



**DATE:** November 1, 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 Woody Invasive Plant Clearing Project - Buckthorn Eradication Initiative (Phase 2) at Middlefork Savanna Forest Preserve to Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc. in the Contract Price of \$56,256.00.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED:** Conservation and Leadership

**FINANCIAL DATA:** The two projects discussed below (Area A, which requires Board approval, and Area B, which does not require Board approval) were approved in the amended FY 2021 Budget as part of the larger Middlefork Savanna Pilot Buckthorn Eradication project. The total cost of both projects was estimated at \$60,000.00

The combined total cost of the two contracts for both Areas is \$57,713.00.

Funding for a portion of the project is being supplied by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation ChiCal Grant. The District will fund the remainder of the cost as part of our required grant match. The contract price for Area B (\$56,256.00), will be charged 50% to the Middlefork Savanna Pilot Buckthorn Eradication Grant account (69644100-803200-61104) and 50% to the match account 20104100-803200-61104.

**BACKGROUND:** Invasive plants are a significant challenge to habitat conservation. Management of invasive plants is necessary to improve and conserve habitat quality and species diversity on District properties throughout Lake County. The District conducts removal of invasive woody species as part of a Land Management Program to restore and enhance woodlands, savannas, prairies and wetlands to increase the health, diversity, and sustainability of flora and wildlife populations and to restore or enhance ecosystem services.

In 2019, the District applied for and received funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Chi Cal Rivers Fund Grant (\$171,145.66) for projects to remove invasive wood species. This grant provides funding for work in the Chicago and Calumet River Watersheds in the Chicago Region. With the awarded funds, the District will make available a cost-share program to interested landowners, which provides 50% of the project cost to remove buckthorn from their property. The landowners are responsible for the remaining 50%.

The District advertised for bids for multiple clearing projects around Middlefork Savanna Forest Preserve, each indicated as a separate Project under one consolidated bid process. Each project

has its own Scope of Work and Specifications. These projects include land adjacent to Middlefork Savanna that is owned by others, who have signed consents to allow removal work on their property and to participate in the cost-sharing program. Work includes all labor, equipment and materials to selectively remove invasive woody trees and shrubs and thin select native species and includes disposal services and follow-up selective herbicide applications.

The projects were advertised on September 7, 2021 and three bids were received. A summary of the lowest bids received and recommended for approval is listed below:

**LOWEST BIDDER GREATER THAN \$25,000.00**

**TOTAL BID**

Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc. (Area B)

\$ 56,256.00

**LOWEST BIDDER EQUAL TO OR UNDER \$25,000.00**

Native Restoration Services, Inc. (Area A)

\$ 1,457.00

Staff recommends that Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc. be awarded a contract as the lowest responsible bidder for Project Area B. This bidder submitted a low bid for Area B greater than \$25,000.00, thus requiring Committee recommendation and Board approval of the contract.

Staff will award a contract to Native Restoration Services, Inc. as the lowest bidder for Project Area A.

Work is anticipated to begin December 1, 2021 and to be completed August 1, 2022.

This is the second round of contracts approved for the Woody Invasive Plant Clearing Project - Buckthorn Eradication Initiative at Middlefork Savanna Forest Preserve. The first phase of contracts was approved by the Board at its October 12, 2021, meeting and by staff (for the smaller contracts) around the same time.

**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 NOVEMBER MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 9, 2021**

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

Your **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** presents herewith “A Resolution Awarding a Contract to Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc., for the Woody Invasive Plant Clearing Project - Buckthorn Eradication Initiative at Middlefork Savanna Forest Preserve (Phase 2),” 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 WOODY INVASIVE PLANT  
CLEARING PROJECT - BUCKTHORN ERADICATION INITIATIVE AT  
MIDDLEFORK SAVANNA FOREST PRESERVE (PHASE 2)**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) has advertised in The Lake County News Sun for sealed bids for the Woody Invasive Plant Clearing Project - Buckthorn Eradication Initiative at Middlefork Savanna Forest Preserve (Phase 2) (the “Work”); and

**WHEREAS**, all sealed bids were received and opened by the District at its General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois on September 28, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. local time; and

**WHEREAS**, bids for Area B of the Work (the “Area B Work”) were received in the following amounts from the following bidders;

	<b><u>TOTAL BID</u></b>
Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc., Grayslake, Illinois	\$56,256.00
Tallgrass Restoration, LLC, Schaumburg, Illinois	\$116,731.20

and;

**WHEREAS**, the District’s staff, the Purchasing Manager, the Director of Natural Resources, and the Operations Committee have reviewed the bids and recommend that the Board of Commissioners finds Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc. to be the lowest responsible bidder for the Area B Work and awards a contract for the Area B Work to Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc. (the “Contract”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc. is the lowest responsible bidder for the Area B Work;

**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 bid for the Area B Work submitted by Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc. in the amount of \$56,256.00 (the “Contract Price”) is hereby accepted and a Contract for the Area B Work is hereby awarded to Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc.

**Section 3: Execution of Contract.** The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract for the Area B Work 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

AYES:

NAYS:

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

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

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Gragnani, Secretary  
Lake County Forest Preserves

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