

**Forest Preserve District of
Cook County**

*118 North Clark
Chicago, IL 60602*



BOARD AGENDA - Final

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

10:00 AM

County Board Room, Room 569, County Building

FPD Board of Commissioners

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

COMMISSIONERS

[14-0022](#)**Presented by:****Sponsored by:** President**PROPOSED RESOLUTION****HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. CHRIS T. MERENOWICZ**

WHEREAS, Mr. Chris Merenowicz has retired from his position as the Director of the Department of Resource Management at the Forest Preserve District of Cook County after a career at the Preserves that has spanned over 28 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merenowicz earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Zoology from Eastern Illinois University in 1981, he began his career at the Forest Preserve District of Cook County as a Naturalist Aide upon graduation, then leaving the District in 1982 to become the Director of Animal Control for the City of Aurora.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merenowicz returned to the Forest Preserve to begin his illustrious career and accept full-time employment as a Naturalist I in 1986 in the Conservation Department;

WHEREAS, Mr. Merenowicz accepted the Fisheries Biologist I position in 1987; and was then promoted to Chief Fisheries Biologist in 1993 where he lead the coordination of the Skokie Lagoon's Lake Restoration Project and developed the Tampier Lake Walleye Propagation program, which allowed the stocking of millions of walleye into Preserve lakes. In addition, he coordinated the Urban Fishing Program and established the Fisheries department which manages over forty lakes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merenowicz was then appointed as the Director of the Conservation Department in 1999 and led the District's six nature centers, Ecology section, Wildlife section, Volunteer Resources section and Fisheries section; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merenowicz, during the District's tough financial times in 2002, was instrumental in the creation of the Resource Management Department in 2003. At this time, he was appointed to the position of Assistant Director of the new department and assisted with the implementation of the District-wide trail-signage program, coordinated the department's SB-83 projects, and developed the stocking of large species of game fish such as, walleye and muskellunge. He additionally was integral in the development and implementation of three Illinois High School Association, Sectional Bass fishing tournaments, which began in the Spring of 2008. Mr. Merenowicz also established the Integrated Wildlife Management Program with the United States Department of Agriculture, which has allowed for an increase in biodiversity in many of our preserves; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merenowicz was then appointed as the Director of Resource Management in 2011, which during this time, he led the department through a transition of a newly created administration and introduced a suite of new directives that helped restructure Resource Management, successfully transported the President along the Happy Canoe Year route; played a vital role in the development of new initiatives and various projects throughout the District including the Camping, Recreation and Trails Master Plans; over saw the expansion of the department's Resource Ecology section, managed the day to day operations of the department;

and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merenowicz has had an impact on numerous young lives from very diverse backgrounds outside of his role at the Preserves, with a long career of coaching high school track and field, football, and wrestling at Lincoln Way East, Hillcrest, and currently at his alma mater Tinley Park; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merenowicz was more than just a “supervisor” to all with whom he worked, by always going the extra mile and providing good, sound advice, whether work related or a personal matter. He was determined in his efforts to produce a comfortable working environment for staff and would rather do something himself instead of asking someone else to assist him. Mr. Merenowicz led by example and earned the respect of all of his staff through his dedication and indomitable work ethic.

WHEREAS, Mr. Merenowicz would want to recognize his wife of 26 years, Christine; and his son Peter, who currently is serving in the United States Marine Corps, for all of their support and understanding over the years; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Toni Preckwinkle, along with the members of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners and on behalf of all citizens of Cook County, do hereby congratulate Chris Merenowicz on a long career of public service and thank Mr. Merenowicz for his many contributions to the Forest Preserve District of Cook County for over almost three decades; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to Mr. Chris Merenowicz in recognition of his career, contributions to the Forest Preserve District of Cook County and his passion for public service.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

[14-0041](#)

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Name: Finance

Committee Date: 1/14/2014

[14-0042](#)

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Name: Rules and Administration

Committee Date: 1/14/2014

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

[14-0009](#)**PROPOSED CONTRACT****Department(s):** Planning & Development**Vendor:** Various contractors in Cook County's Job Order Contracting vendor pool, listed below:

