



**FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

BOARD NOTICE AND AGENDA

Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 10:00 AM

Issued On: 3/7/2024

CONSENT CALENDAR

Pursuant to Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code, the Secretary to the Board of Commissioners hereby transmits Consent Calendar Resolutions for your consideration. The Consent Calendar Resolutions shall be published in the Journal of Proceedings as prepared by the Secretary of the Board.

24-0162

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**HONORING DR. TOM MEEHAN ON HIS RETIREMENT AS VICE PRESIDENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES AT THE CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners is pleased to congratulate Dr. Tom Meehan on his retirement as Vice President of Veterinary Services at the Chicago Zoological Society after 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meehan has had a monumental impact on the field of Zoological Medicine over the last five decades, and his countless noteworthy contributions have immensely benefited veterinary medicine, animal welfare and conservation efforts locally and globally; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meehan started his work at Brookfield Zoo in July of 1993 as the Director of Veterinary Services, after having served as a veterinarian at Lincoln Park Zoo; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Dr. Meehan has been a voice for free ranging wildlife, tirelessly working to maintain the ability of veterinarians to legally provide the best care possible for wildlife, even when it doesn't fit the traditional domestic animal models of veterinary practice; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meehan built strong partnerships with regional conservation organizations, including the Forest Preserves of Cook County, working alongside Forest Preserves wildlife biologists to better understand the health of the local environment. These partnerships led to the development of the Illinois Zoological and Wildlife Health Management Residency Program, a first-of-its-kind collaboration between the University of Illinois, Forest Preserves of Cook County, and Brookfield Zoo committed to population health and conservation; and

WHEREAS, before specialized pathology services were available to most zoological institutions, Dr. Meehan worked with pathologists at local and state academic institutions to develop what is now known as the University of Illinois Zoological Pathology Program, one of the first shared zoo and wildlife pathology programs of its kind which has grown to be one of the most productive and well-recognized teams of pathologists serving the zoo, wildlife and aquatic animal communities today; and

WHEREAS, in his commitment to advancing the care of zoological animals, Dr. Meehan was a major force behind the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians' efforts to establish guidelines for Zoo and Aquarium Veterinary Medical Programs and Veterinary Hospitals, which were later adopted in full by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums ("AZA"). Serving for 23 years on the AZA independent Accreditation Commission and as an advisor, Dr. Meehan had a positive and significant direct impact on the health and welfare of animals across the United States; and

WHEREAS, his passion for mentorship and education at all levels led Dr. Meehan to help develop exhibits and programs at Brookfield Zoo supporting early childhood education and contributing to the development of the area of study now known as conservation psychology, which began at Brookfield Zoo. He was instrumental in organizing the needed collaborative support that allowed for the development of one of the most sought-after professional training programs, the Illinois Zoological and Aquatic Animal Residency Program; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meehan has worked tirelessly over his career to improve the care and well-being of primates, particularly gorillas, by advancing conservation efforts, standards of medical management, husbandry and breeding for this species. In addition to working directly with the species, Dr. Meehan has published extensively on primates and gorillas, serving as both the Gorilla Species Survival Plan vet advisor and the Great Ape Taxon Advisory Group advisor, and has been an integral part of the Great Ape Heart Project; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meehan has held professional roles with the United States Animal Health Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians, and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. He is also the recipient of many honors and awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Inspector of the Year, among others; and

WHEREAS, through it all, Dr. Meehan has been a remarkable veterinarian, steadfast professional, trusted colleague, dedicated mentor, compassionate leader, and constant teacher.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Toni Preckwinkle, President, and the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby congratulate Dr. Tom Meehan for his dedication, service, and enormous contributions as Vice President of Veterinary Services at the Chicago Zoological Society and wish him well in all of his future endeavors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to Dr. Tom Meehan as a token of appreciation for his strong partnership with the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have registered, with the Secretary, to speak 24 hours in advance of the meeting. To register as a public speaker, go to the meeting details page for this meeting at <https://fpdcc.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> to find a registration link. Duly authorized public speakers may speak live from the County Board Room at 118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Chicago, Illinois or be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each virtual speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at:

