds work together for a common cause and ensures that participants gain an understanding of local ecology and are empowered to become nature ambassadors within their communities and among their peers; and

WHEREAS, *Flora of the Chicago Region: A Floristic and Ecological Synthesis* by Gerould Wilhelm and Laura Rericha is the latest edition of Plants of the Chicago Region, a compendium of the Chicago region’s vascular flora first authored by Floyd Swink in 1969; and

WHEREAS, this completely revised edition breaks new ground by documenting the relationship between flora and fauna, describing the habitats in which plants and their ecological counterparts occur, and noting the impacts of climate change and consequent habitat degradation; and

WHEREAS, few other regions within the United States have such a thorough resource available to them and the Chicago Wilderness area is fortunate to have such a guide to the natural world; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Toni Preckwinkle, President; and the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners thank and congratulate the winners of both the Chicago Wilderness Excellence in Ecological Restoration Award and George B. Rabb Force of Nature Award and thank them for their commitment to the mission of the Forest Preserves; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to the awardees as a token of appreciation for their service to the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the residents of Cook County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 20-0004. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0013](#)

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

THANKING CENTRAL STATES SER, JOBS FOR PROGRESS INC. AND ENRIQUE ALVAREZ, LEAD LEARNING FACILITATOR, FOR CONNECTING YOUTH TO NATURE THROUGH THE CAMPING LEADERSHIP IMMERSION COURSE

WHEREAS, Central States SER, Jobs for Progress Inc. (SER) is a non-profit dedicated to designing and delivering services to improve the quality of people’s lives and advance economic stability and growth among youth, adults and businesses in communities across Illinois; and

WHEREAS, SER runs the PODER (Positive Outcomes Delivered through Education and Respect) Afterschool Program, a 21st Century Community Learning Center that promotes academic and social enrichment to students in low-income Title I schools with Mr. Enrique Alvarez as the Lead Learning Facilitator for PODER in the Little Village Community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alvarez immigrated to the United States from Mexico when he was nine and was a DACA recipient when he completed his bachelor’s degree in Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alvarez focused his career on community work when he began volunteering with the Pilsen Neighbors Community Council and, in 2014, began working at SER and with the PODER program where he currently coordinates the PODER program at Ruiz Elementary School, Chicago working to provide a safe space for young people afterschool, assisting with homework, and finding a variety of activities - STEM, team building, community work-for youth participation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alvarez learned about the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the Camping Leadership Immersion Course (CLIC); and took the CLIC training himself in May of 2017; and

WHEREAS, since then Mr. Alvarez has brought over 80 young people from the PODER program camping at Camp Sullivan, in Oak Forest, through four CLIC camping trips, concentrated on camping, hiking, team building, and other activities with youths; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alvarez is dedicated to the CLIC program and understands the importance of having youth spend time in the outdoors as they have nature-related experiences in the Forest Preserves; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alvarez has been an excellent ambassador for the CLIC program by sharing his experiences with colleagues and helping them facilitate their own CLIC trips to the Forest Preserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Toni Preckwinkle, President along with the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners, do hereby thank Central States SER and Mr.

Enrique Alvarez for their commitment to using nature as a tool to provide safe and supportive services to the young people in the PODER program and their dedication to improving the quality of life for their community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to Central States SER, Jobs for Progress, Inc. and Mr. Enrique Alvarez in thanks for their work with the Forest Preserves of Cook County and their positive impact on the lives of young people.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 20-0013. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

PRESIDENT

[20-0012](#)

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Ordinance for the Levy of Taxes for the Year 2020

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County:

Section 1. That this Ordinance is and the same is hereby termed the “Ordinance for the Levy of Taxes for the Year 2020.”

Section 2. That the Committee on Finance of the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Illinois has considered the subject of the Annual Tax Levy for the year 2020 and the several sums necessary to be levied to meet the needs and requirements of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County for said year and has recommended that this ordinance for the levy of taxes be adopted.