Existing County Contract No.	Proposed FPD Contract No.	Vendor Pool	Not to Exceed Contract Amount
General Contractors			
12-28-340-GC1	14-80-02-GC1	Agae Contractors, Inc.	\$3,000,000.00
12-28-340-GC2	14-80-02-GC2	Paul Borg Construction Company	\$3,000,000.00
12-28-340-GC3	14-80-02-GC3	F.H. Pashchen, S.N. Nielsen & Associates, LLC	\$3,000,000.00
12-28-340-GC4	14-80-02-GC4	Leopardo Companies, Inc.	\$3,000,000.00
Electrical Contractors			
12-28-340-EC5	14-80-02-EC5	Divane Bros. Electrical Company	\$2,000,000.00
12-28-340-EC6	14-80-02-EC6	Paschen Pagoda (MBE) Joint Venture	\$2,000,000.00
Highway / Site Work Contractors			
12-28-340-HS7	14-80-02-HS7	McDonagh Demolition, Inc.	\$2,000,000.00
12-28-340-HS8	14-80-02-HS8	F.H. Pashchen, S.N. Nielsen & Associates, LLC	\$2,000,000.00
Mechanical Contractors			
12-28-340-MC9	14-80-02-MC9	S Mechanical, Inc.	\$2,000,000.00
12-28-340-MC10	14-80-02-MC10	Paschen Autumn (WBE) Joint Venture	\$2,000,000.00
Residential Contractors			
12-28-340-RC11	14-80-02-RC11	Old Veteran Construction Inc. (MBE)	\$3,000,000.00
12-28-340-RC12	14-80-02-RC12	F.H. Pashchen, S.N. Nielsen & Associates, LLC	\$3,000,000.00

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserve District of Cook County to enter into and execute**Good(s) or Service(s):** Master Agreements for repair/maintenance and construction projects**Contract Value:** not to exceed \$3,000,000.00 for General Contractors and \$2,000,000.00 for specialized contractors except Residential Contractors**Contract period:** 1/14/2014, through 3/20/2015 with two one (1) year renewal options**Potential Fiscal Year Budget Impact:** see Contract Value above

Accounts: various Planning & Development and Facilities & Fleet Capital Accounts, including General Obligation Bond fund (25), Construction & Development funds (60, 61 & 52) and Capital Improvement Fund (09) accounts for Buildings (6710), Camps (6730), Restoration (6750), Recreation Landscape Improvements (6760), Site Improvements (6770), Trails (6780) and Maintenance Outlays (6300).

Contract Number(s): 14-80-02-GC1, 14-80-02-GC2, 14-80-02-GC3, 14-80-02-GC4, 14-80-02-EC5, 14-80-02-GC6, 14-80-02-HS7, 14-80-02-HS8, 14-80-02-MC9, 14-80-02-MC10, 14-80-52-RC11, 14-80-02-RC12

Concurrences:

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

The Vendor has met the Minority and Women Business Enterprise Ordinance Provisions.

The Vendor is in good standing with the State of Illinois

Summary: On 3/11/2013, the Cook County Board approved contracts with the contractors listed above under its Job Order Contracting (“JOC”) Program following a competitive bid process (RFQ 12-28-340). The District is seeking to procure similar construction services in certain cases to expedite projects under its capital improvement programs, pursuant to Section 182(X) of the District Code. Section 182(X) states: “If a governmental agency has awarded a contract through a competitive method for the same or similar supplies, equipment, goods or services as that sought by the District, the Procurement may be made from that vendor at a price or rate at least as favorable as that obtained by that government agency without utilizing a competitive procurement method set forth in the Procurement Code.”

JOC is a quantity-based procurement process that allows facility owners to complete a multitude of repair and maintenance and construction projects with a single, competitively bid contract. The JOC contractors listed were selected by the County through a competitive procurement process. The District plans to use JOC contractors in the following instances: 1) the District receives unacceptable bids through the traditional bidding process, 2) time is of the essence, and/or 3) the project is straight-forward job that is especially suited to catalogue-based unit pricing. JOC contractors will be selected for District projects by either: 1) identifying projects for such selected contractors, or 2) conducting a second round bidding process whereby certain select JOC contractors bid on projects in competition with each other and (from time to time) non-JOC contractors. All projects for \$25,000 or more will go through the aforementioned second round bidding process, except for projects procured on an emergency basis.

The District contracts will incorporate the same terms as the County’s existing JOC contracts and will include a few additional terms, conditions, and instructions to contractors reflecting the unique work desired by the District.

