

**DATE:** January 3, 2022

**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 Native Seed for Grant Woods Forest Preserve to Shooting Star Native Seeds in the Contract Price of \$ 33,931.00.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED:** Conservation

**FINANCIAL DATA:** The purchase and delivery of native seed for Grant Woods Forest Preserve was approved as part of the adopted FY 2021 Capital Improvement Plan at an estimated cost of \$40,000.00. The actual cost under the contract that would be approved by the attached resolution is \$33,931.00.

In addition, there is one bid under \$25,000.00 (totaling \$69.74) that does not require Committee and Board approval, bringing the combined total of contracts for the purchase and delivery native seed for Grant Woods Forest Preserve to \$34,000.74. This cost will be charged to the Grant Woods Climate Resiliency Grant (20104100-803200-60607).

**BACKGROUND:** The District will install native seed in February 2022 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 Lake County Forest Preserves, a private donor and funding provided by the Wildlife Conservation Society Climate Adaptation Fund.

In the face of climate change, native plants’ ability to withstand the effects of climate change may lie in seeds’ adaptability to their regional provenance (source). The District’s restoration research and monitoring of local and southern-sourced seed side by side will provide key findings regarding prairie and ecosystem restoration techniques to regional and national audiences.

The project was advertised on October 25, 2021 and bids from 3 bidders were received. A summary of the lowest bidders and the total of their low bids is listed below:

<b><u>LOWEST BIDDER AT OR GREATER THAN \$25,000</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL BID</u></b>
Shooting Star Native Seeds; Spring Grove, Minnesota	\$33,931.00
<b><u>SUCCESSFUL BIDDER UNDER \$25,000.00</u></b>	
Spence Restoration Nursery; Muncie, Indiana	\$69.74

Materials were bid on a unit price per species. For this project, staff has already awarded a contract to Spence Restoration Nursery for a total of \$69.74, which is less than the Purchasing Policy threshold that requires Committee recommendation and Board approval (\$25,000.00).

Shooting Star Native Seeds submitted low bids totaling greater than \$25,000.00, thus requiring Committee recommendation and Board approval of the contract with Shooting Star. 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 in February 2022 and be completed by winter March 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 JANUARY MEETING  
JANUARY 11, 2022**

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

Your **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** presents herewith “A Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Purchase of Native Grass 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  
NATIVE GRASS SEED FOR GRANT WOODS FOREST PRESERVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) has advertised in The Lake County News Sun for sealed bids to purchase native grass seed for Habitat Restoration at Grant Woods Forest Preserves; and

**WHEREAS**, all sealed bids were received and opened by the District at its General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois, on November 11, 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 and recommend that the Board of Commissioners find Shooting Star Native Seeds to be the lowest responsible bidder with respect to the low bids that it submitted, which are listed on Exhibit A (the “Shooting Star Native Seeds Bids”), for the “Species” listed on Exhibit A (the “Products”), 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 Shooting Star Native Seeds Bids in the total amount of \$33,931.00 (the “Shooting Star Native Seeds Contract Price”) are hereby accepted and a contract for the Products in the amount of the Shooting Star Native Seeds Contract Price is hereby awarded to Shooting Star Native Seeds (the “Contract”).

**Section 3: Execution of Contract.** The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract for the Products in the amounts of the Shooting Star Native Seeds 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

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

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Gragnani, Secretary

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

EXHIBIT A

	TOTAL QTY.	Tier 1? (Yes/No)	Notes: For Tier 2 Seed	Unit Price (\$/PLS LB)	Extension
<b>Species (Graminoids)</b>	<b>lbs.</b>				
Andropogon Scoparius	320.00	N	VERNON CO., IA	\$13.00	\$4,160.00
Bouteloua Curtipendula	654.00	Y		\$11.00	\$7,194.00
Bromus Kalmii	33.00	N	POLK CO, MN	\$45.00	\$1,485.00
Carex Bicknellii	55.00	N	SHERBURNE CO, MN	\$150.00	\$8,250.00
Elymus Canadensis	436.00	N	CRAWFORD, CO WI	\$7.00	\$3,052.00
Sporobulus Heterolepsis	22.00	N	POLK CO, MN	\$120.00	\$2,640.00
Stipa Spartea	55.00	Y/N	30 PLS lb – IOWA CO, WI 25 PLS lb – HOUSTON CO, MN	\$130.00	\$7,150.00

\$33,931.00