<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings>, or in a viewing area at 69 W. Washington Street, 22nd Floor Collaborative Workspace 2, Chicago, Illinois. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, discriminatory, profane, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT**24-0161****Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent**REPORT****Department:** Department of Facilities and Fleet**Request:** Refer to Finance Committee**Report Title:** Annual Energy Expense Report**Report Period:** 1/1/2023 - 12/31/2023

Summary: On 1/26/2021, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners authorized the Forest Preserves of Cook County to enter into agreements recommended by Ameresco, Inc. (Board Item No. 21-0125). Previously, on 10/20/2020, the Board of Commissioners had approved a contract with Ameresco, Inc. to provide, in part, procurement of electricity, natural gas, and renewable energy (Board Item No. 20-0363). On 11/14/2023, the Board of Commissioners approved an extension of the contract

with Ameresco, Inc. until 9/30/2025 (Board Item No. 23-0452). As required by Board Item No. 21-0125, this report provides a monthly breakdown of related energy payments made during fiscal year 2023.

[24-0163](#)

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Office of the General Superintendent

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Resident Watchman Annual Report

Report Period: 1/1/2023 - 12/31/2023

Summary: This report is required per Section 1-9-3 (Fees and Occupancy of District Lands) of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code of Ordinances. The report provides names, job titles, and salaries of employees who occupied property within the Resident Watchman Program for fiscal year 2023 and includes other program-related information.

24-0063

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Finance and Administration

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Procurement and Disbursements Report

Report Period: 1/1/2024 - 1/31/2024

Summary: Submitting the Procurement and Disbursements Report for the period of January 2024. The report is to be received and filed in compliance with Section 1-8-2 (BB) of the District's Code of Ordinances.

24-0146

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Departments of Legal and Finance

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Workers' Compensation Report - January 2024

Report Period: 1/1/2024 - 1/31/2024

Summary: The Forest Preserves of Cook County Departments of Legal and Finance are submitting Workers' Compensation Claim Payments for the month of January 2024. Payments total \$89,400.75 for January 2024.

24-0152

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Department: Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming

Summary: Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar of Events and Activities 3/12/2024 - 4/16/2024

Please check the Forest Preserves of Cook County's website for updates and changes.

Tuesday, 3/12; 7pm - 8:30pm

National Girl Scout Birthday Evening Walk, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

Enjoy an evening walk through the woods. *Open to all levels of Girl Scout Troops. Registration required. Please call (708) 839-6897.*

Thursday, 3/14; 11am - 1pm

Nature Hike and Journaling, Orland Grassland, Orland Park

Discover the joy of drawing and writing while learning and taking a hike in nature. Create a journal or

bring your own.

Thursday, 3/14; 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Weaving Workshop, Swallow Cliff Pavilion, Palos Park

Create a small wall hanging art piece using natural materials. *Supplies and instruction will be provided. Ages 10 and up. Ages 10-17 with an adult.*

Saturday, 3/16; 9am - 11am

The Energy of Water: A Forest Therapy Walk, Rolling Knolls, Elgin

Join us as we explore the movement of water all around us. Participants will be guided through a grounding exercise, walk, tea ceremony and a water mandala activity. *Registration required. Please call (773) 758-8899.*

Saturday, 3/16; 10am

Women's History in Conservation Walk, Plum Creek Meadow, Chicago Heights

Walk and Talk Hikes are for the curious mind who wants to know more about the Forest Preserves and natural areas. *This hike will be 1.8 miles and will be led at a slower pace with frequent stopping and interpretation.*

Saturday, 3/16; 10am - 12pm

Restoration and S'mores, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Help restore our woodlands by cutting down invasive species and having a brush pile burn. *S'mores and light snacks will be provided after the restoration work. Registration required. Ages 12 and up. Please call (708) 868-0606.*

