



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

Minutes of the Finance Committee

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

9:30 AM

**Cook County Building, Board Room,
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois
(Board Room Closed to Public -
Meeting Virtual for Public)**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller,
Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4) (All excused)

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to allow for remote participation in meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller,
Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There will be a meeting of the committee or subcommittee of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners at the date, time and location listed above.

Chairman Lowry asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speakers, in accordance with Forest Preserves Code of Ordinances, Section 1-5-4.

No public speakers

[23-0151](#)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 11/30/2022 1:15pm

A motion was made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 23-0151. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

[23-0152](#)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 11/30/2022 1:30pm

A motion was made by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve 23-0152. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

[23-0153](#)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 12/13/2022

A motion was made by Commissioner Quezada, seconded by Commissioner Aguilar, to approve 23-0153. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

[23-0004](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED BID RECOMMENDATION

Department: Department of Planning and Development

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into a construction contract with Burling Builders, primary place of business Chicago, Illinois, for improvements at Salt Creek Landscape Maintenance Headquarters located near North Riverside.

Reason: Contract #74000011607 issued under Project #22-80-26 is for the redevelopment of the Salt Creek Landscape Maintenance Headquarters campus. Work includes, but is not limited to, the demolition of an existing 1930s-era garage that over time had been converted to an office space, demolition of an older existing metal storage garage and replacement of both structures with a single office/garage headquarters building. The new energy-efficient facility will include a training room, locker rooms, washrooms and offices and a 5-bay vehicle storage garage. The all-electric, super-insulated structure will run on renewable energy (a geo-thermal heating system and rooftop solar panels). A \$4.4 million Build Illinois Bond grant will cover more than half the cost of the work (see grant award Board Item No. 22-0250).

Burling Builders is recommended as the lowest qualified local bidder.

Bid Opening Date: 11/9/2022

Bid Results:

1. George Sollitt	\$7,999,294.00*
2. AGAE Contractors Inc	\$8,075,000.00**
3. Burling Builders	\$8,113,500.00***
4. K.R. Miller Contractors Inc	\$8,117,000.00
5. Construction Inc.	\$8,175,000.00
6. PATH	\$8,235,000.00
7. Pacific Construction	\$8,493,422.00

* George Sollitt (Wood Dale, DuPage County, Illinois) does not meet the definition of a local business under Forest Preserve Code Section 1-8-2E.

** AGAE Contractors Inc. (Chicago, Illinois) submitted insufficient qualifications to perform the scope of work of this contract.

*** Burling Builders (Chicago, Illinois) is a local qualified business with a bid of 1.4% higher than the bid submitted by George Sollitt. Forest Preserve Code Section 1-8-2E authorizes the procurement of goods and services from a local business provided its bid is no more than five percent (5%) higher than the bid from a non-local bidder.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$3,713,500.00 (FY 2023 \$1,300,000.00; FY 2024 \$2,413,500.00); with \$4,400,000.00 to be reimbursed by IDNR grant

Contract Period: Five hundred seventy (570) days from notice to proceed

Account Name/Number: Property Maintenance and Operations bond funds 51027.560105, grant funds 51010.560105, Capital Improvement funds 51009.560105, Construction & Development funds

51028.560105, 51030.560105, 51031.560105, 51033.560105, 51051.560105 and future Construction and Development funds

District: 16

Concurrence(s): The Chief Financial Officer and 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 Britton, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to approve 23-0004. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

[23-0007](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED BID RECOMMENDATION

Department: Department of Planning and Development

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the" Forest Preserves") to enter into a construction contract with Berglund Construction Company, primary place of business Chicago, Illinois, for improvements at Forest Preserves central compound located near Forest Park.

Reason: Contract #74000011694 issued under Project #22-80-27 Masonry Repairs and Window Replacements at Central Compound. The work addresses energy efficiency improvements, deferred maintenance issues, and life safety improvements. Specific work includes, but is not limited to, masonry repairs, window replacements, creation of a fire stair enclosure and other related work as specified in the plans and specifications.

