



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: October 3, 2016

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

S. Michael Rummel, Chair
Finance and Administrative Committee

Agenda Item# 9.12

FROM: James L. Anderson
Director of Natural Resources

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a Resolution Approving Acceptance of an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency 319 Grant to fund the North Mill Creek Channel Restoration Phase 2 at Ethel's Woods Forest Preserve.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED: Conservation

FINANCIAL DATA: This project was approved as part of the adopted FY 2016/2017 budget plan in the amount of \$2,513,400 for FY2018, from the District's CIP Fund (35634100-803200-63910). Estimated project cost is \$3,500,000.00 with up to \$1,000,000.00 funding assistance requested from the IEPA 319 Grant.

BACKGROUND: In August 2016, District staff applied for financial assistance to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) under a grant program established pursuant to Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. This federal grant program, administered by IEPA, is targeted at programs and projects that improve water quality. The North Mill Creek Channel Restoration project is an ideal project under the 319 grant fund as Rasmussen Lake is currently listed by the IEPA as an impaired lake under Section 303d of the Clean Water Act. The North Mill Creek Channel Restoration project was awarded \$500,000.00 in 2013 for Phase 1 construction under this grant program. Current funding for Phase 2 construction has focused on establishing the physical landforms of the stream and the surrounding floodplains and uplands. In the 2016 grant application, the District has requested an additional \$1,000,000.00 in financial assistance for Phase 2 construction for the project. Current funding and the requested grant funds will create 6300-linear feet of pool/riffle channel, remove the concrete spillway, address the steeply eroded slopes on the old lake shore, create a diverse native community of riparian wetlands within the footprint of the old lake, remove the concrete low head dam at the mouth of the old lake and remove the earthen dam by blending it into the natural topography of the site.

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

PRESENTER: James L. Anderson

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

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF AN ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY 319 GRANT TO FUND THE NORTH MILL CREEK CHANNEL
RESTORATION PHASE 2 AT ETHEL'S WOOD FOREST PRESERVE**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the "District") has awarded a contract for work at Ethel's Woods Forest Preserve to modify the dam at Rasmussen Lake, draw down the lake level, and restore a free-flowing channel for North Mill Creek, which currently runs through the dam and lake (the Project); and

WHEREAS, the Project is part of the District's approved FY 2017/2018 Capital Improvement Plan; and

WHEREAS, grant monies are available in the amount of \$1,000,000 (the "Grant") from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's 319 Grant Program (the "Program") for water quality projects, such as the proposed Project;

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. Approval of Grant. The District's application to the Program for the Grant for the Project is hereby ratified. The President, Executive Director and Secretary are authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the District whatever applications and other documents are necessary to apply for and accept the Grant.

Section 3. 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 No. _____