The Kendall County Forest Preserve Meeting was held at the Kendall County Office Building, Room 209, in the City of Yorkville on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. The Clerk called the roll. Members present: John Shaw, Lynn Cullick, Bob Davidson, Elizabeth Flowers, Judy Gilmour, Scott Gryder, Dan Koukol, Matthew Prochaska, John Purcell and Jeff Wehrli.

The Clerk reported to the President that a quorum was present to conduct business.

APPOINT KENDALL COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DIRECTOR

Member Wehrli moved to approve the Kendall County Forest Preserve Director, Mr. David Guritz, pursuant to the acceptance of a background check. Member Cullick seconded the motion. President Wehrli asked for a roll call vote on the motion. All members present voting. Motion carried.

Mr. Guritz thanked the members for the kind words and is looking forward to getting started. He is pleased to have been accepted and stated that we have a tremendous county and resources.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Cullick moved to adjourn the Forest Preserve Meeting until the next scheduled meeting. Member Flowers seconded the motion. President Wehrli asked for a voice vote on the motion. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Approved and submitted this 4th day of December, 2014.

Respectfully submitted by,
Debbie Gillette
Kendall County Clerk
STATE OF ILLINOIS  )
COUNTY OF KENDALL  )

The Kendall County Forest Preserve Meeting was held at the Kendall County Office Building, Room 209, in the City of Yorkville on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 9:00 am. The Clerk called the roll. Members present: John Shaw, Bob Davidson, Judy Gilmour, Scott Gryder, Dan Koukol (9:08am), Matthew Prochaska, John Purcell and Jeff Wehrli.

The Clerk reported to the President that a quorum was present to conduct business.

CLAIMS

Member Gryder moved to approve the claims in an amount not to exceed $15,834.00. Member Prochaska seconded the motion. President Wehrli asked for a roll call vote on the motion. All members present voting. Motion carried.

FORMATION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Member Purcell moved to approve the formation of the Committee of the Whole. Member Prochaska seconded the motion. President Wehrli asked for a voice vote on the motion. All members present voting. Motion carried.

FORMATION OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

President Wehrli stated that Lynn Cullick will be the Chair, Bob Davidson, Dan Koukol, Scott Gryder and Matt Prochaska are members.

Member Purcell moved to approve the formation of the Finance Committee. Member Gryder seconded the motion. President Wehrli asked for a voice vote on the motion. All members present voting. Motion carried.

FORMATION OF PROGRAM & EVENTS COMMITTEE

President Wehrli stated that it will be chaired by Elizabeth Flowers, Jeff Wehrli, Judy Gilmour, John Purcell and John Shaw are members.

Member Purcell moved to approve the formation of the Program & Events Committee. Member Prochaska seconded the motion. President Wehrli asked for a voice vote on the motion. All members present voting. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Member Prochaska moved to approve the Forest Preserve Board of Commissioners meeting minutes of November 5, 2014, November 18, 2014, and November 24, 2014 and the Forest Preserve Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of November 3, 2014, November 12, 2014, November 13, 2014, and November 19, 2014. Member Gryder seconded the motion. President Wehrli asked for a voice vote on the motion. All members present voting. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

President Wehrli stated that they had a Reindeer Run and they had 105 people.

Member Gryder passed out a Northeastern Illinois Regional Greenway and Trails Plan booklet.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Gryder moved to adjourn the Forest Preserve Meeting until the next scheduled meeting. Member Prochaska seconded the motion. President Wehrli asked for a voice vote on the motion. All members present voting. Motion carried.

Approved and submitted this 18th day of December, 2014.

Respectfully submitted by,
Debbie Gillette
Kendall County Clerk
I. Call to Order
President Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. in the Kendall County Board Room.

II. Roll Call
Present by roll call and constituting a quorum was: Dan Koukol, Lynn Cullick, Scott Gryder, Matt Prochaska, John Purcell and Jeff Wehrli.

III. Citizens to be Heard
None

IV. IDOT Presentation – Route 30 Land Acquisition
Discussion with Dan Draper on the IDOT Presentation – Route 30 Land Acquisition.

V. Formation of Finance Committee
Appointments for the Finance Committee were made as follows: Lynn Cullick, Chair, Dan Koukol, Matt Prochaska, Bob Davidson, Scott Gryder. Approval of this committee to be made during Forest Preserve District Meeting on December 16, 2014.

VI. Formation of Program & Events Committee
Appointments for the Program & Events Committee were made as follows: Elizabeth Flowers, Chair, John Purcell, John Shaw, Judy Gilmour, Jeff Wehrli. Approval of this committee to be made during Forest Preserve District Meeting on December 16, 2014.

VII. Approval of Claims in an amount not to exceed $15,834.00
Approval of Claims moved to Forest Preserve District Meeting on December 16, 2014.

VIII. Part time Employee Raises
This item will be discussed at a later date to be determined.

IX. Executive Session
No Executive Session was held.

X. Other Items of Business
Staff reports for November were discussed.

VII. Adjournment
Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm.
Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Cullick
Board Member
I. **Call to Order**

President Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Kendall County Board Room.

II. **Roll Call**

Present by roll call constituting a quorum was: Lynn Cullick, Bob Davidson, Judy Gilmour, Scott Gryder, Dan Koukol, Matthew Prochaska, John Shaw and Jeff Wehrli.

III. **Citizens to be Heard**

No public comments offered.

IV. **Approval of Claims in an amount not to exceed $6,387.47**

President Wehrli reported that KCFPD staff had mistakenly titled the meeting as a Committee of the Whole. Consequently, approval of the claims list was tabled for presentation to Commission during a special call meeting to be scheduled for next Wednesday, January 14, at 5:30 p.m. to replace, precede, or follow the regularly scheduled Committee of the Whole meeting.
Foundation, and that he would be meeting with The Conservation Foundation in the near term.

VII. Adjournment

Commissioner Koukol made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Cullick. The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

David Guritz
Director, Kendall County Forest Preserve District
I. **Call to Order**
   Chair Lynn Cullick called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. **Roll Call**
   Present and constituting a quorum were Lynn Cullick, Bob Davidson, Matt Prochaska, Scott Gryder. Member Dan Koukol was absent.

III. **Citizens to be Heard**
   None

IV. **Review of Claims in an amount not to exceed $6,387.47**
   The committee reviewed and discussed the claims. A motion was moved for the claims listing to the full Board Meeting scheduled for January 6, 2015 with the exception of the toll reimbursement to Jody Strohm until we have more details.

V. **Forest Preserve Meeting Days and Times for 2015**
   The committee reviewed and discussed a time of 6:30 pm or immediately following the Finance Meeting for the Forest Preserve Finance Committee Meeting. Commissioner Davidson moved to approve this decision and Commissioner Gryder seconded the motion.

VI. **Executive Session**
   No executive session was held.

VII. **Other Items of Business**
   **New Business:**
   → Matt Prochaska was appointed Vice Chair of the Forest Preserve Finance Committee.
   → We would like to consider some out of the box ideas for revenue. Commissioner Davidson brought up bow hunting permits during hunting season. It was also brought up to raise fees for Natural Beginnings and Private/Public Partnerships.
New Business: (continued)

→ Would like an updated list to show where we are with referendum money/purchases.

→ Update on grants for upcoming purchase and conditions of the grants.

VIII. Adjournment
Commissioner Prochaska moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Commissioner Gryder seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Cullick
Board Member
## Supplemental Claims Listing

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**Total FOREST PRESERVE EXPENDITURE**

**GRAND TOTAL**

2,676.58*
ORDINANCE #15-001

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE KENDALL COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT AND THE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION FOR THE PURCHASE AND TRANSFER OF THE FOX RIVER BLUFFS PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Kendall County Forest Preserve District (hereinafter the "District") is a body politic and corporate and municipal corporation organized and existing under the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act, 70 ILCS 805/0.001 et seq. as amended (hereinafter the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District is to acquire and hold lands containing natural forests, and lands capable of being restored to a natural condition, for the purpose of protecting and preserving the flora, fauna, and scenic beauties within Kendall County for the education, pleasure, and recreation of the public; and

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Commissioners of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District have the authority to acquire by lease, purchase, condemnation, gift, grant, or devise, lands necessary and desirable for Forest Preserve purposes; and

WHEREAS, The Conservation Foundation is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation dedicated to land and watershed conservation, preserving and restoring open space, protecting rivers and watersheds and promoting stewardship of the environment in northeastern Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The Conservation Foundation is actively supporting District efforts to acquire and restore parcels known as the Fox River Bluffs in support of the State of Illinois Wildlife Action Plan, the Lower Fox River Land Conservation Plan, and the District’s Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the District has been approved grant funding from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to support the acquisition and restoration of the Fox River Bluffs acquisition area; and

WHEREAS, The Conservation Foundation has requested District approval of an agreement and commitment to complete the joint purchase and subsequent transfer of ownership of Fox River Bluffs acquisition area parcels to the District; and

WHEREAS, approval of this agreement will fully support The Conservation Foundation's efforts to apply for and secure additional grant funding through the Grand Victoria Foundation's Vital Lands Illinois program; and

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Commissioners of the District find that it is reasonable, necessary, and desirable to enter into an agreement with The Conservation Foundation for these stated purposes.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Commissioners of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District as follows:

1. The President is hereby authorized to sign and take such actions as may be necessary to execute the attached agreement entitled "Agreement with the Kendall County Forest Preserve District and The Conservation Foundation for Purchase and Transfer of the Fox River Bluffs Property."

2. The President, Executive Director, and Attorney for the District are hereby authorized to take such action as may be necessary to carry out the terms of said Agreement.

3. The Secretary of the District is hereby directed to transmit certified copies of this Ordinance to the Executive Director for the District, and to Brook McDonald, President and CEO of The Conservation Foundation, 10S404 Knoch Knolls Road, Naperville, Illinois 60565.

Passed and approved by the President and Board of Commissioners of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District this 14th day of January, 2015.

Approved:

_________________________

Jeff Wehrli, President

Attest:

_________________________

Elizabeth Flowers, Secretary
AGREEMENT WITH THE KENDALL COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT AND THE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION FOR PURCHASE AND TRANSFER OF THE FOX RIVER BLUFFS PROPERTY
January 2015

Whereas, Kendall County contains an environmentally high quality, 250-acre wooded bluff and ravine system property along the Fox River known as the Fox River Bluffs property (the “Property”); and

Whereas, The lower Fox River (located in Kendall and LaSalle Counties) has been identified as a Conservation Opportunity Area in the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan, and

Whereas, The Property is located along the Fox River in the Lower Fox River Conservation Opportunity Area; and

Whereas, The Conservation Foundation (“TCF”) and the Kendall County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) participated in a stakeholder-led effort to create the Lower Fox River Strategic Land Conservation Plan (the “Plan”) to identify, prioritize and strategize ways to preserve land along the Fox River located in the Conservation Opportunity Area; and

Whereas, The preservation of the Property is consistent with and would help implement the Plan; and

Whereas, TCF and the District have been participating and partnering in a collaborative effort to protect and acquire the Property; and

Whereas, The District has been granted six hundred thousand dollars ($600,000) from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation for the acquisition of the Property, with the two conditions that the land so acquired be reasonably open to the public and be forever restricted from development of any kind; and

Whereas, The District has been approved for a grant of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars ($750,000) through the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development program for the acquisition of the Property; and

Whereas, TCF is applying for a grant of seven hundred thousand dollars ($700,000) through the Grand Victoria Foundation’s Vital Lands Illinois program for the acquisition of the Property; and

Whereas, TCF is donating three thousand nine hundred and ninety-five dollars ($3,995) through in-kind services for the acquisition of the Property; and

Whereas, The District has pledged up to one million, five hundred ninety seven thousand, seven hundred and seventy-one dollars ($1,597,771) toward the purchase of the Property
in order to arrive at the three million, six hundred fifty one thousand, seven hundred and sixty-six dollars ($3,651,766) needed to purchase and restore the Property; and

Whereas, TCF and the District will purchase 20% and 80% of the Property, respectively, as tenants in common; and

Whereas, The Kendall County Forest Preserve District will purchase TCF’s share of the Property for one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000), will get sole title to and sole possession of the Property as soon as possible after the purchase; and

Whereas, The Conservation Foundation will sign and execute all documents required to facilitate the transfer of its share of the Property to the Kendall County Forest Preserve District;

Therefore, The Kendall County Forest Preserve District agrees to commit up to one million, five hundred ninety seven thousand, seven hundred and seventy-one dollars ($1,597,771) in order to complete the purchase and restoration of the Fox River Bluffs property.

Approved this 14th day of January, 2015

_________________________
Jeff Wehrli, President
Kendall County Forest Preserve District

_________________________
Brook McDonald, President & CEO
The Conservation Foundation
To: KCFPD Board of Commissioners
From: David Guritz, Director
RE: January 2015 Director’s Report
Date: January 13, 2015

Attachments: Supervisory and Program Staff Monthly Reports
OSLAD Press Release

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Kendall County Forest Preserve District. Here are the highlights from my first week:

- Attended the OSLAD press event on Saturday, January 10 with Jeff (Governor’s Office press release attached).
- I attended a land acquisition meeting with Jeff to discuss a proposed acquisition agreement with The Conservation Foundation needed to fulfill the requirements for their grant application to the Grand Victoria Foundation’s Vital Lands program.
  - Completed review of the proposed agreement, and drafted Ordinance #15-001 for Commission consideration at the Call Commission meeting on Wednesday. Attorney Lisa Coffey has reviewed and approved both documents.
  - I am working to prepare an exhibit to provide an overview of the agreement and acquisition strategies, and provide a visual aid for Commission discussions.
  - I have scheduled a meeting with Laura Stuart this Friday to discuss grant reporting requirements and communication strategies with the IDNR & Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation.
- I completed the required on-line FOIA compliance training, and responded to a FOIA request for past meeting minutes and recordings dating back to 2008.
- I am beginning research into the tent rental and maintenance agreement through Blue Peak Tents for Ellis for discussion at this week’s Finance Meeting.
- I met with Becky Antrim and Latrese Caldwell to discuss the budget coding project, with updates to be provided at this week’s Finance Meeting.