The JOC program has an administrative component managed by the Gordian Group, for which they are compensated by the successful bidder. The Gordian Group established and maintains an area price book for Cook County, which is utilized by Cook County Government and captures the prices for specific construction work items within this region. This price book also will be utilized by JOC contractors for work procured by the District.

[14-0024](#)**EASEMENT REQUEST**

Request: Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (the "District") to grant permanent and temporary easements to the Illinois Department of Transportation ("IDOT") at Algonquin Woods, along the east side of Des Plaines River Road from Touhy Avenue to Oakton Avenue for 0.031 acre or 1,350 square feet of permanent easement and 0.056 acre or 2,439 square feet of temporary easement.

Reason: The permanent easement is for construction and maintenance of drainage structures. The temporary easement is for re-grading and reconstruction of driveway entrances. IDOT states that the existing road is severely deteriorated and the project will improve safety and capacity. In addition, raising the road profile will reduce flooding on the road and adjacent properties.

The area for the permanent easement is 0.056 acres. IDOT indicates that no trees are expected to be removed for this project.

Easement Fee: \$5,900.00

Tree Mitigation Fee: None

Concurrence(s):

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

District(s): 17

[14-0030](#)**PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT****Department(s):** Planning and Development**Vendor:** Robert Juris & Associates Architects, Ltd., Frankfort, Illinois**Request:** requesting authorization to amend a previously executed task order to increase contract time and contract amount.**Good(s) or Service(s):** Architectural services**Contract Period:** Original contract period start date through end date, year**Contract Period Extension:** 1/14/2014 - 9/30/2014**Current Contract Amount Authority:** \$34,815.00**Board Approved:** 8/14/2010, \$31,650.00**Board Increase(s):** N/A**Increase(s):** 12/16/2013, \$3,165.00**This Increase Requested:** \$11,000.00**Potential Fiscal Impact:** FY 2014 \$11,000.00**Accounts:** General Consulting Services Accounts 51-6740, 52-6740 and 60-6740**Contract Number(s):** 10-80-61**Concurrences:**

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

The Vendor has met the Minority and Women Business Enterprise Ordinance Provisions.

The Vendor is in good standing with the State of Illinois

Summary: The District is currently seeking approval of a change order to have the Consultant assist the Department of Planning and Development with the Construction Administration at Poplar Creek Wildlife Management Headquarters. As the Architect of Record, it is important for the design consultant to perform regular site visits and produce site visit reports, prepare punch lists, and review required close out documentation to confirm and document that construction work is done according to the construction documents and

specifications. Additional services would increase the total contract amount to \$45,815.00.

[14-0031](#)**PROPOSED CONTRACT****Department(s):** Planning and Development**Vendor:** EC Purdy & Associates, Chicago, Illinois**Request:** Authorization for the Chief Procurement Officer to enter into and execute**Good(s) or Service(s):** two (2) contracts with EC Purdy & Associates, Chicago, Illinois, to provide design, bidding and construction administration service for improvements identified in Contract 13-80-01 Group 5R1-D and in Contract 13-80-01 Group 5R2-D.**Contract Value:** \$171,760.00**Contract period:** 1/14/2014 - 6/15/2015**Potential Fiscal Year Budget Impact:** \$171,760.00**Accounts:** General Consulting Services Accounts 25-6740**Contract Number(s):** 13-80-01 Group 5R1-D and Group 5R2-D.**Concurrences:**

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

The Vendor has met the Minority and Women Business Enterprise Ordinance Provisions.

The Vendor is in good standing with the State of Illinois

Summary: Contract (Task Order) #13-80-01 Group 5R1-D is for architectural and engineering design services for the District's building capital improvement program. The project scope includes providing design, bidding and construction administration services for building improvements including life safety, ADA, general building improvements and locker room renovations at McGinnis Field Station, Tampier Boathouse, Sagawau Learning Center Farmhouse, Salt Creek Division Maintenance Headquarters and Salt Creek Resource Management Headquarters. The estimated construction budget is \$641,745.00.

Contract (Task Order) #13-80-01 Group 5R2-D is for architectural and engineering design services for the District's building capital improvement program. The project scope includes providing design, bidding and construction administration services for building improvements including life safety, ADA and locker room renovations at the Central Garage and Warehouse Complex. The estimated construction budget is \$799,923.00.

