



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: November 5, 2018
MEMO TO: Craig Taylor, Chair
Operations Committee
FROM: James L. Anderson
Director of Natural Resources

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Award of seven farm licenses at Duck Farm, Mill Creek, Pine Dunes, Prairie Stream, Raven Glen, and Waukegan Savanna Forest Preserves to the highest qualified bidders.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Conservation; Organizational Sustainability

FINANCIAL DATA: Awarding the licenses will generate \$135,158.26 annually (2019-2022) and will be credited to the Farmland Management Fund (28642500-403000).

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. The current license agreements will expire on December 31, 2018. The farm licenses were advertised in the News-Sun and bid packages were available on the District's website. The licenses were advertised for a 4-year term starting January 1, 2019. Seven potential Licensees submitted bids. The highest qualified bidders for the parcels are noted below:

SITE	TERM	ACREAGE	HIGHEST BIDDER	PRICE PER ACRE
Duck Farm	4 Years	77.90	Jeff Bohman	\$ 142.25
Mill Creek	4 Years	125.46	Jeff Bohman	\$ 142.25
Pine Dunes	4 Years	57.48	Terry Bros. Grain Farm	\$ 134.75
Prairie Stream	4 Years	203.99	Crane Grain Farms	\$ 266.00
Prairie Stream – Hay	4 Years	52.32	Steve Olson	\$ 145.00
Raven Glen	4 Years	75.56	Crane Grain Farms	\$ 266.00
Waukegan Savanna	4 Years	183.35	Mike Richards	\$ 90.20

All of the highest bidders have held Agricultural Licenses with the District in the past. To date, all have complied with program requirements.

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

APPROVAL: Motion to approve seven farm license agreements.

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

Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: _____