Saturday, 3/16; 10:30am

Sap's Rising, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Walk in the sugar maple forest as winter comes to an end and learn about the sweet history of maple syrup making. *Registration required. Please call (847) 824-8360.*

Saturday, 3/16; 1pm

Marzanna Craft for Kids - in Polish, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Poznaj Słowiańską tradycję witania wiosny i stwórz własną "Marzannę". *Wstęp wolny, rejestracja pod numerem 708-366-6530. Program dla dzieci do lat 12 w towarzystwie opiekuna.*

Saturday, 3/16; 1:30pm

Sap's Rising, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Walk in the sugar maple forest as winter comes to an end and learn about the sweet history of maple

syrup making. *Registration required. Please call (847) 824-8360.*

Saturday, 3/16; 1pm

Signs of Spring, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Join us for a walk looking for signs of spring's arrival and learn about plants and animals' response to the longer days. *Registration required. Please call (630) 257-2045.*

Sunday, 3/17; 11am - 3pm

Maple Syrup Festival, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Celebrate the arrival of spring with a special day of activities including crafts, games, tree tapping, and maple syrup history with syrup samples to taste. *For more information, please call (847) 824-8360.*

Sunday, 3/17; 12pm

Mental Health Tune-Ups, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

Learn about the importance of mental health and how to help raise awareness while benefiting from time spent in nature. *Registration required. Please call (708) 839-6897.*

Wednesday, 3/20; 11am - 2pm

Celebrate Spring Fest, Cummings Square, River Forest

Celebrate the vernal equinox and the arrival of spring by painting a bird house, learning about seasonal changes, building, and playing with natural materials, as well as other kid-friendly activities. *For more information, please call (312) 533-5751.*

Thursday, 3/21; 1pm

Teen Exploration Day: The Botany of Zelda, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Inspired by the Nintendo game, learn how the fictional plants of Hyrule Forest connect to our native plants. *Registration required. Ages 12-17. Please call (708) 366-6530.*

Saturday, 3/23; 8am

Wellness in the Woods: Bike Ride, Dan Ryan Woods Visitor Center, Chicago

Learn about Marshall "Major" Taylor and his connection to the Forest Preserves. Join us on a 16-mile guided bike ride on the trail named in his honor. *Must bring your own bike and helmet.*

Saturday, 3/23; 11am

Accessibility Trail Outing, Miller Meadow-South, Maywood

Join us on a 1.7-mile paved trail with resting points throughout. Perfect for those who use wheelchairs or have limited mobility. *Grove 6. For more information, please call (312) 533-5751.*

Saturday, 3/23; 1pm**Muddy Paws Walk, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Let's search the muddy trails to identify what other animals are using them.

Saturday, 3/23; 1pm - 3pm**Spring Eggstravaganza, Mathew Bieszczat Volunteer Resource Center, Chicago**

Celebrate the changing season and learn about Cook County's wildlife through crafts, themed walks, refreshments and more. *For more information, please call (773) 758-8899.*

Saturday, 3/23; 1pm - 3pm**Painting and Papercrafts, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Celebrate spring with arts and crafts inspired by the changing season. *Registration required. Ages 18 and up. Ages 13-17 with an adult. Please call (708) 868-0606.*

Sunday, 3/24; 11am - 2pm**Truckin' Into Spring, Bemis Woods-South, Western Springs**

The event is hosted in partnership with Go Ape Chicago. Enjoy activities including the nature obstacle course named Treetop Nets. Food trucks and vendors will be onsite. *For more information, please call (312) 533-5751.*

Sunday, 3/24; 1pm**Artist as Naturalist, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

Celebrate Women's History Month by learning how artists made scientific discoveries accessible to society. *Registration required. Please call (630) 257-2045.*

Sunday, 3/24; 1:30pm**Bucket Bug Hunt, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Walk through our sugar bush to learn about early spring insects. *For more information, please call (847) 824-8360.*