For this week, I will be touring select preserve locations, reviewing farm contracts, and holding my first Administration and Supervisors staff meeting. Ron Smrz has indicated he will return from leave on Wednesday, January 14.

Upcoming Programs:

Totally 80’s Murder Mystery Fundraiser
January 17 at Meadowhawk Lodge starting at 6:00 PM
Tickets - $40 per person
KENDALL COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE
MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2014

RESERVATIONS / Responsibilities

Harris Forest Preserve

1 Internal Event - 30 guests
4 External Event - 185 guests

Guests:
- Family Christmas Parties
- Volunteer Program – Seed Collection Day

Jay Woods, Richard Young and Subat Forest Preserves

0 Internal - 0 guests
0 Events - 0 guests

Guests:

Hoover Forest Preserve (includes Meadowhawk Lodge & KC Outdoor Education Center)

1 Internal events: 40 guests:

9 External events: 261 guests

Guests:
- Youth Retreat
- Scout Outings: T728, T12, T75, T97, T665
- Family Christmas Retreat

Meadowhawk Lodge:
- IDNR – Farewell Luncheon

KC Outdoor Education Center: Plano, Sandwich, Yorkville & outside groups.
Total Guests: 632

Historic Courthouse

Internal: 1 event – 25 guests

Guests:
- Pictures with Santa

External: 17 events – 387 guests

Guests:
- ROE: Bus Driver Training & Truancy Meeting
- 4H Meeting
- KC Probation Behavior Classes
- KC Mayors & Managers
- KC Animal Volunteer Appreciation
- Weight Control Meetings
KENDALL COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE
MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2014

RESERVATIONS / Responsibilities

Responsibilities:

→ **Director’s Absence:** Worked with Kim Olson & Mike Pierson on time sheets and turning in the Payroll vouchers for the two pay periods in December. Worked on the calculation of vacation and sick hours for all employees and advised them of their balance thru 12-15-14. Copies of time sheets for part time employees were copied and given to Glenn Campos. Worked with Ronda Thomas regarding information she required for the two people that resigned from the Forest Preserve.

Worked with Jeff Wehrli and Lynn Cullick on agenda items and completing the minutes for December meetings. Posted agenda’s and put Meeting Packets together for all meetings & placed in the Board Room. Updated website with the Forest Preserve meetings through March 2015 and sent Valarie McClain our schedule for her to update the calendar. Assisted Jeff Wehrli with correspondence regarding Grants and farm agreements, which included obtaining signatures on certain documents and mailing accordingly. Made copies of all pertinent documents for the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation for the Fox River Bluffs property for their review. Sent roll-call/attendance records to the Treasurer’s Department.

→ **Education Program Registration:** Received phone calls and e-mails regarding education programs. All program registrations received were entered into Access Database and all deposits onto spreadsheet. Printed registration roster pages from Access Database for each program and gave to education department for attendance. Updated report showing attendance and revenue for each area (Public Programs, Field Trips, Summer Camp, Natural Beginnings) for Education Department. Updated Access Database with new programs for the Winter Programs. Created list of registrants for the upcoming 2015-2016 Natural Beginnings & gave to the Lead Teacher.

→ **Field Trips:** Continue to work on Oswego Field Trips: updated reservation invoice and available dates. Received e-mails regarding dates wanted to reserve.

→ **Accounts Receivable:** Entered all checks and cash received onto individual department spreadsheet. Keeping track of education program deposits for all programs, field trips, and Natural Beginnings and all shelter and bunkhouse rentals. Credit Card transaction were completed and deposited.

→ **Site Trak (shelter & bunkhouse reservations):** Entered new reservations and printed out permits and sent out to registrants. Received phone calls and e-mails regarding reservations and answered any questions in a timely manner. Entered all education department programs into Site Trak and printed out permits. All permits received were entered into Site Trak and on deposit spreadsheet.

→ **Background Reports:** Sent in background reports received from various departments for volunteers.

Becky Antrim
Reservation Coordinator
Programs and Community Involvement:
- The Courthouse was transformed into a Winter Wonderland as it hosted the Pictures with Santa Event on December 4th. The program was formally held at Meadowhawk, but the layout of the Historic Courthouse proved to provide plenty of space for the Yorkville Middle School Orchestra to play, Mrs. Claus to read stories, crafts to be made and of course, a visit from Santa himself. A special thank you to the teachers and students for the beautiful music they provided that helped celebrate the season. The date has been reserved for next year.
- The in-school, Next Generation Science programs ran for the beginning of the month and are scheduled to start again after the school break ends.
- Frozen Fun Camp was a wonderful success and offered children a way to experience a fairy tale along with a mix of nature and science experiments. The am session was offered to children ages 3-5 and the pm session was offered for ages 6+. All of the sessions proved to be fun for both the participants and the teachers!

‘Frozen’ Camp...
Youngsters like Emma, pictured here, met characters like Elsa, right, Anna, Olaf and others to explore the wonders of snow and ice at the Kendall County Forest Preserve’s Frozen Fun Camp on Monday. Elsa helped Emma make a little pinecone slider. (Record Photo by Eric Miller)
Natural Beginnings:
- Staffing has been restructured to reduce the amount of staff hours dedicated to the program. The classes will continue to receive quality instruction with more staff being devoted to other programming needs. We are excited about this adjustment and looking forward to what it has to offer to the residents of Kendall County.

Staff Development:
- Laura McCoy and Stefanie Wiencke visited the Schlitz Audubon in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to continue coloration on programming and instruction. The Audubon has a well established nature-based preschool and offers many instructional ideas and inspirations.
The month of December became somewhat of a transition phase for the Kendall County Forest Preserve District in 2014 because of Jason Pettit’s resignation. With that being said I (Mike Pierson—acting Superintendent) feel like that marked the beginning of a new era for us and I get the sense that the entire staff is looking forward to the future. Jason’s last day was November 26th and Kim Olson took over as acting Director the following day. Kim was acting Director until December 16th before she was required to go on FMLA. I was appointed by Jeff Wehrli to take over as acting Director/acting Superintendent the following day and was really looking forward to the opportunity to lead help lead the transition to our next Director, David. Laura McCoy was asked to lead in the office and she proved herself as an invaluable asset to the Forest Preserve District. Her positive demeanor and professionalism was unwavering even during a very stressful period of time. I can’t thank her enough!

Because my regular duties pretty much keep me at Hoover I never really got the chance to meet the staff at Ellis. I’ve known Tina for quite some time since she and I have worked together on events that have taken place at Meadowhawk Lodge but I finally got a chance to become acquainted with Amy, Shannon and Becca. I must say that I am really impressed with the amount of dedication that the entire Ellis staff has towards their job. I could tell right away that they all really care about each other, their guests and the property as whole. They all work really hard on minimal supervision and I look forward to working with them in the future. Another individual whom I would like to single out as an extremely valuable asset to the Forest Preserve District is Marty Vick. He is as dedicated to his job as anyone I’ve ever met. Marty really stepped up in Ron’s absence and handled several issues at Ellis on his own. He and Amy Clever spent two days working with ComEd on New Year’s weekend when they lost power due to a blown fuse in a transformer. Marty was also able to reset the boiler on his own when it malfunctioned due to the power loss and has been on top of the snow removal down there as well.

