



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES

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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: April 6, 2015

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

S. Michael Rummel, Chair
Finance and Administrative Committee

FROM: James L. Anderson, Director
Natural Resources

SUBJECT: Agreements with Lake Michigan Watershed Partners for Lake Michigan Invasive Plant Strike Team Project

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a Resolution approving eleven (11) agreements with Lake Michigan Watershed Partners for the administration of a Sustain Our Great Lakes Stewardship Grant.

BACKGROUND: Since 2011, owners of land within the Chiwaukee Illinois Beach Lake Plain (Lake Plain), that include the Lake County Forest Preserve District (District), Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Nature Conservancy, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin –Parkside, the Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, John Mansville, and Exelon, have worked together to implement coordinated invasive plant management through the Lake Plain Invasive Plant Strike Team to protect and restore the biodiversity of this important coastal ecosystem. In 2014, this partnership was expanded to include other public and non-profit owners of coastal natural areas in Lake County, including: Waukegan Park District, Park District of Highland Park, the City of Lake Forest, Openlands, Lake Forest Openlands Association, Lake Bluff Park District, Lake Bluff Openlands Association, the Northeast Invasive Plant Network and the Chicago Botanic Garden (hereafter referred to as Partners). Together, with the District as the lead organization, the Partners developed a proposal to the Sustain Our Great Lakes Stewardship grant program to implement invasive plant management across all coastal natural areas in the Lake Michigan watershed in Lake County, Illinois and southern Kenosha County in Wisconsin through a Lake Michigan Watershed Invasive Plant Strike Team.

In September 2014, the District was awarded a Sustain Our Great Lakes grant in the amount of \$397,265.00 to implement the Lake Michigan Watershed Invasive Plant Strike Team. To demonstrate commitment to the project, many of the Partners committed in-kind match contributions, totaling \$149,500. Work at Partner lands will directly benefit the ongoing restoration of Spring Bluff Forest Preserve, Lyons Woods Forest Preserve, Greenbelt Forest Preserve, and Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve by reducing invasive plant populations adjacent to the District's Forest Preserves in the Lake Michigan watershed. Pursuant to the attached agreements with the Partners, the District will administer grant funds being provided for the work on lands owned by each Partner, while requiring each Partner to provide oversight and project management of the work and track and report in-kind match contributions for grant reporting purposes.

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: These Agreements do not obligate the District financially. Funding for the Work on Partner lands will be 100% provided by a Sustain Our Great Lakes Grant, awarded September 8, 2014.

PRESENTER: James L. Anderson

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
 COUNTY OF LAKE)

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
 REGULAR APRIL MEETING
 APRIL 14, 2015**

MADAM PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Your **PLANNING AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE** and **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE** present herewith “A Resolution approving agreements with Lake Michigan Watershed Partners for administration of a Sustain Our Great Lakes Stewardship Grant,” and request its adoption.

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

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

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENTS WITH LAKE MICHIGAN WATERSHED PARTNERS FOR
ADMINISTRATION OF A SUSTAIN OUR GREAT LAKES STEWARDSHIP GRANT**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) owns certain properties known as Spring Bluff, Lyons Woods, Greenbelt, and Fort Sheridan Forest Preserves in Lake County, Illinois that are adjacent to other natural areas owned by other entities, including the Chiwaukee Prairie State Natural Area in Kenosha County, Wisconsin, the Illinois Beach State Park, McCormick Ravine, Lakeshore Preserve, and various other ravines and coastal bluffs in Lake County, Illinois (collectively, the “Lake Michigan Watershed”); and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the District was awarded a Sustain Our Great Lakes Grant in the amount of \$397,265.00 (the “Grant”) for the restoration of critical Lake Michigan natural communities within the watershed, which includes invasive species removal (the “Work”) in collaboration with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Nature Conservancy, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin –Parkside, the Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Waukegan Park District, Park District of Highland Park, the City of Lake Forest, Openlands, Lake Forest Openlands Association, Lake Bluff Park District, Lake Bluff Openlands Association, and the Northeast Invasive Plant Network (collectively, the “Partners”); and

WHEREAS, agreements between the District and the Partners are required to allow the District to administer grant funds for the Work on lands owned by each Partner, while requiring each Partner to provide oversight and project management of the work and track and report in-kind match contributions for grant reporting purposes (the “Agreements”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 10 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, units of local government, such as the District may contract or otherwise associate with other states to obtain or share services and to exercise, combine, or transfer any power or function, in any manner not prohibited by law or ordinance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 5 ILCS 220/1 et seq., any power, privilege, function, or authority exercised by a public agency of the State of Illinois, including the District, may be exercised, combined, transferred, and enjoyed jointly with any other public agency of Illinois or any other state, to the extent not prohibited by law;

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 the Agreements. The Agreements are hereby approved in substantially the forms attached hereto.

Section 3. Execution of the Agreements. The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreements.

Section 4. 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 _____