Section 3. That the Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, heretofore having approved and adopted the Annual Appropriation Ordinance for the Forest Preserve District of Cook County for the year commencing January 1, 2020 at its meeting held November 19, 2019, which ordinance was published by authority of said Board as provided by law and which portion of said Appropriation Ordinance pertaining to Fund and Departmental Appropriations (together with marginal columns captioned “ Payable from the Tax Levy” and “Payable from sources other than the Tax Levy” where applicable) is set forth hereinafter.

Section 4. That the sum of Ninety Nine Million, Two Hundred and Eighty Nine Thousand, and Three Dollars and No Cents (\$99,289,003), being the sum of Appropriations heretofore legally made which are to be paid from the collection of the Annual Tax Levy of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois for the Levy Year 2020 A.D. for the corporate purposes, for the construction of improvements and development of the forests and lands, for payment for principal and interest on bonded debt, for payment for contributions to Employees’ Annuity and Benefit Fund, and for the payment of amounts to the Chicago Zoological Society and the Chicago Horticultural Society, all as adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County at its meeting held November 19, 2019 and published by the authority of said Board according to law, is hereby levied on all the taxable property within said Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois for the Levy Year 2020 being composed of the specific amounts for the various purposes herein before named.

Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

**ANNUAL TAX LEVY ORDINANCE
FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2020**

**SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND SOURCES THEREOF
ALL FUNDS**

Section 5. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Fund	Amount of Appropriation	Payable from The Tax Levy	Payable from Sources Other Than the Tax Levy
Corporate	63,529,304	52,562,375	10,966,929
Self-Insurance	8,540,000	0	8,540,000
Const. & Development	6,790,000	7,000,000	-210,000
Bond & Interest	16,830,550	12,834,300	3,996,250
Employee Annuity & Benefit	4,066,375	3,659,331	407,044
Real Estate Acquisition	850,000	0	850,000
Capital Improvement	500,000	0	500,000
Resident Watchmen	223,000	0	223,000
Chicago Zoological	14,389,505	14,284,927	104,578
Chicago Horticultural	8,932,778	8,948,070	-15,292
Total	\$124,651,512	\$99,289,003	\$25,362,509

Effective date: This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to refer 20-0012 to the Finance Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

COMMISSIONERS

[20-0105](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

ORDINANCE REQUIRING GENDER NEUTRALITY IN CODE LANGUAGE

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Cook County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners, that Title I - ADMINISTRATIVE, Chapter 1 - OFFICIAL FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT CODE, Section 1-1-3: - AMENDMENTS and Chapter 3 - DEFINITIONS, Section 1-3-1: - CONSTRUCTION OF WORDS of the Cook County Forest Preserve District Code is hereby amended as Follows:

1-1-3: - AMENDMENTS.

- A. Any ordinance amending the Forest Preserve District Code shall set forth the title, chapter and section number of the section or sections to be amended, and this shall constitute sufficient compliance with any statutory requirement pertaining to the amendment or revision by ordinance of any part of this District Code. All such amendments or revisions by ordinance shall be immediately forwarded to the codifiers and the said ordinance materials shall be prepared for insertion in its proper place in each copy of this District Code. Each such replacement page shall be properly identified and shall be inserted in each individual copy of the Forest Preserve District Code.
- B. The Forest Preserve District Code is hereby amended to remove all gender-specific references within the Code. All future amendments to the Code shall be drafted with gender-neutral language.

• 1-3-1: - CONSTRUCTION OF WORDS.

Plural to include singular: Whenever any word in any section of this Forest Preserve District Code importing the plural number is used in describing or referring to any matters, parties or persons, any single matter, party or person shall be deemed to be included, although distributive words may not have been used.

Singular to include plural: When any subject matter, party or person is referred to in this Forest Preserve District Code by words importing the singular number only, ~~or the masculine gender,~~ several matters, parties or persons, ~~and females as well as males~~ and bodies corporate shall be deemed to be included.

~~; provided, that~~ These rules of construction shall not be applied to any section of this Forest Preserve District Code which contains any express provision excluding such construction or where the subject matter or context may be repugnant thereto.