I also got the chance to get a better understanding of the day to day operations in the office. Becky Antrim has been doing an excellent job and since Jason’s departure has probably had the most extra responsibility placed on her. She has handled it exceptionally well and as far as I can tell she has been able to complete every additional task that has been required of her. Laura McCoy has also been very busy as of late. She had both of her part time staff leave because they were offered full time positions elsewhere but she has remained positive and professional every day.

There has really only been one negative to note in this time of transition and that is the resignation of Craig Johnson on December 22rd. Craig worked for the Kendall County Forest Preserve District for over a decade and he was someone who I really grew to respect and admire. He cared more about our natural areas than anyone else combined and was always willing to go above and beyond what was ever expected of him. Craig volunteered more time to his job than anyone and he will be missed around here. I imagine his position will be replaced sooner or later but we will never replace Craig Johnson.

Craig’s exit did create a bit of a staffing challenge but I truly feel like the entire field staff handled it well and we really didn’t miss a beat because of it. Normally, the full time grounds crew staff would be led by Kim, Craig and Patrick. However, with Kim on leave and Craig no longer around that really only left Patrick Higgins to handle all the day to day tasks that three full time staff members normally take.
care of. The solution was to have Marty and Mike Prinos share time with Patrick during the week so Patrick didn’t have to work alone yet still have time for them to accomplish their normal everyday duties. So, since Marty is part-time and has been filling in for Ron at Ellis he works with Patrick on Mondays and Fridays. This way he has Tuesday through Thursday to keep Ellis operational. Then, Mike Prinos works with Patrick on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. That way he can still be available to check-in guests at Hoover on Friday afternoon. Finally, the opening of the preserves has been shared by Patrick, Mike and Myself.

We have also had two snow events over the last week or so but I am proud to say that even with about 3-4 inches of snow and being down one full time staff member we were able to have all the preserves open by 8:30 am. I must say that Patrick Higgins, Mike Prinos and Marty Vick really proved their worth over the last month. Patrick, Marty and Mike are extremely dedicated and I can’t thank them enough for all the hard work they have put in during a very trying time. They are very knowledgeable when it comes to their jobs and even though they work “behind the scenes” the Forest Preserve wouldn’t be what it is without them.
STAFF REPORT
Mike Pierson
Nov 2014
Patrick Higgins, Mike Prinos and Marty Vick - Maintain all KCFPD properties.
Mike Pierson - maintain Hoover

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES – PATRICK HIGGINS, CRAIG JOHNSON, MIKE PRINOS AND MARTY VICK

- Patrick and Craig have spent several days last month working to clear dangerous Ash trees that were killed by the Emerald Ash Borer. This is a huge project as literally hundreds of trees were infected.
- Patrick and Craig also spent a significant amount of time splitting logs that were cut as a result of all the tree clearing to be used as firewood.
- Patrick and Craig spent a few days processing seed from this fall’s seed collection.
- With the departure of Craig, Patrick has been familiarizing himself with the operation of the John Deere tractor that Craig primarily operated in the past.
- Patrick has also begun to learn how to sharpen chainsaw chains. Craig spent some time instructing him on that before he left.
- Patrick, Mike Prinos, Marty and I all plowed snow twice over the last week.
- Mike Prinos has been working with Patrick Tuesday through Thursday since Craig’s departure.
- Mike assisted Patrick in preparing the plow trucks for snow.
- Mike also works at Hoover. He does a great job checking in guests on Friday evenings.
- Marty has proven invaluable since filling for Ron while he is on FMLA.
- Marty worked with ComEd to resolve a power outage at Ellis.
- Marty was able to figure out how to reset the boiler at Ellis after it malfunctioned due to the power outage and restore heat to the house.

NOV ACTIVITIES - MIKE PIERSON

- I was appointed acting Director/Superintendent by Jeff Wehrli during transition between Jason’s departure and David’s start.
- I’ve been overseeing the day to day activities at Hoover, Harris, Ellis and at the Forest Preserve office.
- After Craig quit I had to do some shuffling of the field staff so Patrick wasn’t forced to work alone. Mike Prinos now works with Patrick Tuesday through Thursday and Marty works with Patrick Monday and Friday.
- I switched my days of from Monday and Tuesday to Saturday and Sunday until Kim returns. I’ve had Chris Bazos fill in for me on the weekends.
- I have been opening the preserves that Craig was responsible for before he left.
- I met with Amy and Shannon at Ellis and we came up with a plan for Shannon to spend a couple hours per week cleaning the house.
- Becky and I verified that all the time sheets were filled out properly and signed the vouchers so part time staff could get paid.

ROUTINE DUTIES - FULL AND PART TIME STAFF

- The full time staff is responsible for ALL maintenance required to successfully run the Kendall County Forest Preserve District properties. This includes but is not limited to the following:
Opening/closing, electrical, plumbing, carpentry, equipment operation, mechanical / equipment repairs, painting, herbicide application, prescribed burns, logging records of all restoration/herbicide efforts, tree removal, demolition/building of structures, snow removal, testing of water supplies, cleaning of all buildings, Forest/Prairie restoration, road, parking lots and trail maintenance, education, various Ranger duties and mowing.

**ROUTINE DUTIES-MIKE PIERSON**

- Mike is our on-site certified mechanic for the entire FP fleet.
- Mike is responsible for all the Hoover grounds, buildings, woodlands and trails, maintenance and repairs.
- Mike does care, testing, monitoring and maintenance of lagoon and water treatment systems, testing both daily and monthly.
- Mike supervises part-time staff and also court services individuals.
MONTHLY REPORT TO THE
KENDALL COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT COMMISSION

November & December 2014

Jody Strohm; Natural Areas Volunteer Coordinator, Accounts Payable

NATURAL AREAS VOLUNTEER (NAV) PROGRAM

Total Volunteer Hours: November 93.75 December 132.00
Breakdown of Volunteer Hours:
  Restoration – 45.0 87.5
  Trail Monitor - 26.0 8.5
  Other - 22.75 36

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

End of the Fiscal Year. I print out copies of payment histories for our multiple utility bills at the end of each fiscal year. It would be helpful to have access to 2014 payment histories for all of our accounts in order to track checks and bills that cross in the mail.

I helped teach at Natural Beginnings, our early learning center, on a couple of days due to staff shortages.

Ken Mozingo was honored at the Chicago Botanic Garden for his exemplary contributions to the health of our counties Plants of Concern. Two species are being threatened by unauthorized trails.

I attended the Advisory Group meeting for Plants of Concern, and this is a slide from their presentation. Very Impressive Ken!

The Saturday Workday in November was at Lyon Forest Preserve. Jason’s last workday!

November is time for the 1/4ly newsletter, Stepping Stones. My article explained why maintenance must be used for natural areas to continue. If you’re not sure why, this one is for you.
Steve W. built new screens for seed processing this year. We were short on screens with 1/8 inch scale openings.