Monday, 3/25; 11:45pm - 3am**Penumbral Lunar Eclipse, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Watch this celestial phenomenon unfold into the wee hours of the morning. *Registration required. Please call (708) 839-6897.*

Wednesday, 3/27 through Friday, 3/29; 9am - 3pm**Spring Nature Camp, Rolling Knolls, Elgin**

Learn the significance of spring in Native American culture while participating in various timed activities with Trickster Cultural Center. *Registration required. Please call (773) 758-8899.*

Wednesday, 3/27; 10am - 1pm

Spring Break-OUT Adventure, Thatcher Woods, River Forest

Enjoy time out of school with activities including archery, nature play, hikes, art, and other fun. *For more information, please call (312) 533-5751.*

Wednesday, 3/27; 11am

Spring Break Feeding Frenzy, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

Learn what, why and how staff feed the animal ambassadors at the nature center. *Registration required. Please call (708) 839-6897.*

Wednesday, 3/27; 5:30pm - 7pm

Camping 101, Camp Bullfrog Lake, Willow Springs

Join us for a workshop covering basic camping skills. *Registration required. Please visit the website for more information.*

Thursday, 3/28; 10am - 1pm

Spring Breakout Adventures, Mathew Bieszczat Volunteer Resource Center, Chicago

Try a variety of outdoor recreation activities while spending school break in nature. *For more information, please call (773) 758-8899.*

Friday, 3/29; 11am - 2pm

Spring Breakout Adventure, Dan Ryan Woods Visitor Center, Chicago

Explore, discover, and create! Spend your spring break outside with several outdoor recreation activities.

Saturday, 3/30; 1pm

Micro-Safari Part II, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

The microscopic adventure through Crabtree's waters continues. *Registration required. Please call (847) 381-6598.*

Thursday, 4/4; 5pm

Wellness in the Woods: Bike Ride, Sauk Trail Woods-Central, South Chicago Heights

Join us on a guided bike ride for 5 miles. *Must bring your own bike and helmet.*

Saturday, 4/6; 10am - 2pm

2nd Annual Trash Bash, Miller Meadow-South, Maywood

Make spring cleaning more sustainable! Our event partners will be collecting electronics, prescription drugs, books, musical instruments, bikes, clothing and more. *The first 50 donors will receive a free "Don't be Trashy" t-shirt. For more information, please call (312) 533-5751.*

Saturday, 4/6; 11am - 1pm

Arab American Heritage Month, Elizabeth Conkey-South, Palos Heights

Learn and explore contributions from the Arab American Community.

Sunday, 4/7; 2pm

Arab American Heritage Walk, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

Celebrate Arab American Heritage Month by participating in a guided walk to learn more about the culture and history and its impact on our country. *Registration required. Please call (708) 839-6897.*

Monday, 4/8; 12:30pm - 3:30pm

Partial Solar Eclipse, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Join us and watch the eclipse safely. *A solar telescope and eclipse glasses are available on-site. For more information, please call (847) 381-6598.*

Monday, 4/8; 12:30pm - 3:30pm

Solar Eclipse Viewing, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Join us and watch the eclipse. *A solar telescope and eclipse glasses are available on-site. For more information, please call (708) 366-6530.*

Wednesday, 4/10; 5:30pm - 7pm

Camping 101, Camp Reinberg, Palatine

Join us for a workshop covering basic camping skills. *Registration required. Please visit the website for more information.*

Friday, 4/12; 1pm - 3pm

Bird Painting Workshop Step-by-Step: Goldfinch, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Join us for bird painting. *All skill levels are welcomed, and all supplies are provided. Registration required. The cost is \$5 per person. Ages 15 and up. Please call (708) 366-6530.*

Friday, 4/12; 7pm

Timberdoodle Walks, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Observe and learn about the American woodcock courtship display in the darkening sky. *Registration required. Ages 7 and up. Please call (847) 381-6598.*

Saturday, 4/13; 8am**Fishing Derby, Papoose Lake, Palos Park**

Join the Village of Palos Park and the Forest Preserves for a family-fun day of fishing. Prizes awarded.

