



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: February 2, 2015

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

S. Michael Rummel, Chair
Finance and Administrative Committee

FROM: Randall L. Seebach, Director
Planning, Conservation and Development

SUBJECT: 2015 Ecological Assessment of District Lands

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the 2015 Ecological Assessment of District Lands to Northern Illinois University, Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability & Energy, DeKalb, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$40,663.00.

BACKGROUND: In order to identify wildlife species within our preserves, prepare master plans, 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/absence, 2) detect long-term population changes, and 3) provide reliable standardized biological information that can be used to develop site management goals.

During the 2015 monitoring season, 91 locations will be inventoried at 21 preserves. Wildlife species monitored will include: amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles. Staff wildlife biologists will oversee and coordinate this assessment, and incorporate the data received into District data files for analysis.

In an attempt to reach out to local academic institutions who might be interested in the work, a request for Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) was advertised in December 2014 and the District individually notified seven (7) academic institutions with two (2) institutions registering for the information: Northern Illinois University (NIU) and Loyola University. Only one academic institution (NIU) submitted an SOQ and, after review, met all the required qualifications. Therefore, staff recommends entering into a Contract with NIU for completion of the 2015 Ecological Assessment.

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

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Director of Operations and Public Safety, Director of Finance, Legal Counsel

FINANCIAL DATA: This item was approved as part of the adopted FY2015/2016 Budget's Capital Improvement Plan for Habitat Restoration in the amount of \$500,000.00. From the actual cost of \$40,663.00, \$30,651.00 will be charged to the Habitat Restoration Fund account 20104100-803200-60004 and \$10,012.00 will be charged to the USFWS Spring Bluff Coastal Habitat Grant account 69644100-803200-56052.

PRESENTER: Randall L. Seebach

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF LAKE)

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
REGULAR FEBRUARY MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

MADAM PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Your **PLANNING AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE**; and **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE** present herewith “A Resolution Awarding a Contract for the 2015 Ecological Assessment of District Lands to Northern Illinois University,” and request its adoption.

PLANNING AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE:	YEA	NAY	FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:	YEA	NAY
_____ Bonnie Thomson Carter, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ S. Michael Rummel, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Nick Sauer, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Linda Pedersen, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Carol Calabresa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Steve Carlson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Bill Durkin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Bill Durkin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Sandra Hart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Sandra Hart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Diane Hewitt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Aaron Lawlor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Sid Mathias	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Audrey Nixon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Craig Taylor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____ Tom Weber	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

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

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE 2015 ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF
DISTRICT LANDS TO NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the "District") has successfully undertaken extensive restoration activities to create and preserve important habitat for wildlife species; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to assess forest preserves and develop habitat restoration projects, the District desires to identify wildlife species within its forest preserves; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to purchase services to detect species' presence or absence, detect long-term population changes, and provide standardized biological information to develop site management goals and objectives (the "Services"); and

WHEREAS, the District's Purchasing Manager and Director of Planning, Conservation and Development have determined that the Services require personal confidence; and

WHEREAS, the District has 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") has submitted a proposal for the Services (the "Proposal"), and the Purchasing Manager; Director of Planning, Conservation and Development; and the Planning and Restoration Committee and Finance and Administrative Committee have recommended that the Board of Commissioners (i) find the Proposal to be the proposal that is most advantageous to the District, and (ii) award a contract for the Services to NIU; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that the proposal for the Services submitted by NIU is the proposal that is most advantageous to the District; and

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. A contract for the Services in substantially the form attached hereto (the "Contract") in the amount of \$40,663.00 (the "Contract Price") is hereby awarded to NIU.

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 _____ 2015

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this ____ day of _____ 2015

ATTEST:

Ann B. Maine, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Julie A. Gragnani, Secretary
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit _____