

**DATE:** March 4, 2024

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

**FROM:** Pati Vitt  
Director of Natural Resources

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the Purchase of Trees and Shrubs for various Forest Preserves to Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. in the Contract Price of \$35,179.00.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED:** Conservation

**FINANCIAL DATA:** The District-wide Reforestation project was approved as part of the adopted FY24 Capital Improvement Plan in the amount of \$100,000.00. This portion of the project (purchase of trees) was estimated at \$60,000.00. The contract price of the proposed contract is \$35,179.00 which will be charged to the District-wide Reforestation account (1114100-803200-60008).

No other vendor submitted low bids exceeding \$30,000.00; the acceptance of the low bids from those vendors (totaling \$21,997.95) does not require Committee and Board approval. Combined with the proposed contract, the total of the low bids is \$57,176.95, which will be charged to the District-wide Reforestation account (1114100-803200-60008).

**BACKGROUND:** The District implements a reforestation program to (i) restore historically altered or degraded lands to their natural condition as forest, woodland, and savanna communities, (ii) reduce habitat fragmentation, (iii) restore woodland connectivity, (iv) enhance wildlife habitat, and (v) improve the aesthetic quality of its preserves. In the fall of 2024, 1,907 native trees and shrubs will be installed at Prairie Wolf, Grant Woods, Ethel’s Woods, Oak-Hickory, and Van Patten Woods Forest Preserves and will be used to support smaller volunteer-led projects throughout the District, across approximately 60 acres. In addition, 109 trees will be purchased for the 2024 Oaktober tree sale. The proceeds of the tree sale are returned to the Reforestation Account, and any unsold trees are planted by staff or volunteers in the preserves.

The project was advertised on January 22, 2024, and bids were received from five bidders each of which submitted bids on multiple species. Materials were bid on a unit price per species. The low bidders and their total bids are listed below:

<b><u>BIDDER WITH TOTAL BIDS EXCEEDING \$30,000.00</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL LOW BIDS</u></b>
Possibility Place Nursery	\$ 35,179.00

**LOW BIDDERS WITH TOTAL LOW BIDS LESS THAN  
OR EQUAL TO \$30,000.00**

Majestic Oaks Nursery	\$ 17,393.75
Johnson’s Nursery	\$ 4,220.00
Fiore Nursery and Landscape Supply	\$ 384.20

Staff recommends that Possibility Place Nursery be awarded a contract as the lowest responsible bidder for the species for which it was the low bidder. Possibility Place Nursery submitted low bids totaling greater than \$30,000.00, thus requiring Committee recommendation and Board approval of the contract.

Delivery is anticipated to begin in September 2024 and be completed by October 2024.

For this project, staff has already awarded contracts to Majestic Oaks Nursery, Johnson’s Nursery and Fiore Nursery and Landscape Supply, with contract prices equal to their low bids.

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



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

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT  
FOR TREE AND SHRUB PURCHASES FOR MULTIPLE PRESERVES**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) has advertised in The Lake County News Sun for sealed bids for the purchase of Trees and Shrubs identified on Exhibit A (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 February 5, 2024 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 for the Products submitted by Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. and identified on Exhibit A (the “Bids”) and recommend that the Board of Commissioners finds Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. to be the lowest responsible bidder for the Products, and awards a contract for the Products to Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. (the “Contract”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. is the lowest responsible bidder for the Products;

**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 part of this Resolution by this reference.

**Section 2: Award of Contract.** The Bids in the total amount of \$35,179.00 (the “Contract Price”) are hereby accepted and a Contract for the Products in the amount of the Contract Price is hereby awarded to Possibility Place Nursery, Inc.

**Section 3: Execution of Contract.** The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract in the amount of the Contract Price.

**Section 4: Payments.** The District Treasurer shall make payments under the Contract only pursuant to and in accordance with the Contract’s 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

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Angelo D. Kyle, President  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

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Julie Gragnani, Secretary  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

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

EXHIBIT A

Species	Common Name	Size	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
<b>PRAIRIE WOLF</b>					
Carpinus caroliniana	MUSCLEWOOD	5-Gallon	5	\$25.00	\$125.00
Celtis occidentalis	HACKBERRY	1"	1	\$75.00	\$75.00
Crataegus mollis	DOWNY HAWTHORN	5-Gallon	10	\$35.00	\$350.00
Juglans cinerea	BUTTERNUT	5-Gallon	2	\$30.00	\$60.00
Malus ioensis	IOWA CRAB	5-Gallon	9	\$26.00	\$234.00
Ostrya virginiana	HOP HORNBEAM	5-Gallon	4	\$26.00	\$104.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	1"	1	\$68.00	\$68.00
Quercus bicolor	SWAMP WHITE OAK	1"	7	\$75.00	\$525.00
Quercus macrocarpa	BUR OAK	1"	8	\$68.00	\$544.00
Quercus velutina	BLACK OAK	1"	3	\$75.00	\$225.00
Cephalanthus occidentalis	BUTTONBUSH	1-Gallon	12	\$20.00	\$240.00
Ilex verticillata	WINTERBERRY	5-Gallon	7	\$26.00	\$182.00
Lonicera prolifera	YELLOW HONEYSUCKLE	5-Gallon	2	\$26.00	\$52.00
Prunus americana	WILD PLUM	5-Gallon	2	\$26.00	\$52.00
Ribes americanum	WILD BLACK CURRANT	1-Gallon	20	\$20.00	\$400.00
Ribes missouriense	WILD GOOSEBERRY	1-Gallon	6	\$20.00	\$120.00
Rosa setigera	ILLINOIS ROSE	1-Gallon	6	\$20.00	\$120.00
Salix humilis	PRAIRIE WILLOW	5-Gallon	7	\$26.00	\$182.00
Spiraea alba	MEADOWSWEET	1-Gallon	10	\$20.00	\$200.00
<b>TOTAL PRAIRIE WOLF</b>			<b>122</b>		<b>\$3,888.00</b>

<b>GRANT WOODS</b>					
Carya cordiformis	BITTERNUT HICKORY	5-Gallon	2	\$25.00	\$50.00
Crataegus mollis	DOWNY HAWTHORN	5-Gallon	31	\$35.00	\$1,085.00
Malus ioensis	IOWA CRAB	5-Gallon	20	\$26.00	\$520.00
Prunus serotina	WILD BLACK CHERRY	5-Gallon	1	\$30.00	\$30.00
Prunus serotina	WILD BLACK CHERRY	1"	1	\$75.00	\$75.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	1"	21	\$68.00	\$1,428.00
Quercus ellipsoidalis	HILLS OAK	1"	11	\$75.00	\$825.00
Quercus macrocarpa	BUR OAK	1"	34	\$68.00	\$2,312.00
Quercus velutina	BLACK OAK	1"	17	\$75.00	\$1,275.00
Corylus americana	AMERICAN HAZELNUT	5-Gallon	28	\$26.00	\$728.00
Lonicera prolifera	YELLOW HONEYSUCKLE	5-Gallon	3	\$26.00	\$78.00
Prunus americana	WILD PLUM	5-Gallon	32	\$26.00	\$832.00
Salix humilis	PRAIRIE WILLOW	5-Gallon	12	\$26.00	\$312.00
<b>TOTAL GRANT WOODS</b>			<b>213</b>		<b>\$9,550.00</b>

<b>ETHEL'S WOODS</b>					
Carya cordiformis	BITTERNUT HICKORY	5-Gallon	2	\$25.00	\$50.00
Malus ioensis	IOWA CRAB	5-Gallon	18	\$26.00	\$468.00
Prunus serotina	WILD BLACK CHERRY	1"	1	\$75.00	\$75.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	5-Gallon	2	\$26.00	\$52.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	1"	9	\$68.00	\$612.00
Quercus ellipsoidalis	HILLS OAK	1"	4	\$75.00	\$300.00
Quercus macrocarpa	BUR OAK	1"	19	\$68.00	\$1,292.00
Quercus velutina	BLACK OAK	1"	1	\$75.00	\$75.00
Corylus americana	AMERICAN HAZELNUT	5-Gallon	70	\$26.00	\$1,820.00
Lonicera prolifera	YELLOW HONEYSUCKLE	5-Gallon	19	\$26.00	\$494.00
<b>TOTAL ETHEL'S WOODS</b>			<b>145</b>		<b>\$5,238.00</b>

**EXHIBIT A**

Species	Common Name	Size	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
<b>ROLLINS SAVANNA</b>					
Malus ioensis	IOWA CRAB	5-Gallon	2	\$26.00	\$52.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	5-Gallon	4	\$26.00	\$104.00
Corylus americana	AMERICAN HAZELNUT	5-Gallon	6	\$26.00	\$156.00
Ribes americanum	WILD BLACK CURRANT	1-Gallon	4	\$20.00	\$80.00
Ribes missouriense	WILD GOOSEBERRY	1-Gallon	5	\$20.00	\$100.00
Rosa setigera	ILLINOIS ROSE	1-Gallon	2	\$20.00	\$40.00
<b>TOTAL ROLLINS SAVANNA</b>			<b>23</b>		<b>\$532.00</b>

<b>OAK-HICKORY</b>					
Carya cordiformis	BITTERNUT HICKORY	5-Gallon	7	\$25.00	\$175.00
Malus ioensis	IOWA CRAB	5-Gallon	11	\$26.00	\$286.00
Ostrya virginiana	HOP HORNBEAM	5-Gallon	3	\$26.00	\$78.00
Prunus serotina	WILD BLACK CHERRY	1"	3	\$75.00	\$225.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	1"	49	\$68.00	\$3,332.00
Quercus ellipsoidalis	HILLS OAK	1"	7	\$75.00	\$525.00
Quercus macrocarpa	BUR OAK	1"	26	\$68.00	\$1,768.00
Quercus rubra	RED OAK	1"	23	\$75.00	\$1,725.00
Quercus velutina	BLACK OAK	1"	7	\$75.00	\$525.00
Tilia americana	AMERICAN LINDEN	5-Gallon	1	\$30.00	\$30.00
Corylus americana	AMERICAN HAZELNUT	5-Gallon	54	\$26.00	\$1,404.00
Prunus americana	WILD PLUM	5-Gallon	12	\$26.00	\$312.00
<b>TOTAL OAK HICKORY</b>			<b>203</b>		<b>\$10,385.00</b>

<b>VAN PATTEN</b>					
Ostrya virginiana	HOP HORNBEAM	5-Gallon	10	\$26.00	\$260.00
Ribes americanum	WILD BLACK CURRANT	1-Gallon	30	\$20.00	\$600.00
<b>TOTAL VAN PATTEN</b>			<b>40</b>		<b>\$860.00</b>

<b>OAKTOBER – INDEPENDENCE GROVE</b>					
Carpinus caroliniana	MUSCLEWOOD	5-Gallon	14	\$25.00	\$350.00
Carya cordiformis	BITTERNUT HICKORY	5-Gallon	5	\$25.00	\$125.00
Cercis canadensis	REDBUD	1"/15-Gallon	2	\$85.00	\$170.00
Malus ioensis	IOWA CRAB	5-Gallon	10	\$26.00	\$260.00
Ostrya virginiana	HOP HORNBEAM	5-Gallon	4	\$26.00	\$104.00
Populus grandidentata	LARGE-TOOTHED ASPEN	5-Gallon	3	\$30.00	\$90.00
Prunus serotina	WILD BLACK CHERRY	5-Gallon	3	\$30.00	\$90.00
Prunus serotina	WILD BLACK CHERRY	1"	2	\$75.00	\$150.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	5-Gallon	8	\$26.00	\$208.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	1"	8	\$68.00	\$544.00
Quercus ellipsoidalis	HILLS OAK	1"	4	\$75.00	\$300.00
Quercus macrocarpa	BUR OAK	1"	8	\$68.00	\$544.00
Quercus rubra	RED OAK	1"	9	\$75.00	\$675.00
Quercus velutina	BLACK OAK	1"	5	\$75.00	\$375.00
Tilia americana	AMERICAN LINDEN	1"	3	\$75.00	\$225.00
Corylus americana	AMERICAN HAZELNUT	5-Gallon	15	\$26.00	\$390.00
Salix humilis	PRAIRIE WILLOW	5-Gallon	6	\$26.00	\$156.00
<b>TOTAL OAKTOBER – INDEPENDENCE GROVE</b>			<b>109</b>		<b>\$4,756.00</b>

<b>TOTAL FOR ALL LOCATIONS</b>			<b>855</b>		<b>\$35,179.00</b>
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