Saturday, 4/13; 9am - 10am**Animal Origami, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Observe bird feeder activity as we make origami animals such as bunnies, insects, and birds, including your own favorite animal! *Registration required. Please call (708) 868-0606.*

Saturday, 4/13; 9am - 3pm**ENTICE Workshop: The Wonderful World of Lichens, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

In partnership with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, explore the world of lichens by learning about this symbiotic partnership. You will learn how to identify lichens and how they can be incorporated into your classroom. *Professional Development hours available. Registration required. For more information, please call (630) 257-2045.*

Saturday, 4/13; 11am - 12:30pm**Wilderness Survival 101, Deer Grove-East Palatine**

This hands-on program demonstrates how to use the natural resources around you. *Grove 4. For more information, please call (773) 758-8899.*

Saturday, 4/13; 1pm - 2pm**Teen Exploration Day: Wilderness Survival 101, Deer Grove-East Palatine**

This hands-on program demonstrates how to use the natural resources around you. *Grove 4. For more information, please call (773) 758-8899.*

Saturday, 4/13 through Sunday 4/14**Camping Leadership Immersion Course, Camp Sullivan, Oak Forest**

This overnight training course will teach you the skills needed to plan and lead group camping trips. The course will cover such topics as safety, day-hiking, tent, stove-set up, teambuilding and leadership skills, as well as educational offerings. After training, you will gain access to the gear library and group site. *Registration required. The cost is \$25 per person, which includes food and camping gear. Ages 18 and up. For registration and more information, please visit the website.*

Sunday, 4/14; 11am**GPS Scavenger Hunt, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Learn about and participate in a technology-inspired scavenger hunt. *Registration required. Please call*

(847) 824-8360.

Sunday, 4/14; 12:30pm

GPS Scavenger Hunt, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Learn about and participate in a technology-inspired scavenger hunt. *Registration required. Please call (847) 824-8360.*

Sunday, 4/14; 1pm

Accessible Wildflower Walk, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

This leisurely walk will highlight wildflowers along a paved driveway. *Registration required. Please call (630) 257-2045.*

Sunday, 4/14; 1pm - 3pm

Sand Ridge Service Days: Garlic Mustard Pull, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Join us each month as we care for the Sand Ridge Campus with a variety of activities! Earn service-learning hours. *Registration required. Please call (708) 868-0606.*

Sunday, 4/14; 2pm

GPS Scavenger Hunt, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Learn about and participate in a technology-inspired scavenger hunt. *Registration required. All ages. Please call (847) 824-8360.*

COMMITTEE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2024**

24-0139 PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT Contracts and Purchases

24-0140 PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT Design-Build Procurements

24-0154 BID RECOMMENDATION Seal Tight Exteriors, Inc.

24-0145 RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (LITIGATION) Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation – 3/12/2024

24-0129 RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (WORKERS COMPENSATION) Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Workers Compensation – 3/12/2024

24-0074 REPORT Report Title: Corporate Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures, Report Period: 1/1/2024 - 1/31/2024

**REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2024**

24-0090 PROPOSED ORDINANCE Create a Forest Preserve Near Sweet Woods

24-0089 PROPOSED SALE OR PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE Larry A. Paarlberg and Marcia Christine Paarlberg, As Joint Tenants (Owners of Record), 1588 13th Street, Ford Heights, Cook County, Illinois, PIN: 32-23-204-031, 32-23-205-031, 32-23-206-031, 32-23-207-032, 32-23-212-031, 32-23-213-031, 32-23-214-031, 32-23-215-033, 32-23-220-031, 32-23-221-031, 32-23-222-031, 32-23-223-034, 32-23-228-031, 32-23-229-031, 32-23-230-031, 32-23-231-032, 32-23-236-031, 32-23-237-031, 32-23-238-032, 32-23-241-033, 32-23-241-034, 32-23-242-032

24-0137 EASEMENT REQUEST 123rd Street and 93rd Avenue in Palos Hills