I walked the trail at Hoover monitored by Jessica V. Questions come up over time, and I join them from time to time to instruct trail monitors on an individual basis.

Year end review; long-term planning for 2015 commences.

Mike D. started volunteering with us in October and has become my go-to man for all things seed and shop related. Here he is helping set up supplies and decorations for the Workday. We had a full team preparing for it this year.

Seed Processing at Harris Shelter 4 was charming as ever this year. We always have big attendance at our Holiday Seed Processing workday. Preparation for it is extensive as everything gets hauled from Hoover to Harris and back again. Perhaps next year we can save some time by changing tradition and holding this workday at The Eupatorium, the NAV Program shop.

As it turns out, the volume of seed collected this year exceeded our expectations, and we have had three additional workdays in December and will continue to set more workdays to complete the processing started at the December workday.
Close-up of sign Ken and I placed around enclosed area to encourage horseback riders to stick to the designated trails.

Apparently the squirrels found the signs quite tasty.

More scenes from the seed processing workday.
House Bookings:

- March 21, 2015 – Wedding @ Meadowhawk Lodge. By visiting the Ellis house. They told me of the facility. Seneca. Booked: 10/30/2014
- June 27, 2015 – Wedding – Minooka – I was told about Ellis house from a couple that was married there a few years back. The cappellini's. Thank you so much! Booked: 9/10/14
- July 18, 2015 – Wedding – Oswego - I heard about Ellis House through my cousin who was in a wedding there. She said it was absolutely beautiful and I trusted her taste after being at her wedding which was actually in southern Illinois. Booked: 10/6/14
- August 1, 2015 – Wedding – Plainfield Booked: 12/11/14
- August 29, 2015 – Wedding – Morris We knew about Ellis through our fire department but did not know about the weddings till we came to family fun night. Booked: 10/26/14
- September 5, 2015 – Wedding – Naperville Booked: 12/16/14
- September 12, 2015 – Wedding – Shorewood - I heard of the Ellis House through a friend, and also a bride who will be getting married there this year, Kari Kezele. Booked: 9/25/13
- September 18, 2015 – Wedding – Joliet – We actually found it online just searching country wedding venues in Illinois. However, Mitch had talked to an employee from Dollinger farm inquiring weddings and they suggested you. Booked: 10/19/14
- September 25, 2015 – Wedding – Yorkville - I learned of Ellis just from being in the equestrian world. I don't quite remember exactly whom it was from. Booked: 7/22/14
- September 26, 2015 – Wedding – Morris - Ellis came up on a web search for wedding venues. We are both thrilled to be having our reception there. Booked: 10/4/14
- October 2, 2015 – Wedding – Elwood Booked: 12/14/14
October 10, 2015 – Minooka - I knew I wanted a rustic wedding, outside, with a big white tent...so I googled "rustic wedding venues in Illinois" and a website called popped up. After scrolling through a few places (alphabetical listing) I saw Ellis House...I visited your website and loved it...after that I emailed you to book the first tour and then Mark and Lilly came for the second tour and the rest is history :) Booked: 8/28/14

January 16, 2016 – Birthday Party – Channahon - I did the Reindeer Run at Ellis House. After doing the run, and my daughters brownie troop had an afternoon with the horses I wanted to rent Ellis House for my husband’s party. Booked: 12/2/13

September 17, 2016 – Wedding – Plainfield – We found out about Ellis through a Google search! Booked: 10/27/14

Ongoing Programs:

✔ Family Fun Night first Friday of every month – Friday, December 5th – 77 guests

Meetings/Training/Expos/Annual Events:

Wednesday, December 3rd – Jason’s Farewell Party
Thursday, December 4th – Christmas Concert and Pictures with Santa at Historic Courthouse
Sunday, December 14th – 6th Annual 5k Reindeer Run
Wednesday, December 17th – Ellis Marketing Meeting

House/Property Tours:

= 6 – EHEC
= 0 - Meadowhawk

Group Tours * Birthday * Girl/Boy Scout Parties * Summer Camps:

● 2 parties/groups with 28 guests

Riding Lessons:

► 50

Community Service hours:

≈ 128
Volunteer Hours:

☐ 150

Total Deposits:

∅ $5033.01

Feedback from House rentals:

September 27th Ceremony

No problem at all. I can do that for you. No, thank you so much for letting me have my dream wedding ceremony at the Ellis house. It was perfect. :)

When I got engaged to the man of my dreams we sat down and thought, what our dream wedding would consist of. We are both outdoorsy, country, a rustic kind of couple and wanted a barn to get married in. So I started to search around and heard about the Ellis house. I ended up emailing Tina, who is amazing at her job, and explained what I was looking for. She proceeded to tell me they have never had anyone get married in the barn, but if I came in to talk to her she can try her best to help me out. As I drove down the driveway, I just fell in love with the scenery. It was perfect. So my husband and I booked the barn for our upcoming wedding. Tina was there every step of the way, asking us questions on what we needed. They had volunteers come in the day before to clean up the barn and get it ready for my big day. On my wedding day, the weather was perfect. We got great pictures with the amazing backgrounds. Everyone loved our ceremony. It was simple, it was exactly who we are. I just wanted to give a big thanks to Tina and the Ellis house for letting me have my dream wedding. I couldn’t be happier.

June 14th Wedding/Reception

Hi Tina,

We are all very happy with our experience at Ellis. You, and everybody else there, were great to work with and super flexible. We have many fond memories of our wedding day.

Take care,

Tiffany
December 11, 2014

Dave Guritz, Director
Kendall County Forest Preserve District
110 W. Madison
Yorkville, IL 60560

Re: Big Rock Creek Planning Project:
A Voluntary Land Conservation Planning Project

Dear Dave,

We would like to invite you to be member of the Big Rock Creek Voluntary Land Conservation Planning Project (BRC LCPP) Local Stakeholders’ Planning Committee. Information regarding the initial meeting is included at the end of this letter.

We are fortunate that several of our area streams are recognized for their aesthetic and environmental quality as being some of the best in the state, including the Big Rock Creek. The Conservation Foundation (TCF) has recently been awarded grant funds from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation to help facilitate a voluntary planning effort to help protect some of the high quality areas in the main stem portion of the Big Rock Creek basin.

This is a similar effort to the recent successful Lower Fox River planning project, which as you may be aware, has assisted several interested landowners in the voluntary preservation and maintenance improvement on some of their high-quality natural areas. As a leader in the community, you are well aware of the environmental and economic importance that the Fox River and its tributaries play in our lives every day. They provide valuable linkages between all of us, our communities and activities.

You are being asked to serve on the committee because of your knowledge of and interest in the local community. The committee will be made up of a diverse group of individuals from Kane and Kendall counties.

As a part of the committee, your knowledge and background will be instrumental in helping to identify persons who may have an interest in voluntarily protecting their natural areas. You also would be instrumental in offering your input as to how to prioritize areas for any future voluntary protection efforts. This is not a zoning or regulatory type of project, and is strictly voluntary for any landowner participation.

(over)
There is a wide combination of possibilities for land protection through private and public methods. During the recent Lower Fox River planning project, many landowners were pleased to be contacted, and enjoyed hearing about or being assisted with possible protection methods.

Our initial Big Rock planning informational meeting will be held on December 16, 4:00 – 6:00 pm at the LaSalle Manor Retreat Center, 12480 Galena Rd, north of Piank. Please RSVP if you can attend the meeting by December 11. Or, if you cannot attend, but would like to be involved, please let me know. To RSVP, or if you have any questions, please e-mail jchurch@theconservationfoundation.org, or phone 630-553-0687 x204.

After the initial meeting, there will be approximately 6-12 meetings for the stakeholders’ committee over approximately the next year. The project should not exceed that timeline, except for periodic updates as the committee desires.

John Church, TCF Kendall County Program Director, will be the project team leader, along with the involvement of TCF staff members, Dan Lobbes, Kane County Program Director and Brook McDonald, President and CEO.

Finally, please feel free to let us know if there is someone you would suggest to be invited to be part of this group.

Thank you in advance for your help!

Sincerely,

John Church
Kendall County Program Director

Hope you can join us!
# Proposal

**Date**: 9/4/2014  
**Estimate #**: 62847-A

## Customer and Bill To

Ellis House Equestrian Center  
Tina Villarreal  
13986 McKanna Rd.  
Minooka, IL 60447

## Deliver To

Ellis House Equestrian Center  
Tina Villarreal  
13986 McKanna Rd.  
Minooka, IL 60447

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| 1   | *****Two Year Contract Proposal: Seasonal Tent and Accessories*****  
|  | 40x80 White Century Tent  
|  | (12) 8'x20' Cathedral Window Tent walls with wall bar anchors for security in wind and weather  
|  | (8) Par 38 Can Up lights attached to tent center poles  
|  | (8) 12" High Velocity, White, Pole-Mounted Tent Fans  
|  | (1) 2000 Watt Light Dimmer  
|  | Maintenance: A monthly site visit will be performed to make sure tent is safe and in proper working condition.  
|  | After Hours Service: Ellis House will be given the cell phone numbers of two account managers for any emergency situations after normal business hours.  
|  | Subtotal  
|  | Delivery/Pick-up  
|  | Invoicing would begin January 1, 2015 and end December 31, 2016 with equal monthly installments of $1,515.90  

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By signing I, the Customer or authorized representative of the Customer, accept this proposal as a rental contract from Blue Peak Tents Inc. and acknowledge that all listed information on this contract is correct. I have been given and read the Terms and Conditions of the Rental Services set forth on the back page hereof and agree to these terms from Blue Peak Tents, Inc., as these terms and conditions are made part of this contract.

**Signature**: __________________________  
**Date**: __________________________

**Printed**: __________________________
For the purpose of this Rental Agreement, "Blue Peak" shall mean Blue Peak Tents Inc., its employees, and its subcontractors, and "Customer" shall mean the customer, its agents and/or employees. In consideration of the rental items (herein "the rental item or items"), the customer agrees to the following terms:

1) INDEMNITY/HOLD HARMLESS- Customer will take all necessary precautions regarding the items rented, and protects all persons and property from injury or damage. Customer agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Blue Peak from and against and or all liability, claims, judgments, attorney's fees and costs of every kind of nature, including but not limited to, injuries or death to persons and damage to property, arising out of use, maintenance, instruction, operation, possession, ownership or rental of the items rented, however caused, except claims or litigation arising through the sole gross negligence or willful misconduct of Blue Peak. Blue Peak shall not be responsible for any damage to any property placed under tents or structures. Customers may place personal property under tent structures at their own risk. Customer is aware that tents are temporary structures not made to withstand all weather conditions and may fall down in such extreme weather conditions.

2) ASSUMPTION OF RISK- DISCHARGE OF LIABILITY- Customer is fully aware and acknowledges there is risk of injury or damage arising out of the use or operation of the items rented hereunder and hereby elects to voluntarily enter into this rental agreement and assume all of the above risks or injury. Customer agrees to release and discharge Blue Peak from any and all responsibility or liability from such injury or damage against Blue Peak which Customer otherwise may be entitled to assert.

3) DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, INSPECTION OF RENTAL ITEMS- Customer rents the rental items on an "as is" basis. Customer agrees to release Blue Peak of any liability for any damage to any property due to delivery, installation and removal of equipment. This includes but is not limited to ruts in grass, scratches or cracks on the installed surface, and high wind related damages. It is the responsibility of the renter to communicate to Blue Peak the location of any underground utilities or sprinkler systems, including but not limited to wiring, pipes, sewage systems, or any other interferences. If Customer fails to give warning and correct locations Blue Peak will not be held responsible for damages to underground utilities. Customer acknowledges that he has, or will, personally inspect the rental items prior to use and finds the items suitable for customer's needs and in good working order. Customer acknowledges receipt or all listed in the Rental Contract and that rented items are in good working order and repair and that the Customer understands (without further instructions) the proper operation and use of items. Blue Peak shall not be required to install equipment at any time when rains, wind, etc. makes work unsafe for employees and/or equipment. Blue Peak shall not be required to install in an area that Blue Peak determines to be too muddy, dirty, unsafe, or unfit for the installation. Blue Peak will be the sole judge thereof. The area of installation must be free of obstructions such as trees, poles, etc. Areas of tent installation must be of adequate size with a minimum of 10 feet of space around the entire perimeter of the tent for staking. If the Customer is not present during the finish of delivery or installation, Customer waives their right to inspect and count the rental items and will rely on the counts by Blue Peak.

4) POSESSION/TITLE- This is a rental agreement only and the rental items shall remain the personal property of Blue Peak. The rental items shall not be removed from the place of installation or delivery. Customer's right to possession of the rental items begins upon the rental items leaving Blue Peak and terminates when items are picked up by Blue Peak or brought to Blue Peak warehouse by Customer. Retention of possession after this date constitutes a breach of this Rental Agreement. Customer agrees not to sublet or loan the rental items from the address at which the Customer represented they were used.

5) RENTAL PERIOD/RATE/PAYMENTS- If Customer makes greater use of the rental items than agreed upon, it is agreed that the additional usage will be charged. Blue Peak may terminate rental at any time and retake the rental items without further notice, in case of violation by Customer of any terms or conditions of this Rental Contract. Customer agrees to pay any collection of this account or any dispute arising out of this Rental Agreement. Unless otherwise stated in writing, final payment is due on or before delivery and can be paid by cash, check, MasterCard, or Visa. A 3% charge will be assessed to all American Express transactions. Customer agrees to pay monthly service charges for all unpaid balances. All deposits made on rental contracts are non-refundable. Cancellations or significant reductions of rental items prior to 72 hours before delivery will be subject to cancellation fee on half of contract costs. Cancellations or significant reductions of rental items within 72 hours of delivery will be subject to cancellation fees of full contract cost.

