



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

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

Consent Agenda

Tuesday, June 14, 2022, 10:00 AM

CONSENT CALENDAR

Pursuant to 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 Post Board Action Agenda and Journal of Proceedings as prepared by the Clerk of the Board.

[22-0282](#)

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR., SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF TOM ROHNER TO THE FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Mr. Tom Rohner served the Forest Preserves of Cook County as the Director of Facilities & Fleet Department since 2019 and served previously as Facilities Manager; and

WHEREAS, Tom oversaw a budget of approximately \$7 million and over 50 personnel; and

WHEREAS, Tom managed the critical relationship with Cook County's Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security and led the charge to incorporate the Forest Preserves into the Cook County Hazard Mitigation Municipal Partnership; and

WHEREAS, as Chief Covid-19 OSHA Officer, Tom jumped in and became the subject matter expert on the evolving guidelines and recommendations for Forest Preserves facilities, vehicles, workspaces, and equipment. He made sure protocols were posted at every facility, workspaces were measured and marked off to ensure social distancing, screens were installed, and hand sanitizer distributed. When the vaccines became available but not easily accessible to everyone, he helped work through all the logistics to establish pop-up vaccine clinics at Forest Preserve sites. He was a beacon of light during some very dark times; and

WHEREAS, as Clean Energy Champion, he pushed the Forest Preserves to embrace solar power, secure renewable energy credits to offset our building related emissions, and moved the organization away from non-renewable sources of energy; and

WHEREAS, as lighting transition champion, Tom managed lighting upgrades at Palos Preserves and worked with Adler Planetarium to ensure compliance with International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) standards. His work was key to success in establishing the Palos Preserves named the largest Urban Night Sky Place in the world by the IDA; and

WHEREAS, Tom helped begin the transition to a green fleet, positioning the Forest Preserves to further reduce its carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS, Tom went above and beyond the call of duty when the Village of Dixmoor lost water service for days and he took extraordinary efforts to make campgrounds showers available for those residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that President Toni Preckwinkle along with the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners, General Superintendent Arnold L. Randall, and on behalf of all residents of Cook County, do hereby extend appreciation to Mr. Tom Rohner for his dedication, contribution, leadership, and outstanding service and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to Mr. Tom Rohner in recognition of his significant contributions to the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

[22-0285](#)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHIEF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT DAVID H. KIRCHER

WHEREAS, in 1985, Mr. David H. (“Dave”) Kircher graduated with honors from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree and started work shortly after that as a Landscape Architect for the Forest Preserves of Cook County; and

WHEREAS, over the past two decades, Dave served as Chief Landscape Architect, succeeding Joseph Nevius, Richard Buck, Glen Weidemann and John Morrill in this prestigious Forest Preserve position; and

WHEREAS, during his 37 years of service, Dave managed many important plans and projects relating to land acquisition, landscape restoration, planning and design of trails and other recreation facilities, design and production of trail maps, and the development of land use policy to protect District lands; and

WHEREAS, Dave was the project lead for the development of Districtwide land acquisition plans in 1994 and 2012 and oversaw the acquisition of thousands of acres of Forest Preserve land since 1994 with very limited resources, including some of the most significant natural resource sites in Cook County such as Burnham Prairie and other Calumet area preserves; and

WHEREAS, prior to the creation of the Department of Resource Management in April 2003, Dave was the lead on larger-scale land restoration projects, including restoration of Dan McMahon Woods near Willow Springs and Bergman Slough near Palos Park, and was heavily involved in major U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ restoration and mitigation projects at Orland Grassland and Orland Grassland South;

and

WHEREAS, during Dave's tenure as Chief Landscape Architect, he was responsible for managing the Landscape Architecture section of the Department of Planning & Development, but also managed the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) section and land surveyor and licensing staff at various times; and

WHEREAS, Dave was the program manager for the \$25 million campground improvement program from 2012 to 2016 and also managed the planning and development of various other outdoor recreation facilities including trails and greenways, boating facilities and picnic areas over his decades of service; and

WHEREAS, Dave was also heavily involved in the development of joint stormwater control and recreation projects such as Busse Reservoir in Elk Grove Village; and

WHEREAS, Dave was responsible for the administration of federal grants for major regional trails and negotiation of many joint benefit land use projects involving connections to the forest preserve trail system; and

WHEREAS, a number of plans and projects managed by Dave received awards and accolades from state and national professional landscape architecture associations; and

WHEREAS, Dave is also an avid outdoorsman and former resident watchman with keen skills in observing birds, fish, and wildlife, and managed projects to support their protection, including the installation of osprey nesting platforms at key locations in the Forest Preserves; and

WHEREAS, Dave is a devoted husband to wife Catherine O'Keefe and son Timothy and enjoys spending time outdoors with family and friends at lakes in Illinois and other Great Lakes states and will now be exploring and observing birds, fish, and wildlife in the state of Florida; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that President Toni Preckwinkle along with the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners, General Superintendent Arnold L. Randall, and on behalf of all residents of Cook County, do hereby extend thanks to David H. Kircher for his dedication, leadership and outstanding service and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to David H. Kircher in recognition of his significant contributions to the Forest Preserves of Cook County.