

Forest Preserves of Winnebago County  
**BOARD MEETING**  
Forest Preserve Headquarters  
July 17, 2024

**PRESENT**

Judy Barnard  
Mike Eickman  
Audrey Johnson  
Gloria Lind  
Cheryl Maggio  
Jerry Paulson  
Jeff Tilly

**STAFF**

Mike Holan, Executive Director  
Mike Brien, Director of Natural Resources  
Sherry Winebaugh, Human Resources Manager  
Renee Pixler, Communications Coordinator  
Vaughn Stamm, Director of Operations  
Kristy Knapp, Administrative Services Manager

**GUESTS**

Ann Wasser     Debbi Hamilton  
Alex Mills     Becky Maier

**ROLL CALL** The meeting was called to order at 5:32PM, by President Jeff Tilly. Recording secretary Emily Wendlandt called the roll.

**PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE** Audrey Johnson led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL of AGENDA and MINUTES** Gloria Lind made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 19, 2024 meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, AWARDS, and PRESENTATIONS**

Matt Weik – Vaughn Stamm introduced Matt Weik as the new North Area Manager. Matt explained to the board that he has worked for the Forest Preserves for many years under various roles before being promoted.

“Happy Birthday, Hononegah” – Renee Pixler presented a video to showcase the “Happy Birthday, Hononegah” event that took place on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Ann Wasser – Ann wanted to address the board to let them know that her as well as the staff at Severson Dells appreciates the work that the field crew has shown after the storm damage that was caused earlier in the week.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Macktown Septic Tank – Mike Holan made the board aware that he spoke to Rockton’s head engineer and that he would be willing to go out and look at the septic system that week.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Bills for June– Mike Holan presented to the board the bills for June. Mike Eickman made a motion to authorize the payment of the bills for June in the amount of \$1,196,814.95. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Oswald Property Building Demolition– Vaughn Stamm approached the board for approval on the Oswald property demolition. G&G Construction & Excavation LLC was the qualified lowest bidder. Jerry Paulson mentioned an email that was sent alerting the board that G&G Construction & Excavation LLC does not meet the bid specifications required. The resolution was amended and the board voted unanimously to approve the amendment to the resolution to state that the board approves of the Oswald property building demolition project awarded to qualified lowest bidder, G&G Construction & Excavation LLC, with the

contingency that they are in good standing with the state and obtain proper licensing. Gloria Lind made a motion to approve of the resolution as amended. **Motion passed unanimously.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Preserve Operations - Vaughn Stamm, Matt Weik, Scott Wallace, and Bryan Helmold submitted a written report. Vaughn presented the board with photos of the damage that the south area had endured after the storms that came through earlier in the week. Vaughn proposed that the preserves impacted will take many weeks to reopen.

Land and Development/Volunteer Program Report – Mike Brien, Mike Groves, Keith Krey and Liz Hucker submitted a written report.

Golf Operations – Vaughn Stamm, Rich Rosenstiel, Tyler Knapp, and Mark Freiman submitted a written report.

Marketing – Renee Pixler submitted a written report.

Human Resources – Sherry Winebaugh submitted a written report. Summer picnic on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Law Enforcement – Sheriff's Department submitted a written report.

Partner Groups – Alex Mills made the board aware that Klehm Arboretum and Botanical Garden now has two electrical scooters that are available for public use.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

At 6:14PM Audrey Johnson made a motion to go into closed session. At 6:25PM the meeting returned to open session. No action was taken while in closed session.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNICATIONS**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Audrey Johnson made a motion, to adjourn the meeting 6:26 PM. Motion passed unanimously. Next board meeting 5:30 PM, Wednesday, August 21 Preserve Headquarters.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Emily Wendlandt  
Recording Secretary