Bid Opening Date: 11/9/2022

Bid Results:

1. Toro Construction Corp.	\$1,080,668.00*
2. Berglund Construction Company	\$1,235,000.00
3. Paul Borg Construction Company	\$1,309,000.00
4. AGAE Contractors, Inc.	\$1,345,000.00
5. Newcastle Tuckpointing, Inc.	Incomplete

*Toro Construction Corp.'s bid has been determined to be non-responsive. In addition, the bid amount submitted was \$1,205,411.00 but the sum of bid line items was \$1,080,668.00 and Toro Construction Corp. declined to enter into a contract for total amount based on the lower sum of bid line items.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: 2023, \$1,235,000.00

Contract Period: Two hundred seventy (270) days from notice to proceed

Account Name/Number: Property Maintenance & Operations 51009.560105, 51028.560105, 51030.560105, 51031.560105, 51033.560105, 51051.560105 and future Construction & Development Funds

District: 1

Concurrence(s): The Chief Financial Officer and 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 Britton, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to approve 23-0007. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

[23-0126](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (LITIGATION)

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation - 12/13/2022

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

Proposed Settlements Approved Fiscal Year 2023 to Present: \$0.00

Proposed Settlements to Be Approved: \$0.00

Legal Fees Approved Fiscal Year 2023 to Present: \$0.00

Legal Fees for 12/13/2022 to Be Approved: \$78,648.15

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Morrison, to approve 23-0126. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

[23-0127](#)

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (LITIGATION)

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation - 1/24/2023

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

Proposed Settlements Approved Fiscal Year 2023 to Present: \$0.00

Proposed Settlements to Be Approved: \$0.00

Legal Fees Approved Fiscal Year 2023 to Present: \$78,648.15

Legal Fees for 1/24/2023 to Be Approved: \$81,595.48

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 23-0127. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

[22-0551](#)

Sponsored by: BRIDGET DEGNEN, FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A TWELVE WEEK PAID PARENTAL LEAVE POLICY FINANCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS AND REPORT

WHEREAS, the United States is the only high-income country, and one of only seven countries in the

world that does not mandate paid maternity leave; and

WHEREAS, beginning on January 1 of 2023, City of Chicago employees will be entitled to twelve weeks of paid parental leave for both birthing and non-birthing parents. This is an increase from the previously allowed four to six weeks of paid leave for the birthing parent and two weeks of leave for non-birthing parents; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Cook County provides employees with four weeks of paid leave for a birthing parent that delivers non-surgically and six weeks for a surgical delivery. Non-birthing parents are entitled to two weeks of paid leave. Employees that adopt a child are entitled to two weeks of paid leave; and

WHEREAS, paid parental leave correlates with reduced financial stress, and enhanced mental and physical health outcomes for parents and children. Studies make a correlative finding between longer leave time and overall improved family benefit; and

WHEREAS, less than eight weeks of paid leave is linked to a reduction in overall health status and increased depression for birthing parents. For every week of paid leave allotted to a mother, there is a two percent reduction in her likelihood of designating her mental health as poor. Research shows that when the birthing parents have paid time off, there is a 51% decrease in the risk of rehospitalization due to complications. When the non-birthing parent also takes parental leave, both caregivers see an increased benefit to their family health from lower stress levels, leading to reduced physical complications and improved health benefits to babies; and

WHEREAS, studies identify the link between parent-child bonding during the first months of life and increased cognitive brain function in babies as a crucial identifier in overall positive health outcomes. This link also improves the baby's behavioral and socioemotional skills, confirming adequate paid parental leave can improve mental health over the life span of a child. Paid leave is also associated with better language skills in toddlers; and

WHEREAS, health outcomes are better for babies in areas where there are longer paid parental leave policies. Paid leave greater than 12 weeks increases timely infant vaccination, and parents have been found to be more likely to take their infants to all child wellness check-ups in their first year. These health benefits for infants carry on into their childhood and adulthood; and

WHEREAS, research suggests that underprivileged families may benefit the most from longer parental leave policies, due to better birth outcomes, fewer early term births, increased access to medical care, and more economic stability. One study found that the introduction of paid maternity leave in five states (California, Hawaii, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island) led to a reduction in low birthweight and preterm births, especially for Black mothers; and

WHEREAS, a consistent parental paid leave policy for all parents regardless of how an employee chooses to become a parent leads to equitability for all family structures;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County's Finance and Administration Department prepare a fiscal note assessing the financial impact to the Forest Preserves of a blanket 12-week paid parental leave policy for full-time Forest Preserves of Cook County employees. The fiscal note shall be submitted to the Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners on or before the previously scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners on March 14, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner Degnen, seconded by Commissioner Anaya, to approve 22-0551. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

[23-0133](#)

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: 1/1/2022 - 11/30/2022

Summary: Detailed Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures for November 2022.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gainer, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to receive and file 23-0133. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner SCOTT R. BRITTON, seconded by Commissioner DONNA MILLER, to adjourn. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Lowry, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Gainer, Johnson, Miller, Morrison, Morrison and Quezada (13)

Absent: Deer, Moore, Morita and Trevor (4)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light gray background. The signature consists of the word "Bill" followed by a stylized, large letter "Y".

Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink. The signature reads "Lynne M. Turner" in a cursive script.

Secretary

A complete record of this meeting is available at <https://fpdcc.legistar.com>.