



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: November 6, 2017

MEMO TO: Craig Taylor, Chair
Operations Committee

FROM: James L. Anderson
Director of Natural Resources

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the termination of the existing Farm License Agreement at Lake Marie Forest Preserve.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Conservation; Organizational Sustainability

FINANCIAL DATA: The existing Lake Marie Farm License Agreement with The Arthur Brown Bushing Trust generated annual revenue of \$35,632.98 (157.32 acres at \$226.50/acre). It is anticipated that similar revenue will be generated from solicitation of new bids.

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.

On January 1, 2016, The Arthur Brown Bushing Trust entered into a Farm License Agreement for the Lake Marie Forest Preserve for a term of four years (2016 through 2019). On October 4, 2017, the District received a letter from the Trust requesting termination of the License Agreement (effective December 31, 2017) citing an internal, unforeseen disagreement within the Trust whereby the Beneficiary of the Trust no longer considers this License Agreement in accord with the requirements of the Trust. The Trust is willing to pay 2017 license fees.

Based on staff's and counsel's review of the letter and the License Agreement, we believe that the Trust does not have a right to terminate. However, in light of the apparent internal disagreement within the Trust, staff believes that the District would be better off re-licensing the parcel to a more stable licensee. As such, staff recommends that the District agree to terminate the License Agreement, but only after all 2017 license fees have been paid in full.

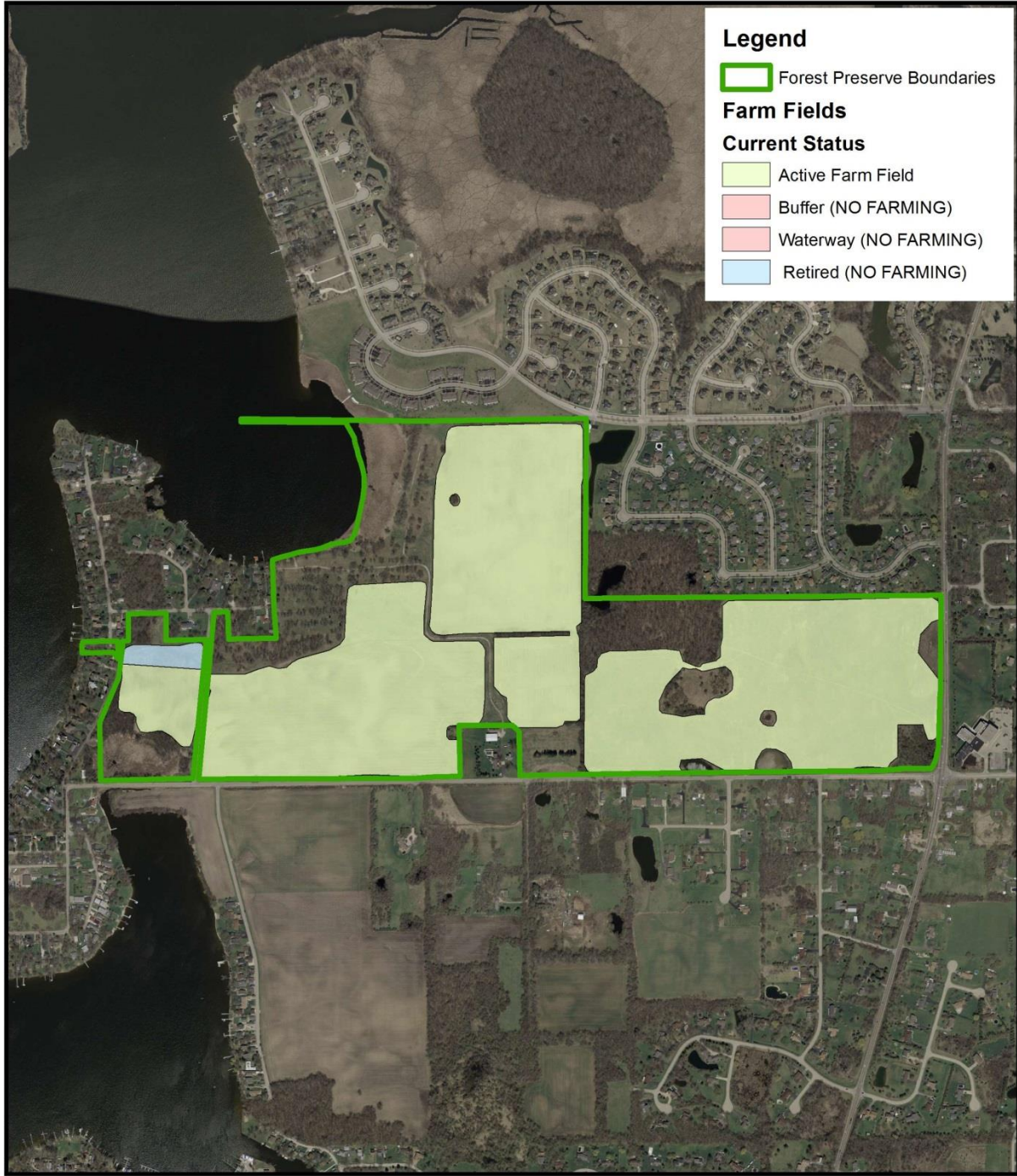
REVIEW BY OTHERS: Executive Director, Chief Operations Officer, Director of Finance, Corporate Counsel

Approve termination of the existing Farm License Agreement at Lake Marie Forest Preserve.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

Date: _____ Roll Call Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____

Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: _____





Legend


 Forest Preserve Boundaries


Farm Fields

Current Status

 Active Farm Field

 Buffer (NO FARMING)

 Waterway (NO FARMING)

 Retired (NO FARMING)



Lake County Forest Preserves; Farm Program
 Lake Marie Forest Preserve; Lake Marie Farm License
 Acreage: 157.32
 Farm: 2910/4522
 Tract: 23/1452
 Field: 1/1,2,4

Only those fields identified on this map shall be included in the farm license. All other fields shown are incidental and will NOT be included in the farm license.