On 12/5/2012, the Board of Commissioners approved a pre-qualified pool of 85 firms for architectural & engineering design services for the District's capital improvement programs. A professional services agreement was subsequently executed with each pre-qualified firm which provided for engagement of services for specific projects via a Task Order.

A Task Order (#13-80-01 Group 2R3-D) was previously issued to EC Purdy & Associates on September 30, 2013, in the amount of \$48,785.00 to perform design, bidding and construction administration services for building improvements including life safety, ADA, roof replacement and locker room renovations at Indian Boundary Division Maintenance Headquarters and Indian Boundary Golf Course. The District now desires to issue two (2) new Task Orders to EC Purdy & Associates for up to \$97,135.00 for Task Order 13-80-01 Group 5R1-D and up to \$74,625.00 for Task Order 13-80-01 Group 5R2-D. These new Task Orders require Board approval as the total combined award equals \$220,545.00.

District(s): 16 and 17

[14-0032](#)**PROPOSED LICENSE REQUEST**

Request: Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserve District of Cook County ("The District"), as Licensor to grant a License the Village of Elmwood Park ("the Village"), Licensee, to locate, operate and maintain a storm sewer outfall structure to the Des Plaines River, a floodwall along Thatcher Avenue, and a floodgate at the entrance to Evans Field as part of a Flood Mitigation Project to reduce flooding of Thatcher Avenue and adjacent neighborhoods. The project will separate the storm water from an existing combined sewer and eliminate the potential for combined sewage to enter District property. The floodwall will allow Thatcher Avenue to remain open during flood events. In addition, the floodgate will automatically close the entrance to Evans Field during flood events. The Village states that the flood stage and duration will not increase due to the floodwall.

The proposed license also is contingent upon the Village's agreement to acquire (at their appraised value) two small parcels owned by the District that already have been deemed surplus property by the District, thereby relieving the District of the responsibility and expense for maintaining the same.

Term: Continuous

License Fee: \$11,477.27

License Application Fee: \$500.00

Yelar Fee: \$3,300.00

Total one-time upfront fee of \$15,277.27 for the term of the License (Sec. 5-2A-4 and 5-2B-4)

Tree Mitigation Fee: \$13,281.09

The area of the License is: 0.174 acre

Concurrences:

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

Grantee has met the insurance requirements under the License Agreement.

District(s): 9

[14-0038](#)**PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT AMENDMENT****Department:** Planning and Development**Other Part(ies):** Cook County

Request: Authorization to amend an existing Intergovernmental Agreement to jointly plan for site development of new forest preserve land and land adjacent to property owned by Cook County near the Oak Forest Health Center.

Goods or Services: The proposed Second Amendment to the IGA provides for the following actions:

1. Temporary Easement Agreement. The County and the District agree to execute an Easement Agreement in substantially the form attached hereto, upon completion of surveys and legal description for conveyance of approximately 1.418 acres for the purposes of constructing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, replacing and removing a multi-purpose trail;
2. Permanent Easement. The County and the District agree that this temporary easement will be replaced with either a permanent easement or the conveyance of the fee upon a determination of the desirability of conveying additional property for purposes of the Preserve and upon agreement of the parties as to any appropriate compensation.

Agreement Number: N/A**Agreement Period:** Same as original IGA**Fiscal Impact:** None**Accounts:** N/A

Summary: In July 2011, the District Board approved an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Cook County and the Forest Preserve District to establish a joint planning initiative to provide for cooperation and to prepare plans for the development of 175 acres of new forest preserve land adjacent to the Oak Forest Health Center that was formerly owned by Cook County. Pursuant to the IGA, a consultant was retained and a master planning process was undertaken, with public participation and participation by the Cook County Health and Hospitals Systems. This Master Plan has been completed. On July 10, 2012, the County Board and the District Board amended the IGA to provide for access, signage, and other actions to further the cooperative development of the Preserve. The parties now have determined that the use of portions of the existing service road on the Campus would facilitate the timely and cost-effective development of the proposed multi-purpose trail on the Preserve

District 6.

