



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: November 5, 2015
MEMO TO: S. Michael Rummel, Chair
Finance and Administrative Committee
FROM: James L. Anderson, Director
Natural Resources
SUBJECT: Award of Farm Licenses

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the award of nine Farm Licenses to the highest qualified bidders.

BACKGROUND: The farming program is conducted with local farmers to provide cost-effective, interim land use and management until the District is ready to convert farmland to other forest preserve purposes. Nine of the current license agreements are due to expire on December 31, 2015. Farm licenses were advertised on September 9, 2015 and nine bids were received. All licenses were advertised for 4-year terms. The highest qualified bidders for each parcel are noted below:

Site	Term	Acreage	Highest Bidder	Price per Acre
Black Crown	4 years	53.24	Gerald Henningfeld	\$208.50
Black Crown – Hay	4 years	18.0	April Mumma	\$171.00
Brae Loch	4 years	39.81	Mike Horcher	\$228.00
Grant - Addition	4 years	115.41	Mike Horcher	\$212.00
Lake Marie	4 years	157.32	Arthur Brown Bushing Trust	\$226.50
Oak Hickory	4 years	117.95	Terry Brothers	\$186.50
Oak Hickory – Hay	4 years	7.12	Michael Kelly	\$54.00
Ray Lake	4 years	55.94	Mike Horcher	\$142.00
Pine Dunes - East	4 years	41.5	Chris Leker	\$93.64

One parcel, Oak Hickory – Hay, did not receive any bids at the bid opening. However, shortly thereafter, Michael Kelly contacted the District to inquire about the status of the parcel and its availability. Mr. Kelly has offered \$54.00/acre to farm this parcel.

Only one of the Highest Bidders listed above is new to the District’s Farm Program. Fred Brown, of Arthur Brown Bushing Trust, is aware of the District’s Farm Program requirements and has agreed to comply with all obligations. All other Highest Bidders listed have farmed Forest Preserve land in the past and have complied with program requirements.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION: Committee approval is required in accordance with District policy.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Director of Finance, Chief Operations Officer, Executive Director

FINANCIAL DATA: Awarding the nine licenses will generate \$117,566.82 annually, and will be credited to the Farmland Management Fund (28642500-403000). Revenue generated by these licenses in 2015 was \$111,515.10.

PRESENTER: James L. Anderson

Approve the award of nine Farm Licenses to the highest qualified bidders – November 5, 2015

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMITTEE:**

YEA NAY

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S. Michael Rummel, Chair		
<hr/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda Pedersen, Vice Chair		
<hr/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steve Carlson		
<hr/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Durkin		
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Sandra Hart		
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Aaron Lawlor		
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Audrey Nixon		