6) PROPER CARE- Customer shall be monetarily responsible for all damage to rental items. Damage includes but is not limited to: damages due to overturning, overloading, or exceeding rated capacities; breakage; improper use; abuse; lack of cleaning; dirtying of rental items by paint, mud, plaster, ash, concrete, rosin, wax or any other material. Open flames and fires are strictly prohibited under the tent and within 30 feet of the outside perimeter of the tent.

7) COMPLIANCE WITH LAW/USE RENTAL ITEMS- Customer agrees not to use or allow anyone to use the rental items in any illegal manner or in any unsafe manner. Customer agrees at his sole cost and expense to comply with all municipal, country, state, and federal laws, ordinances and regulations which may apply to the use, licenses, fines, fees, permits, or taxes arising from his use of the rental items. Customer is responsible for obtaining all permits from the appropriate government agencies. If permits or licenses are denied for any reason, Customer is still responsible for all financial and other obligations pursuant to this Agreement with Blue Peak or its subcontractors. Customer shall not allow any person who is not qualified or who does not utilize all safety equipment required to operate or use the rental items. Customer acknowledges that Blue Peak has no responsibility to inspect the rental items while they are in the Customer's possession.

8) RETURN OF RENTAL ITEMS- Customer agrees to return to Blue Peak the rental items in good condition as when received by agreed Return Date. Customer shall be liable for all damages to or loss of the rental items and liability incurred prior to rental items return to Blue Peak. Customer shall be responsible for all costs incurred by Blue Peak recovering and returning damaged rental items to Blue Peak's premises. If rental items are to be "picked up" by Blue Peak, Customer agrees to provide a secure storage location and Customer accepts all risk including damage and theft and liability to rental items for a period of time until the rental items are picked
Blue Peak Tents, Inc.- Terms and Conditions of Long Term Rentals and Leases
up by Blue Peak.

9) DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES - Blue Peak makes no warranty of merchantability or fitness for any particular use or purpose, either expressed or implied. There is no warranty or representation that the rental items are fit for customer’s particular intended use or that is free of latent defects. Blue Peak shall not be responsible to customers or any third party for any loss, damage or injury resulting from, or in anyway attributed to the operation of, use of or any failure of rental items. Customers remedy for any failure of or defect in the rental items shall terminate rental charges at time of failure, provided that the Customer notifies Blue Peak immediately and returns the rental items to Blue Peak within twenty-four (24) hours of such failure.

10) DEFAULT - Should Customer in any way fail to observe or comply with any provision of this Rental Agreement, Blue Peak may, at its sole discretion, may terminate this Rental Agreement, re-take the rental items, declare any charges due and payable and initiate legal process to recover monies owed. If for any reason it becomes necessary for Blue Peak to re-take the rental items, Customer authorizes Blue Peak to re-take the rental items without notice or further legal process and agrees that Blue Peak shall not be liable for any claims for damage or trespass arising out of the removal of the rental items.

11) LEGAL FEES- In the event an attorney is retained to enforce a provision of this Rental Agreement; the prevailing party in the dispute shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees and court costs in such action or proceedings in an amount to be determined by the court.

12) NOTICE OF NON-WAIVER/SEVERABILITY- Any failure of Blue Peak to insist upon strict performance by Customer in regard to any provisions of this Rental Agreement shall not be interpreted as a waiver of Blue Peak’s right to demand strict compliance with all other provisions of this Rental Agreement or shall be severable so that the enforceability, invalidity or waiver of any provision shall not affect any other provision.

13) MOVING OF NON-RENTAL ITEMS- Blue Peak is not liable for any damage arising from customer requested/implied request to move non-rental items, including, but not limited to furniture, vehicles, plants, lights, etc.

14) WEATHER- Tents and structures are inherently dangerous and are used as temporary structures designed to handle most normal weather conditions; however, there may be situations that become unsafe such as high winds or lightning. EVACUATION OF THE TENTS IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED IN THESE AND OTHER UNSAFE WEATHER CONDITIONS. If weather or winds damages rental items or collapses a tent while in the possession of the customer, Blue Peak shall not be responsible to fix, repair, or re-install tents or other rental items before the event. The rental items and tents shall not be touched or moved by the Customer until Blue Peak is available to re-take the items. If after delivery, weather conditions either damage the rental items or weather makes the rental items unsuitable for use, there will be no refund and Customer shall be still liable for full contract cost.

SUMMARY: RESPONSIBILITY OF THE EQUIPMENT REMAINS WITH THE CLIENT FROM THE TIME OF DELIVERY TO THE TIME OF PICKUP. Please be sure all equipment is secured when not in use and protected from weather. All collection fees, attorney fees, court costs, or any expense involved in the collections of rental charges or damaged items will be the client’s responsibility. Be sure all equipment is returned according to these TERMS & CONDITIONS. The client is solely responsible for any additional charges incurred as a result of failure to meet these conditions. I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE ABOVE TERMS & CONDITIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT. THIS CONTRACT IS VALID FOR ALL RENTALS PURCHASED BY THIS CUSTOMER, AND SUPERCEDES ALL PRIOR CONTRACTS. A LARGER FONT VERSION OF THIS CONTRACT IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 3, 2015

Governor Quinn Announces Major Investments for 75
Park Projects Across Illinois
OSLAD Grants Will Support Park and Recreation
Projects in 28 Counties

OAK PARK – Governor Pat Quinn today announced $26 million in investments for 75 local projects across Illinois that will help communities acquire land for parks and improve recreational opportunities. Today’s announcement is part of Governor Quinn’s agenda to increase recreational opportunities, create jobs and drive Illinois’ economy forward.

“Illinois’ first-rate parks and recreation facilities are good for our families and our businesses,” Governor Quinn said. “By investing in our parks and providing communities with more opportunities for recreation, we can improve the quality of life for families while creating jobs and driving Illinois’ economy forward.”

The investments announced today are through the state’s Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) program. The program will provide $24 million to support 75 projects in 28 counties throughout Illinois. An additional $2 million comes from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Together, these sources can provide up to one-half of a project’s funds. Today’s announcement of $26 million will support more than $52 million in local park development projects and land acquisitions statewide.

“These programs help protect critical open space in Illinois, especially in areas of the state where development is occurring at a fast pace,” IDNR Director Marc Miller said. “These resources also help communities maintain and modernize facilities they already own, protecting the value of public investments.”

The OSLAD program began in 1987 and has invested $390.5 million in 1,678 local park projects. The program receives dedicated funding from a percentage of the state’s Real Estate Transfer Tax.

OSLAD/LWCF Project Awards:

Adams County
• Quincy Park District, $30,000, for the development of a skate park at Lincoln Park on Quinsippi Island
Bond County

- Kingsbury Park District, $400,000, to renovate the William S. Wait Pool in Greenville.