The word "ordinance" contained in the ordinances of the Forest Preserve District has been changed in the content of this District Code to "Title," "Chapter," "Section" and/or "subsection" or words of like import for organizational and clarification purposes only. Such change to the Forest Preserve District's ordinances is not meant to amend passage and effective dates of such original ordinances.

Each of the words "woods," "timber," "forest" and "preserve," whenever used in this Code, means land owned by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County.

Effective date: This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.

A motion was made by Commissioner Suffredin, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to refer 20-0105 to the Rules Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

[20-0009](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

REPORT

Affiliate: Forest Preserve Foundation

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Forest Preserve Foundation 2019 Annual Report

Report Period: January 2019 - December 2019

Summary: The mission of the Forest Preserve Foundation (the “Foundation”) is to engage in protecting and restoring the treasured natural habitats of the Forest Preserves of Cook County and to enhance the outdoor experiences of all communities. It does this by encouraging and administering private gifts to further the Forest Preserves of Cook County mission and goals.

Over its lifetime, the Foundation has made grants totaling \$1.8 million toward its primary goal: increasing access for all to the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and filed 20-0009. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0001](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Department: Department of Planning and Development

Other Part(ies): Village of Hoffman Estates, Illinois and the Hoffman Estates Park District

Request: Authority to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Village of Hoffman Estates, Illinois and the Hoffman Estates Park District

Goods or Services: The Village of Hoffman Estates and the Hoffman Estates Park District is requesting to design and construct a paved trail in the Poplar Creek Forest Preserve west of Route 59 to the CN railroad tracks

Agreement Number(s): N/A

Agreement Period: Date of full execution until 12/31/2023

Fiscal Impact: Not to Exceed \$51,313.98

License Fee: N/A

License Application Fee: N/A

YELAR Fee: N/A

Tree Mitigation Fee: No trees are expected to be impacted, but otherwise waived.

Accounts: Trail Accounts 51009.560063, 51051.560063, 51056.560063, 51057.560063 and 51058.560063

District(s): 15

Summary: On September 10, 2013, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners approved the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) request to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Hoffman Estates (the “Village”) and the Hoffman Estates Park District (the “Park District”) to participate in the development of trail improvements connecting the Prairie Stone Business Park to the Poplar Creek loop trail in Northwest Cook County (the “2013 IGA”). The Forest Preserves was authorized to spend \$84,531.00. Required authorizations to complete the project as designed were not received before the deadlines in the 2013 IGA. The Forest Preserves spent \$20,898.52 under the 2013 IGA.

The Forest Preserves now requests authority to enter into a new agreement with the Village and the Park District to jointly design and construct for the East-West portion of the original project which includes the paving of an existing ½-mile unpaved path through the Poplar Creek Forest Preserve from Route 59 west to the CN railroad tracks. 80% of the costs for this East-West portion of the project are anticipated to be covered by federal grant funds, with the remaining 20% of costs to be shared by the Forest Preserves, the Village, and the Park District. The Forest Preserves share under this new proposed intergovernmental agreement is \$72,212.50. However, the Forest Preserves is credited for the \$20,898.52 paid under the 2013 IGA so its final total cost is a not to exceed amount of \$51,313.98. The Forest Preserves will assume responsibility for maintenance and operation of the segment of the project on Forest Preserves property. The final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 20-0001. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0002](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Department: Department of Planning and Development

Other Part(ies): Village of Brookfield, Illinois, Village of Riverside, Illinois, Village of Lyons, Illinois, Village of LaGrange Park, Illinois

Request: Request Authority for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (“IGA”) with the Villages of Brookfield, Riverside, Lyons and LaGrange Park (“The Villages”) to share costs

Goods or Services: Phase I Engineering Study

Agreement Number(s): N/A

Agreement Period: Two (2) years

Fiscal Impact: \$16,000.00

Accounts: Consulting Management Services 51009.520860, 51051.520860, 51056.52860, 51057.520860 and 51058.520860

District(s): 16, 17

Summary: The Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) recently completed a feasibility study to extend the existing paved trails at 26th St. and 1st Ave. to Ogden Ave./Cermak-Ottawa Woods. The feasibility study identified multiple alternatives that included both on-street and off-street options for further Phase I engineering study and design. It also included improved access to the Brookfield Zoo along 31st St. for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized trail users. The Forest Preserves requests authority to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Villages for a Phase I Engineering Study for routes that will enable future trail users to safely travel from the Salt Creek trail system to the Chicago Portage National Historic Site. 80% of project costs will be covered by state grant funds, the Forest Preserves will make a one-time contribution of \$16,000.00, and the Villages will cover the remaining costs and expenses for the project. The Village of Brookfield will be the lead agency.