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

[14-0046](#)

REQUESTING TO RATIFY THE POLL OF THE FOREST PRESERVE REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE REPORT

requesting that the poll of the Forest Preserve Real Estate which was approved on 1/3/2013, be ratified:

Board Poll Approved: 1/3/2013

Yeas: 17

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Divided: 0

Present: 0

[14-0053](#)

REPORT

Department: Chief Financial Officer

Request: Receive and file

Report Title: Procurement and Disbursements Report

Report Period: 11/1/2013 - 11/30/2013

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

[14-0043](#)**Calendar of Events January 2014**

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Saturday, 1/18 | Weekend Family Class: Hot Chocolate |
| Sunday, 2/1 | Chicago Botanic Garden |
| 9:30 am & 1 pm | Uncover the story of chilies and chocolates, examine parts of the cacao tree, learn how bitter beans make delicious desserts, and mix up several different kinds of historic chocolate drinks. Take home a chocolate mint and a chocolate pepper plant to concoct your own creations.
Registration and fee apply. |
|
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| Thursday, 1/16 | Creative Reuse 101: Printmaking |
| 5 - 8 pm | Cummings Square, River Forest
Learn basic printmaking techniques using found materials. For adults and families with children ages 5 & up. A series for both children and adults to explore nature, art and more. Pre-registration is required for all workshops. Space is limited, so call 708-771-1373 to reserve your spot. This is part of our Third Thursday series. |
|
 | |
| Monday, 1/20 | Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service |
| 10 am to 2 pm | Dan Ryan Woods, Chicago
Celebrate Dr. King's Birthday with service and other activities at Dan Ryan Woods. Help us clean up the preserves; learn about invasive species, burn a brush pile and more. |
|
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| Monday, 1/20 | Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration |
| 12 to 1 pm | Brookfield Zoo, Discovery Center, Savannah Room
Join us for a choral celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. There will be a presentation of the "I Have a Dream" speech, along with a craft activity. |
|
 | |
| Friday, 1/24 - | Three Friends of Winter |
| Sunday, 1/26 | Chicago Botanic Garden |
| 10 am - 4 pm | Twenty-one bonsais, many from the Garden's collection will on display during this annual event. The "three friends of winter" - pine, plum, and bamboo - are trees that traditionally symbolize the |

Thursday, 1/30
7 pm

Words Take Wing
Trailside Museum, River Forest

Explore the many ways poets use birds, both as animals and as metaphors. Bring a favorite bird poem to share. For adults and teens. Register by 1/27.

Saturday & Sunday, 1/25 & 1/26
9 - 4 pm

Ski Fest Weekend
Sagawau Educational Learning Center, Lemont

Celebrate cross-country skiing at Sagawau's winter wonderland. Experience our groomed trails at this slide-and-glide party for skiers of all levels.

Friday, 1/31
7 pm

Star Stories
Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Hear the stories of the winter constellations and go star spotting on a moonless night. Then warm up by a fire with some cocoa. Registration required. \$1 per person.

Saturday, 2/1
12 to 4 pm

Winter Exploration Days
Caldwell Woods, Chicago

Bring the whole family outside for some winter fun! Fight cabin fever with a variety of outdoor winter activities for all ages. Activities include, sledding/snow shoes (depending on snow conditions) fire, nature hikes, crafts, snacks and more.

Sunday, 2/2
1:30 pm

Groundhog Day Celebration
River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Only the shadow knows if winter is over. Enjoy facts and myths about ground-hogs and their shadows.

Saturday & Sunday, 2/8 & 2/9
10 am - 3 pm
& Wednesday, 2/12
11 am - 3 pm

Darwin Celebration Days
Trailside Museum, River Forest
Celebrate Charles Darwin's Birthday!

Drop in and explore adaptation, fitness and survival through activities and displays. For all ages.

Friday, 2/14
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Sweetheart Hike at Night
Little Red School House, Willow Springs

Sweethearts are invited to hike a candlelit trail, roast marshmallows, then warm up inside with sweet treats! Ages 21 & up. Registration required.
\$5 per person.

Saturday, 2/15 - The Orchid Show
Sunday, 3/16 Chicago Botanic Garden
10 am - 4 pm

This new exhibition, with more than 12,000 brilliantly beautiful and unusual orchids from around the world, will extend throughout the Regenstein Center, including lush presentations within the Greenhouses. Other activities including Tuesday Morning Music, family classes and drop-in activities, as well as a special exhibition in the Lenhardt Library, *Exotic Orchids: Orchestrated in Print.*"

Admission fee

Monday, 2/17
1:30 pm

Holiday Program: Wild Dogs
Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Learn about the canine cousins of the forest preserves. Touch the skins and skulls of foxes, coyotes and even wolves.