



DATE: June 5, 2023

MEMO TO: Jessica Vealitzek, Chair
Operations Committee

FROM: Pati Vitt
Director of Natural Resources

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend Approval of a Resolution to amend the current Cooperative Service Agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide office space and other amenities for the USDA at the Operations and Public Safety Facility.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Leadership; Conservation; Organizational Sustainability

FINANCIAL DATA: There is no financial impact at this time.

BACKGROUND: On May 1, 2023, the Operations Committee gave policy direction to District staff to negotiate the amendment requested by USDA. Staff has completed negotiations and recommends approval of the amendment.

The Lake County Forest Preserve District (“District”) has been managing populations of whitetail deer and other wildlife for 35 years to reduce ecological and other property damage and to ensure public safety. These activities have been conducted with the cooperation of the USDA with Board approval since 2002. Under a Cooperative Service Agreement already in place, in exchange for financial consideration (approximately \$25,000 per year) USDA acts as the District’s contractor assisting District in performing the District’s wildlife management programs, including (i) the urban deer management program, (ii) sensitive species recovery efforts, including, for the Blanding’s turtle program, helping to reduce nest predation and monitoring of individual turtles, and (iii) mitigating the impacts of beaver damage, including flooding of trails, roadways, and neighboring properties.

The USDA would like to increase the capacity of the Cooperative Service Agreement by embedding an Assistant District Supervisor (ADS) and other personnel within the Operations and Public Safety facility (Operations Facility) in Lindenhurst, IL. Specifically, USDA has requested (i) the use of office space at the Operations Facility to perform administrative duties, (ii) parking for a wildlife service truck, a trailer and UTV, (iii) storage for equipment used while aiding under the Cooperative Service Agreement, (iv) space for a gun safe to provide secure weapons storage, which can be provided behind a locked door in the Operations Facility.

The ADS is responsible for assisting the District with planning, directing, coordinating, and administering its Wildlife Program to efficiently and effectively reduce adverse wildlife-related impacts to agriculture, property, and natural resources, and to reduce wildlife impacts on human

health and safety. The ADS assists cooperative agencies to effectively and efficiently implement established wildlife damage management techniques as necessary to meet program needs and to address specific environmental and/or economic considerations.

Providing office space in support of the collaborative efforts with the USDA is likely to result in benefits to the District, including reduced travel time, and the associated expenses, when the ADS is conducting District-related activities. Specifically, the reduction of ADS expenditures for transportation from the USDA base of operations at O'Hare Airport will allow a greater proportion of the Great Lakes Research Initiative and other funding to be directed to Blanding's turtle recovery. Other benefits are likely to include greater capacity for the evaluation and monitoring of wildlife damage management and expediting USDA assistance when emergency assistance is required.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Chief Operations Officer, Director of Operations, Director of Public Safety, Corporate Counsel.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF LAKE)

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
REGULAR JUNE MEETING
JUNE 14, 2023**

MISTER PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Your **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** presents herewith “A Resolution Approving an Amendment to a Cooperative Service Agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture,” 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 APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO A COOPERATIVE SERVICE
AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

WHEREAS, the District has entered into a Cooperative Service Agreement (the "Agreement") with the United States Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service-Wildlife Services (the "USDA") to provide deer management and removal services and wildlife damage management services (the "Services"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VII, Section 10 of the Illinois Constitution, the District may contract with U.S. government agencies to obtain or share services; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests and serves the purposes of the District to approve an amendment to the Cooperative Service Agreement in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A (the " Cooperative Service Agreement Amendment");

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. Approval of Cooperative Service Agreement Amendment. The Cooperative Service Agreement Amendment is hereby approved in substantially the form attached hereto.

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 _____, 2023

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2023

Angelo D. Kyle, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

Julie Gragnani, Secretary

Exhibit No. _____

AMENDMENT No. 2
To
COOPERATIVE SERVICE AGREEMENT
Between
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT (LCFPD)
And
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE (APHIS)
WILDLIFE SERVICES (WS)

Under the provisions of Article 3, paragraph 3 and Article 12 of the Cooperative Service Agreement (20-7217-3294-RA as amended) between LCFPD and the APHIS WS program for providing operational assistance in implementing an integrated wildlife damage management program within Lake County, Illinois, the LCFPD and APHIS WS mutually agree amend Article 4 to add sub-article 10 as reflected below:

10: To provide office space for the APHIS WS Assistant District Supervisor at the LCFPD Operations and Public Safety Facility in Lindenhurst, IL, while conducting activities in accordance with this Agreement at no cost to APHIS WS or APHIS WS staff.

It is further understood by and between the parties that, in all other respects, the terms, conditions, and provisions of said Cooperative Service Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

BY: _____ Date _____
Alex Ty Kovach, Executive Director
Lake County Forest Preserves
1899 West Winchester Road
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 367-6640 (office)
(847) 367-6649 (fax)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
WILDLIFE SERVICES

BY: _____ Date _____
Scott Beckerman, State Director
USDA, APHIS, WS
3430 Constitution Drive; Suite 121
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 241-6700 (office)
(217) 241-6702 (fax)

BY: _____ Date _____
Keith Wehner, Director
Eastern Region
USDA, APHIS, WS
920 Main Campus Drive; Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27606