By committing a portion of the estimated cost of the Phase I study the Forest Preserves will contribute to the broader goal of connecting its trails with these surrounding communities and close a key segment depicted in the Northeastern Illinois Regional Greenways Plan. The final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 20-0002. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0003](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Department of Permits, Rentals and Concessions

Vendor: Go Ape Bemis Woods LLC (“Go Ape”), Frederick, Maryland

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to extend and amend contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Professional design, construction, operation, and maintenance services for an Aerial Adventure & Zipline Course (the “Course”)

Original Contract Period: 5/1/2014 - 5/1/2019; Board Approved Extension (9/8/2015) 5/2/2019 - 5/1/2021

Proposed Contract Period Extension: 5/2/2021 - 6/30/2023, with three (3) one-year renewal options to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: N/A (Revenue Generating). Go Ape has agreed to pay the Forest Preserves a \$20,000.00 annual fee plus a tiered percentage of gross revenue generated at the Course

Original Approval: 10/7/2014

Previous Increase(s): N/A

This Increase Requested: N/A

Estimated Fiscal Impact: N/A (Revenue Generating)

Accounts: N/A

Contract Number(s): 14-40-405

Concurrences:

The Chief Financial Officer and Interim Chief Attorney have approved this item.

District(s): 17

Summary: In addition to extending the contract, the proposed amendment will allow Go Ape to pay their annual fee to the Forest Preserves in quarterly installments in exchange for an annual administrative fee, based on prime lending rates. It also adds the option for the Forest Preserves to charge a late fee and requires background checks for Go Ape staff who work with unaccompanied minors, as part of a broader Forest Preserves effort. In 2018, the Go Ape agreement generated \$75,000.00 for the Forest Preserves.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 20-0003. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0005](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED AGREEMENT

Vendor: Chicago River Canoe and Kayak, Evanston, Illinois

Request: Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into an agreement

Reason: Contract 19-40-498 is a request for Boathouse Vendor Operations at the Busse Lake Boathouse. The selected vendor, Chicago River Canoe and Kayak, was the sole respondent to the RFP after an exhaustive outreach effort. Chicago River Canoe and Kayak has operated the Busse Lake Boathouse since 2014 and will continue to be responsible for maintaining and providing boat rentals and related concessions at the Busse Lake Boathouse.

Chicago River Canoe and Kayak has agreed to pay the Forest Preserves 5% of gross sales, plus the following annual fee per year.

FY 2020 \$19,000.00; FY 2021 \$19,000.00; FY 2022 \$19,000.00; FY 2023 \$21,000.00; FY 2024 \$21,000.00; FY 2025 \$22,000.00; FY 2026 \$22,000.00

Contract period: 1/14/2020 - 12/31/2022; with two (2) two-year optional extensions to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: Revenue Generating

Account(s): N/A

Concurrence(s):

The Chief Financial Officer and Interim Chief Attorney have approved this item.

District(s): 15

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 20-0005. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (15)

Absent: Gainer and Sims (2)

[20-0006](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED AGREEMENT

Vendor: Chicago River Canoe and Kayak, Evanston, Illinois

Request: Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into an agreement

Reason: Contract 19-40-498 is a request for Boathouse Vendor Operations at the Tampier Lake Boathouse. The selected vendor, Chicago River Canoe and Kayak, was the sole respondent to the RFP after an exhaustive outreach effort. The previous vendor that operated the Tampier Lake Boathouse retired at the end of the 2019 season after many years of service. Chicago River Canoe and Kayak will be responsible for maintaining and providing boat rentals and related concessions at the Tampier Lake Boathouse.

