



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES  
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

**DATE:** August 26, 2019

**MEMO TO:** John Wasik, Chair  
Planning Committee

Terry Wilke, Chair  
Finance Committee

**FROM:** James L. Anderson  
Director of Natural Resources

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend Approval of a Resolution Ratifying and Authorizing the Application for and Acceptance of a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Grant to fund Hydrologic Restoration at Prairie Wolf Forest Preserve.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED:** Public Access and Connections; Conservation; Organizational Sustainability

**FINANCIAL DATA:** The estimated project cost is \$276,760.00 with up to \$220,310.00 funding assistance requested from the GLRI Grant. The District will provide matching contributions of \$56,450.00. This Project was approved as part of the adopted FY 2018/2019 Budget in the amount of \$24,000.00 from the District's Farmland Management fund (28644000-705100-62805). An additional \$21,000 will be a request to the FY 2020 Budget from the Farmland Management Fund; the remaining proposed funds will come from in-kind services from District staff time.

**BACKGROUND:** GLRI grant funds are intended to accelerate efforts to protect and restore habitat within the Great Lakes watershed. A recent ruling has changed the eligible boundary for funding from this opportunity to include the Chicago River watershed. Historically, the Chicago River flowed into Lake Michigan and therefore exists within the Great Lakes Basin. The results of this ruling were not known to the District until Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. Grant proposals were due on July 12<sup>th</sup>. With this new eligibility, staff developed a project that fits the goals of this program, under the Green Infrastructure to Reduce Stormwater Runoff funding category. The proposed project is located within the northern 145-acres of Prairie Wolf Forest Preserve and would include (i) hydrologic restoration activities, (ii) removal of drain tiles, (iii) creation or enhancement of approximately 20.8 acres of wetlands, (iv) invasive woody clearing, (v) site grading, (vi) wetland plug planting, (vii) native seed installation, and (viii) a potential future trail corridor, to be installed in a location that would not impact wetland areas. Some site work will provide a base for this potential future trail. Because of the unexpected timing issues, staff applied for the grant already. The attached resolution would ratify and approve the grant application.

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



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

**A RESOLUTION RATIFYING AND AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR AND  
ACCEPTANCE OF A GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE GRANT FOR  
HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION AT PRAIRIE WOLF FOREST PRESERVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) desires to implement a project for hydrologic restoration and related work at Prairie Wolf Forest Preserve that will, among other benefits, seek to alleviate the impact of nonpoint pollution sources, such as agricultural nutrients and stormwater runoff (the “Project”); and

**WHEREAS**, grant monies for the Project are potentially available in the amount of \$220,310.00 (the “Grant”) from the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s Great Lake Restoration Initiative (GLRI); and

**WHEREAS**, the Project is part of the District’s approved FY 2018/2019 Budget;

**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. Authorization of the Application for and Acceptance of the Grant.** The District’s application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the Grant for the Project is hereby approved. Any and all prior actions of the District’s staff and consultants to apply for the Grant are hereby ratified and approved. 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2019

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angelo D. Kyle, President  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Gragnani, Secretary  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_\_