Cook County

- Arlington Heights Park District, $400,000, to renovate and add new facilities at Lake Arlington Park.
- Berwyn Park District, $87,700, to acquire three parcels for a neighborhood park.
- Berwyn Park District, $306,600, to renovate an existing waterway into an educational demonstration garden including a water course for children.
- Chicago Park District, $800,000, to develop the Park 571 site on the Chicago River in Bridgeport.
- Chicago Park District, $1,500,000, to acquire land located at the west end of the 606 elevated trail.
- Des Plaines Park District, $251,100, to renovate Apache Park.
- Forest Preserve District of Cook County, $1,063,500, to add nature play and outdoor recreation elements at Dan Ryan Woods.
- Park District of Forest Park, $400,000, for the development of Roos Park on Harrison Street.
- Park District of Franklin Park, $217,900, to renovate Maple Park.
- Golf Maine Park District, $250,000, to renovate Dee Park in the northwest portion of the District.
- Community Park District of La Grange Park, $88,900, to renovate Beach - Oak Park on Beach Avenue.
- City of Markham, $400,000, to renovate an existing baseball field, parking lot and concession stand on West 163rd Street.
- Maywood Park District, $247,400, to renovate Central Area Park at 9th and Madison Avenue.
- Memorial Park District, $341,700, to renovate Eisenhower Park on Wolf Road in Hillside.
- Mount Prospect Park District, $376,000, to redevelop Einstein Park on Walnut Avenue.
- North Berwyn Park District, $400,000, to construct a new aquatic facility on the site of the existing Maple Pool.
- Oak Lawn Park District, $400,000, to renovate Centennial Park on Oak Park Avenue.
- Park District of Oak Park, $400,000, to renovate Euclid Square Park on Fillmore Street.
- Park Ridge Park District, $400,000, for the initial development of the Youth Campus Park on Prospect Avenue.
- Sauk Village, $205,000, to renovate Arrowhead Park.
- Winnetka Park District, $398,500, to redevelop
Hubbard Woods Park.

DeKalb County

- Genoa Township Park District, $60,600, for enhancements at Chamberlain Park.

DuPage County

- Bloomingdale Park District, $224,000, to enhance Circle Park.
- Butterfield Park District, $750,000, to acquire parcel adjacent to Glenbriar Park.
- Elmhurst Park District, $400,000, to renovate Butterfield Park in southeast Elmhurst.
- Oakbrook Terrace Park District, $400,000, to renovate the Heritage Park site.
- Glen Ellyn Park District, $400,000, to update recreational and ecological elements of Lake Ellyn Park.
- Itasca Park District, $363,500, to develop the Ray Franzen Bird Sanctuary off Rohlwing Road.
- Medinah Park District, $200,000, to renovate Riha Park, located in the southwestern portion of the District.
- Oak Brook Park District, $400,000, to renovate Central Park.
- Westmont Park District, $400,000, for initial park development of 4.76 acres on Wilmette Avenue.
- Winfield Park District, $245,200, to renovate 12 acre Wynwood Park.

Franklin County

- City of Sesser, $271,000, for improvements to the existing facilities at Miners Memorial Park.

Henderson

- Village of Oquawka, $52,700, to install a new playground in the Public Square Park.

Jo Daviess County

- Village of Scales Mound, $46,300, to install new playground equipment and lighting at Town Park.

Kane County

- City of Aurora, $400,000, to create an adventure playground in Phillips Park.
- Hampshire Township Park District, $375,400 to renovate and add new facilities to Bruce Ream Park on the west side of Hampshire.
- Forest Preserve District of Kane County, $568,500, to acquire a 75-acre parcel adjacent to Freeman Kane-Meagher Preserve near Gilberts.
Kankakee County
- Bourbonnais Township Park District, $361,600 to renovate Whispering Willows Park.

Kendall County
- Kendall County Forest Preserve District, $750,000, to acquire 166 acres of property along the Fox River between Silver Springs State Park and Hoover Forest Preserve.
- City of Plano, $202,000, for improvements at Foll Park.

Lake County
- Lake Bluff Park District, $400,000, to renovate the Blair Park Aquatic Facility.
- Lake County Forest Preserve District, $263,700, to increase recreation opportunities at Spring Bluff Forest Preserve in Winthrop Harbor by converting an existing asphalt road into a gravel hiking trail and constructing a wildlife observation platform.

LaSalle County
- City of Peru, $256,800, for improvements at Washington Park.
- Village of Seneca, $214,700, for Phase I development of a new 14 acre park adjacent to the I&M Canal Trail.
- Village of Streator, $400,000, for the initial development of the Vermilion Greenway Park.

Logan County
- Mt. Pulaski Township Park District, $303,100, to renovate the District’s pool and construct a new bathhouse and toddler pool at East Park in Mt. Pulaski.

Macon County
- Decatur Park District, $400,000, to renovate Nelson Park on Lake Decatur.

Madison County
- City of Edwardsville, $400,000, for development of a new park on Illinois Route 159.

McHenry County
- Crystal Lake Park District, $400,000, to renovate and enhance facilities at Main Beach.

Mercer County
- Village of Matherville, $32,700, to develop a new playground at Old School Park.
- City of New Boston, $400,000, to expand the recreational opportunities at the Sturgeon Bay Campground adjacent to the Mississippi River.

**Ogle County**

- Byron Park District, $298,500, to redevelop and enhance Hamas Park.
- Byron Park District, $46,700, to acquire land along the Rock River.

**Peoria County**

- Hollis Park District, $149,900, to redevelop Butler-Haynes Park in Mapleton.
- Peoria Park District, $285,000, to construct a skate park at Lakeview Park.

**St. Clair County**

- East St. Louis Park District, $237,300, to renovate the tennis courts at Lincoln Park.

**Stephenson County**

- Village of Rock City, $62,300, to add new playground equipment at Rock City Park.

**Union County**

- City of Anna, $149,600, for improvements to Anna City Park.

**Warren County**

- City of Monmouth, $360,000, to renovate and add recreation facilities at Citizens Lake, located west of Monmouth.

**White County**

- City of Grayville, $400,000, to renovate Grayville Park on the Wabash River.

**Whiteside County**

- City of Rock Falls, $400,000, for initial development of the RB&W District Park on the Rock River.

**Will County**

- Channahon Park District, $400,000, to enhance Central Park.
- Frankfort Square Park District $199,000, to redevelop Community Park on St. Francis Road.

http://www3.illinois.gov/PressReleases/ShowPressRelease.cfm?SubjectID=... 1/13/2015
- Godley Park District, $400,000, to redevelop K Mine Park.
- Joliet Park District, $750,000, to acquire an 80-acre parcel on Hoberg Road.
- Mokena Park District, $400,000, for the initial development of a portion of McGovney-Yunker Park, at LaPorte & Schoolhouse Roads.
- Romeoville Recreation Department, $400,000, for the initial development of Bigelow Park.
- Village of Shorewood, $400,000, for the initial development of Lake Forrest Park.
- Village of University Park, $225,500, to redevelop 42-acre Pine Lake Park.
- Forest Preserve District of Will County, $400,000, for the development of 450-acre Plum Valley Preserve.
- City of Wilmington, $252,100, to acquire 2.5 acres on South Island.

**Woodford County**

- Village of Congerville, $150,000, to develop the village's first park site.

**RAW TAPE:** Governor visits Oak Park and announces investments to enhance recreational opportunities in several counties. Audio includes Chicago Alderman Deborah Graham, Governor Pat Quinn, Sen. Don Harmon, Rep. Camille Lilly and Cook County Commissioner Richard Boykin.

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