Chicago River Canoe and Kayak has agreed to pay the Forest Preserves 5% of gross sales, plus the following annual fee per year:

FY 2020 \$10,000.00; FY 2021 \$11,000.00; FY 2022 \$11,000.00; FY 2023 \$12,000.00; FY 2024 \$12,000.00; FY 2025 \$13,000.00; FY 2026 \$13,000.00

Contract period: 1/14/2020 - 12/31/2022; with two (2) two-year optional extensions to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: Revenue Generating

Account(s): N/A

Concurrence(s):

The Chief Financial Officer and Interim Chief Attorney have approved this item.

District(s): 17

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 20-0006. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0008](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Department: Department of Planning and Development

Other Part(ies): Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (“MWRD”)

Request: Authorization to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (“IGA”) with MWRD for reconstruction and maintenance of the McCook levee.

Goods or Services: MWRD proposes to improve, raise, and maintain the McCook Levee on the west side of the Des Plaines River from 45th Street downstream to the railroad in Ottawa Trail Woods. This project will require the grant of a permanent easement from the Forest Preserves to MWRD.

Agreement Number(s): N/A

Agreement Period: Continuous

Fiscal Impact: None

Accounts: N/A

District(s): 16

Summary: MWRD proposes to repair, rehabilitate, and replace a levee along the west side of the Des Plaines River from 45th Street to Lawndale Avenue, known as the McCook Levee, to protect commercial and residential structures from flooding. MWRD will complete the proposed work and assume future maintenance responsibility for the levee pursuant to an agreement for project design and construction with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the proposed IGA. The proposed 3.58-acre permanent easement will provide access and right of entry to MWRD and the Corps for the construction, operation and maintenance of the levee on Forest Preserves property. Under the IGA, the Forest Preserves will have record keeping and reporting obligations, as well as use restrictions, in relation to MWRD funding certain improvements with bond funds.

A two-block portion of the Salt Creek Trail will be closed and temporary access to an on-street detour provided during the construction period. Tree mitigation and other fees will be waived for MWRD consistent with a Memorandum of Understanding providing for mutual waiver of fees between MWRD and the Forest Preserves approved on May 11, 2017. The Forest Preserves may also grant MWRD and the Corps waivers to applicable work-hour limits and truck-traffic restrictions upon written request. The proposed IGA is subject to final review and approval by the Forest Preserves' Legal Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Moore, to refer 20-0008 to the Real Estate Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0010](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Finance and Administration

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Procurement and Disbursements Report

Report Period: 11/1/2019 - 11/30/2019

Summary: Submitting the Procurement and Disbursements Report for the period of November 2019. The report is to be received and filed in compliance with Section 1-8-2 (BB) of the District’s Code of Ordinances.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and filed 20-0010. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0011](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED AUTHORITY TO EXERCISE CONTRACT EXTENSION OPTION

Department(s): Department of Facilities and Fleet Maintenance

Vendor: Constellation New Energy, Inc. (f/k/a Constellation Energy Services, Inc.), Chicago, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to extend and increase this contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Delivery of Districtwide Electricity

Original Contract Period: 11/20/2015 - 12/31/2018; Administrative Extension 1/1/2019 through 12/31/2019

Proposed Contract Period Extension: 1/1/2020, retroactive - 12/31/2020

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: \$675,000.00

Original Approval: 11/17/2015

Previous Increase(s): N/A

This Increase Requested: \$425,000.00

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$425,000.00

Accounts: Electricity and Natural Gas 51001.540024

Contract Number(s): 1428-13749

Concurrences:

The Chief Financial Officer and Interim Chief Attorney have approved this item.

The Vendor has met the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance via direct participation.

Summary: On 4/29/2015, the Cook County Board approved a contract with Constellation Energy Services (Contract No. 1428-13749) (the “County Contract”). On 11/17/2015, the Forest Preserves Board approved the Forest Preserves piggybacking off the County Contract.

