



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: February 1, 2016

MEMO TO: Bonnie Thomson Carter, Chair
Planning and Restoration Committee

S. Michael Rummel, Chair
Finance and Administrative Committee

FROM: James L. Anderson, Director
Natural Resources

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the Ecological Assessment of District Lands 2016 to Northern Illinois University, Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability & Energy, DeKalb, Illinois, in the Contract Price of \$175,012.00.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Conservation, Leadership, Communication, Education and Outreach

FINANCIAL DATA: This item was approved as part of the adopted FY2015/2016 Budget's Capital Improvement Plan in the amount of \$500,000.00. Of the actual cost of \$175,012.00, \$165,000.00 will be charged to the Habitat Restoration Fund account (20104100-7803200-60004) and \$10,012.00 will be charged to the USFWS Spring Bluff Coastal Habitat Grant Fund (69644100-803200-56052).

BACKGROUND: In order to identify wildlife species within our preserves, prepare master plans, plan management activities and implement capital improvement projects, an ecological assessment of District lands is necessary. This is accomplished through the Wildlife Monitoring Program, by which staff is able to: 1) detect species' presence or absence, 2) determine long-term population changes, and 3) provide reliable standardized biological information that can be used to develop site management goals and assess habitat management and restoration practices.

During the 2016 monitoring season, 110 locations will be inventoried at 22 preserves. Wildlife species monitored will include amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles. Staff wildlife biologists will oversee and coordinate field data collection and incorporate the data received into District data files. Northern Illinois University's Institute for the Study of the Environment, Sustainability & Energy will provide wildlife monitoring technicians and a PhD candidate. Data collected as part of the wildlife monitoring program and existing geographical information system (GIS) habitat management data will be analyzed in order to provide recommendations to more efficiently and effectively manage habitat for populations of wildlife. 2016 will be the first year of a three-year PhD lead project and partnership with NIU to complete an in-depth analysis of the District's wildlife data.

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

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Chief Operations Officer, Director of Finance, Corporate Counsel

PRESENTER: James L. Anderson

**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
OF DISTRICT LANDS 2016 TO NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

WHEREAS, the District desires to purchase ecological assessment services to detect the presence or absence of species on District property, detect long-term species population changes, develop standardized biological information regarding species on District property, and develop ecological management goals and objectives (the “Services”); and

WHEREAS, the District’s Purchasing Manager and Director of Natural Resources have determined that the Services require personal confidence; and

WHEREAS, the District in 2015 conducted a competitive Request for Statements of Qualifications process to select a qualified academic institution to provide ecological assessment services; and

WHEREAS, Northern Illinois University (NIU) had submitted a proposal for the Services (the “Proposal”), and the District’s staff, the Purchasing Manager, the Director of Natural Resources, the Planning and Restoration Committee, and the Finance and Administrative Committee have reviewed the Proposal and recommend that the Board of Commissioners (i) find the Proposal submitted by Northern Illinois University to be the proposal that is most advantageous to the District; and (ii) award a contract for the Services to Northern Illinois University in substantially the form attached hereto (the “Contract”) in the amount of \$175,012.00 (the “Contract Price”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that the Proposal for the Services submitted by Northern Illinois University is the proposal that is most advantageous to the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County, Illinois THAT:

Section 1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Award of Contract. The Contract in the amount of the Contract Price, in substantially the form attached hereto, is hereby awarded to Northern Illinois University.

Section 3. Execution of Contract. The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract for the Services in the amount of the Contract Price.

Section 4. Payments. The Treasurer shall make payments under the Contract only pursuant to and in accordance with the Contract terms.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2016

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2016

Ann B. Maine, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

Julie Gragnani, Secretary
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit # _____