



**DATE:** May 24, 2021

**MEMO TO:** Jessica Vealitzek, Chair  
Operations Committee

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

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend Approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Purchase of Southern-Sourced Forb Seed for Grant Woods Forest Preserve to Shooting Star Native Seeds in the Contract Price of \$43,450.59.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED:** Conservation

**FINANCIAL DATA:** The native seed supply purchase for the Grant Woods Forest Preserve project was approved as part of the adopted FY 2020 budget. The estimated cost for the Southern-Sourced Forb Seed for Grant Woods was \$60,000.00. The cost of purchase and delivery of the Southern-Sourced Forb Seed for the project under the contract that would be approved by the attached resolution is \$43,450.59 and will be charged to the Grant Woods Climate Resiliency Grant (20104100-803200-60607).

In addition, the District received one bid under \$25,000.00 for seed for the project that does not require Committee recommendation or Board approval and totals \$562.50. Combining that bid with the contract that would be approved by the attached resolution, results in a total cost of \$44,013.09.

**BACKGROUND:** The District will be installing native seed in the fall of 2021 at Grant Woods Forest Preserve as part of its long-term ecological restoration and research project called “Growing Through Change.” This project is funded with support leveraged through the Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves, another private donor, and funding provided by the Wildlife Conservation Society Climate Adaptation Fund.

In the face of climate change, native plants’ abilities to withstand the effects of climate change may lie in seeds’ adaptability to their regional provenance (source). These southern-sourced seeds from Missouri are currently adapted to the projected climate shift that Lake County will experience 50 years from now. The District’s restoration research and monitoring of local seed and southern-sourced seed side-by-side will provide key findings relevant to prairie and ecosystem restoration techniques and will be of interest to regional and national audiences.

The project was advertised on March 16, 2021 and bids from two bidders were received. Only one contract requires Board approval. The summary of the lowest bidder and the total of its bids is listed below:

**LOWEST BIDDERS AT OR GREATER THAN 25,000**

Shooting Star Native Seeds; Spring Green, MN

**TOTAL BID**

\$43,450.59

**SUCCESSFUL BIDDER UNDER 25,000**

Allendan Seed Company: Winterset, Iowa

\$562.50

Materials were bid on a unit price per species. For this project, staff has already awarded a contract to Allendan Seed Company for the total of its low bids, which is less than the Purchasing Policy threshold that requires Committee recommendation and Board approval (\$25,000.00).

Shooting Star Native Seeds submitted total low bids greater than \$25,000.00, thus requiring Committee recommendation and Board approval of the contract for those bids. Staff recommends that Shooting Star Native Seeds be awarded a contract as the lowest responsible bidder for the species for which it was the low bidder. Work is anticipated to begin fall 2021 and be completed by winter 2021/2022.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** Chief Operations Officer, Director of Finance, Purchasing Manager, Corporate Counsel

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
                                          ) SS  
COUNTY OF LAKE    )

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
REGULAR JUNE MEETING  
JUNE 8, 2021**

**MISTER PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

Your **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** presents herewith “A Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Purchase of Southern-Sourced Forb Seed for Grant Woods Forest Preserve” and requests its approval.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  Roll Call Vote: Ayes: \_\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR  
THE PURCHASE OF SOUTHERN-SOURCED FORB SEED FOR  
GRANT WOODS FOREST PRESERVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) has advertised in The News Sun for sealed bids to purchase Southern-Sourced Forb Seed for Grant Woods Forest Preserve (the “Products”); and

**WHEREAS**, all sealed bids were received and opened by the District at its General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois, on April 15, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.; and

**WHEREAS**, the District’s staff, the Purchasing Manager, the Director of Natural Resources; and the Operations Committee have reviewed the bids identified on Exhibit A and recommend that the Board of Commissioners find Shooting Star Native Seeds to be the lowest responsible bidder with respect to the bids that it submitted and which are listed on Exhibit A (the “Bids”) and award a contract for the Products to Shooting Star Native Seeds consistent therewith; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that Shooting Star Native Seeds is the lowest responsible bidder for the Products as stated in the previous clause;

**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.** The Bids in the total amount of \$43,450.59 (the “Contract Price”) are hereby accepted and a contract for the Products in the amount of the Contract Price is hereby awarded to Shooting Star Native Seeds (the “Contract”).

**Section 3: Execution of Contracts.** The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract for the Products in the amounts 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

ATTEST:

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

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

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

**EXHIBIT A**

**BID # 21026  
SOUTHERN SOURCED FORB SEED FOR  
GRANT WOODS FOREST PRESERVE**

| <b>SPECIES</b>            | <b>LBS</b> | <b>\$ PER LBS</b> | <b>TOTAL</b> |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Asclepias tuberosa        | 6.23       | \$ 650.00         | \$ 4,049.50  |
| Asclepias verticillata    | 0.50       | \$ 1,200.00       | \$ 600.00    |
| Aster azureus             | 2.50       | \$ 550.00         | \$ 1,375.00  |
| Aster laevis              | 2.50       | \$ 450.00         | \$ 1,125.00  |
| Aster novae-angliae       | 1.88       | \$ 400.00         | \$ 752.00    |
| Baptisia leucantha        | 7.50       | \$ 120.00         | \$ 900.00    |
| Baptisia leucophaea       | 0.75       | \$ 520.00         | \$ 390.00    |
| Cassia fasciculata        | 15.62      | \$ 14.50          | \$ 226.49    |
| Cassia marilandica        | 2.50       | \$ 160.00         | \$ 400.00    |
| Castilleja coccinea       | 0.58       | \$ 1,800.00       | \$ 1,044.00  |
| Ceanothus americanus      | 2.50       | \$ 215.00         | \$ 537.50    |
| Coreopsis lanceolata      | 5.00       | \$ 20.00          | \$ 100.00    |
| Coreopsis tripteris       | 5.00       | \$ 295.00         | \$ 1,475.00  |
| Desmodium canadense       | 12.50      | \$ 45.00          | \$ 562.00    |
| Echinacea pallida         | 12.50      | \$ 105.00         | \$ 1,312.50  |
| Eryngium yuccifolium      | 10.00      | \$ 60.00          | \$ 600.00    |
| Gentiana andrewsii        | 0.12       | \$ 825.00         | \$ 99.00     |
| Helianthus mollis         | 1.25       | \$ 225.00         | \$ 281.25    |
| Heliopsis helianthoides   | 18.75      | \$ 70.00          | \$ 1,312.50  |
| Lespedeza capitata        | 18.75      | \$ 150.00         | \$ 2,812.50  |
| Liatris aspera            | 2.50       | \$ 750.00         | \$ 1,875.00  |
| Liatris pycnostachya      | 3.75       | \$ 120.00         | \$ 450.00    |
| Monarda fistulosa         | 1.33       | \$ 180.00         | \$ 239.40    |
| Parthenium integrifolium  | 7.50       | \$ 70.00          | \$ 525.00    |
| Penstemon digitalis       | 1.25       | \$ 105.00         | \$ 131.25    |
| Petalostemum candidum     | 6.25       | \$ 100.00         | \$ 625.00    |
| Petalostemum purpureum    | 6.25       | \$ 75.00          | \$ 468.75    |
| Physostegia virginiana    | 2.50       | \$ 400.00         | \$ 1,000.00  |
| Ratibida pinnata          | 6.25       | \$ 120.00         | \$ 750.00    |
| Rudbeckia hirta           | 1.58       | \$ 40.00          | \$ 63.20     |
| Rudbeckia subtomentosa    | 1.25       | \$ 180.00         | \$ 225.00    |
| Silphium integrifolium    | 5.00       | \$ 275.00         | \$ 1,375.00  |
| Silphium laciniatum       | 25.00      | \$ 170.00         | \$ 4,250.00  |
| Silphium terebinthinaceum | 28.75      | \$ 275.00         | \$ 7,906.25  |
| Solidago nemoralis        | 0.62       | \$ 400.00         | \$ 248.00    |
| Solidago rigida           | 0.62       | \$ 90.00          | \$ 55.80     |
| Solidago speciosa         | 0.62       | \$ 385.00         | \$ 238.70    |
| Tradescantia ohiensis     | 2.50       | \$ 300.00         | \$ 750.00    |
| Veronicastrum virginicum  | 0.20       | \$ 1,600.00       | \$ 320.00    |
| Zizia aurea               | 12.50      | \$ 160.00         | \$ 2,000.00  |
|                           |            |                   | \$ 43,450.59 |