On 2/7/2018, the Cook County Board approved an increase and consolidation of two (2) one-year renewal options to provide for the continuation of the supply and delivery of electricity under the County Contract. The County Contract was extended until 12/31/2020. The Forest Preserves would like to continue to piggyback off the County Contract through 12/31/2020 by exercising the second of two (2) one-year renewal options. The Forest Preserves is also requesting authority to increase the contract as additional electric accounts have been added that were not included in the original estimate from 2015 and the Forest Preserves intends to purchase Renewable Energy Credits (RECs).

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 20-0011. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0014](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED AUTHORITY TO EXERCISE CONTRACT EXTENSION OPTION

Department(s): Department of Finance and Administration

Vendor: Ask Reply, Inc., d/b/a B2GNow, Phoenix, Arizona

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to extend contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Diversity Management Monitoring System

Original Contract Period: 1/1/2016 - 12/31/2018; Administrative Extension 1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019

Proposed Contract Period Extension: 1/1/2020, retroactive - 12/31/2020

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: \$71,575.00

Original Approval: 11/17/2015, \$71,575.00

Previous Increase(s): N/A

This Increase Requested: N/A

Estimated Fiscal Impact: N/A

Accounts: Professional Services 51001.520830

Contract Number(s): 15-20-002

Concurrences:

The Chief Financial Officer and Interim Chief Attorney have approved this item.

The vendor has met the Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprise Ordinance via direct participation.

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: B2GNow provides a web-based diversity management system that monitors contract compliance with respect to the Forest Preserves Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise ordinance provisions. Cook County utilizes the same vendor via contract number 1944-17880 (approved 11/21/2019). The Forest Preserves is seeking to exercise the second of two (2) one-year extension options. This is a sole source procurement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve

20-0014. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0015](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Department: Conservation and Experiential Programming

Summary: Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar- 1/14/2020 - 2/25/2020

Throughout the winter (when there's snow)

Snowshoes

Snowshoes are available at all nature centers when snow is 4" or greater. *Equipment is limited and is loaned with no charge on a first come, first serve basis. Driver's license required.*

Cross-country Skiing and Ski Rental

Starting December 21, as soon as conditions are skiable (frozen ground and 5" snow), Sagawau Nordic is open from 9am - 4pm. Trails will be open and groomed as snow conditions permit and could include a late start or an early finish. *Watch our Facebook page and call 630-257-2045 for the most up-to-date trail conditions.*

Ski Equipment Rental

Rentals available from 9 am-2 pm daily. Equipment must be returned by 3:45 pm. Rental package includes skis, bindings, boots and poles. Classic and skate skis available. All children and adult sizes. *Visit Forest Preserves website for rental fees. Groups of 10 or more, Monday through Friday only. Schedule in advance.*

Friday, 1/24; 7pm

Winter Campfire and Night Hike, Camp Shabbona Woods, South Holland

Enjoy a brisk walk through the woods and warm up around the campfire with s'mores and hot coco. *Registration required.*

Saturday, 1/25; 11am - 2pm

Winter Exploration Day, Caldwell Woods, Chicago

Embrace the cold while discovering something new in the Preserves! Find your way using a compass, follow local animal tracks, and more. For an added bonus, warm up by the indoor fire and make s'mores. Snowshoeing and sledding available weather permitting.

Sunday, 1/26; 1pm

Owl Investigations, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington Hills

Learn about owls and their amazing adaptations while dissecting an owl pellet and making an owl craft.

Sunday, 1/26; 10am

Hike the Preserves-Fitness Hike, Country Lane Woods, Willow Springs

Get some exercise, meet new people, and learn about your local Forest Preserves out on the trails.

Sunday, 1/26; 1pm

Green Fire Viewing, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

The one-hour documentary traces legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold's personal journey to develop an ethical relationship between people and nature.

Friday, 1/31; 10am - 12pm

Conservation@Home: Native Landscape Design, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

U of I Extension staff and volunteers will teach simple design principles for using native plants in the home garden. *Registration required by 1/24.*

Saturday, 2/1; 6am - 9am

Sunrise Nature Photography, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

An outdoor workshop focusing on amazing winter scenes. Adults & teens only. *Registration required by 1/30. Location provided upon registration.*

Saturday, 2/1; 4:30pm

Superbowl, Killdeer Wetlands, Tinley Park

Enjoy pre-Super Bowl Sunday birding festivities. Bird guides, warm drinks, and snacks provided. Hosted by friends of Bartel Grassland and Audubon Great Lakes. *Visit Audubon website for more details.*

Saturday, 2/1; 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Prairie Wolf Party, Little Red Schoolhouse, Willow Springs

While winter winds down, the prairie wolves prowl. Complete canine crafts and take a mammal march on our trails to search for signs of coyote. *Ages 4-10 with caregiver. Limit 12 children. Registration required.*

Saturday, 2/8; 10am - 2pm

Tree Cookie Painting, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Take in the last scenes of winter and paint them on take-home tree cookies.

Saturday, 2/8; 12pm - 3pm

Winter Exploration Day, Thatcher Woods Pavilion, River Forest

Learn to navigate using new-found orienteering skills, make a craft using natural materials, track animals, and learn photography skills. In partnership with the Twin Lakes District Cub Scouts. *Snowshoeing will be offered, conditions permitting.*

Saturday, 2/15; 1pm

Sagawau Art: Painting Nature, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Start your artistic journey here. *Ages 14 and up. Registration required.*

Saturday, 2/15; 1pm

Warm Hearts, Cold Noses Hike, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Go for a guided nature walk to learn about love in the animal world. *Registration required. Ages 18 and up.*

Sunday, 2/16; 10am - 3pm

Nature Play Date: Lincoln Logs, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Kids are encouraged to use their imagination and create using these iconic toys and other loose parts.

Monday, 2/17; 1pm

Species Spotlight, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington Hills

We are never sure what nature will show us on a day to day basis. We will surprise you with a featured animal encounter!

Friday, 2/21; 6:30pm

Our Transient Nature: A History of the Sand Ridge Campus and Calumet Region, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Discover the history of the Sand Ridge Campus through the lens of people and wildlife's movement within it.

Saturday, 2/22; 12pm - 2pm

Winter Wellness, Rolling Knolls, Elgin

Don't let the cold weather get you down! Tune into nature with a guided meditation for stress-reduction and relaxation lead by Gail Borden Public Library. *Registration required.*

Saturday, 2/22; 9am

Bird N' Bagel, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Learn about birds at the feeder with John Elliott of Chicago Audubon, sip hot drinks and nosh on bagels. Afterwards, take a short bird walk. *Registration required.*

Saturday, 2/22; 10am - 12pm

Canned Heat the Chicago Way: Hot Giardiniera, Dan Ryan Woods, Chicago

Learn about the history of food canning and how to make Giardiniera. Participants will leave with their own homemade giardiniera. Offered in partnership with Urban Growers Collaborative. *Registration required.*

Saturday, 2/22; Hikes at 11am and 2pm

Black History Month: Underground Railroad Hikes, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Join us on a narrated journey that follows the Underground Railroad route in the Calumet Region during the mid-1800's.

Saturday, 2/22; 6pm

Starry Night, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington Hills

Join us along with the Northwest Suburban Astronomers as we scan the skies for celestial objects. *Registration required.*

Sunday, 2/23; 1pm

African American Leaders in Conservation: Essay Contest Winners, Little Red Schoolhouse, Willow Springs

Learn about African Americans leaders in the conservation movement. Youth will read their winning entries in our newest Essay Contest. Get more information of how to participate in the contest at LRSH or at our website.

Sunday, 2/23; 1pm

Sagawau Science: Winter Insects, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Believe it or not, some insects are active through the winter. We will go out and search for these cold-hearted survivors. *Ages 14 and up. Registration required.*

A motion was made by Commissioner Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to receive and file 20-0015. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

COMMITTEE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

FINANCE COMMITTEE

[20-0103](#)

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (LITIGATION)

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation -12/17/2019

The Finance Subcommittee on Litigation met on the above listed date and recommends the following for approval:

Proposed Settlements Approved Fiscal Year 2020 to Present: \$0.00

Proposed Settlements to Be Approved: \$1,770,562.20

Legal Fees Approved Fiscal Year 2020 to Present:	\$0.00
Legal Fees for 12/17/2019 to Be Approved:	\$119,299.22

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 20-0103. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[19-0517](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (WORKERS' COMPENSATION)

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Workers' Compensation -12/17/2019

The Finance Subcommittee on Workers' Compensation met on the above listed date and recommends the following for approval:

Workers' Compensation Claims approved Fiscal Year 2019 to present:	\$428,617.66
Workers' Compensation Claims to Be Approved:	\$1.00 plus waiver of lien

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 19-0517. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0016](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED BID RECOMMENDATION

Department: Facilities and Fleet Maintenance

Request: Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to enter into a contract with Industrial Fence Inc., Chicago, Illinois.

Reason: Contract #74000007353 issued under Project #19-53-004907R is for furnishing and installing galvanized steel chain link fencing and PVC coated chain link fencing, removal of existing chain link fencing, and the repair of existing fencing Districtwide, on an as needed basis.

Bid Opening Date: 11/22/2019

Bid Results:

1. City Fencing Solutions, Inc., \$2,813.76 *
2. Industrial Fence, Inc., \$5,031.77
3. Antigua, Inc., \$7,340.72

* City Fencing Solutions, Inc. was found non-responsive to the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance.

The bidders were instructed to provide unit costs. The approved contractor will be required to provide written estimates prior to commencing work and costs will be required to align with the schedule of values provided in the bid response. The Facilities and Fleet Department has expended approximately \$50,000.00 annually for repair related fencing work. The Planning and Development and Resource Management Departments will also work with the approved contractor.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$300,000.00

Contract Period: 1/14/2020 - 12/31/2022

Account Name/Number: Building Services, Supplies, and Materials 51001.540360; Professional Services 51001.520840; Trail Amenities 51001.540131; Equipment 51001.540380; Special or Co-op Programs 51058.521313; Grant & Mitigation 51010.521444; Site Amenities 51051.560060, 51057.56006 and 51058.56006; and Other Materials 51001.530267

District: Districtwide

Concurrence(s):

The Chief Financial Officer and Interim Chief Attorney have approved this item.

The vendor has met the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance via direct participation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 20-0016. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

[20-0017](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Finance and Administration

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Corporate Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures

Report Period: 1/1/2019 - 11/30/2019

Summary: Detailed Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures for November 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 20-0017. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

RULES COMMITTEE

[20-0108](#)

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD, Matthew B. DeLeon, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the regular meeting held on 12/17/2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Suffredin, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 20-0108. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

NEW ITEMS

[20-0112](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A HEARING OF THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY LEGISLATION AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS PENDING LEGISLATION BEFORE THE ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

WHEREAS, the Illinois General Assembly and the United States Congress are currently considering numerous bills that affect the services and operations of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County's intergovernmental relations staff and hired lobbyists are actively monitoring the legislation that affects the Forest Preserve District of Cook County's services and operations; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners wishes to be updated on the status of certain bills pending before the Illinois General Assembly and the United States Congress so that it may take positions and communicate such positions to the legislative bodies on the relevant proposed legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners wishes to be told what legislative or administrative initiatives will be promoted in 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request that a meeting of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee be convened to discuss the status of pending legislation in the Illinois General Assembly and the United States Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserve District of Cook County General Superintendent appears before the Committee and be prepared to update the Committee on legislation pending before the General Assembly and the United States Congress that affects the Forest Preserve District of Cook County's services and operations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Suffredin, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 20-0112. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner LUIS ARROYO JR., seconded by Commissioner DENNIS DEER, that this was adjourn. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Johnson, Miller, Moore, Morrison, Morrison, Silvestri, Suffredin and Tobolski (14)

Absent: Gainer, Lowry and Sims (3)

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

A video recording of this meeting is available at <https://cook-county.legistar.com>.