

DATE: May 6, 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 Invasive Plant Management at Multiple Forest Preserves to Native Restoration Services Inc., in the Contract Price of \$128,015.00.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED: Conservation

FINANCIAL DATA: The District’s adopted FY2024 Budget provides funding for the projects identified in the table below (the “Projects”). Funding for the Projects comes from the Farm Management Fund (62803) for Middlefork Savanna, SMC Wetland Restoration (65106) for Grainger Woods, Habitat Restoration (60004) for Cuba Marsh, and the Land Management Fund (704800) for Fort Sheridan and the Teasel Only sites.

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ACCOUNT CODE</u>
Grainger Woods	\$49,490.00	69644100-803200-65106
Middlefork	\$19,796.00	28644000-705100-62803
Fort Sheridan	\$14,847.00	27644000-704800
Cuba Marsh	\$16,482.00	11104100-803200-60004
Teasel Control Only	\$27,400.00	27644000-704800

BACKGROUND: Invasive plant management includes the removal of invasive plants from District lands to improve and conserve habitat quality. It is the most time-consuming task faced by District natural restoration crews and is 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. To more efficiently accomplish this work, each year the District hires contractors on an hourly basis to complete several projects to manage herbaceous invasive plants.

In order to undertake the critical work of follow-up invasive species control at sites where significant investments have been made in site restoration, the District advertised for bids for the Projects, which involve season-long control of invasive plants at Grainger Woods, Middlefork Savanna, Fort Sheridan, and Cuba Marsh, and for control of teasel (an invasive flowering plant) at several other preserves.

The Projects were advertised on March 20, 2024, and bids were received from five (5) bidders. Work is anticipated to begin in May and to be completed by December 2024. A summary of the bids received is listed below, with each low bid highlighted:

VENDOR	GRAINGER HERBACEOUS	GRAINGER WOODY	MIDDLEFORK	FORT SHERIDAN	CUBA MARSH	TEASEL CONTROL ONLY
Native Restoration Services, Inc.	\$12,372.50	\$37,117.50	\$19,796.00	\$ 14,847.00	\$16,482.00	\$27,400.00
Baxter & Woodman	\$18,750.00	\$63,750.00	\$30,000.00	\$ 22,500.00	\$22,500.00	\$37,500.00
Pizzo & Associates Ltd	\$23,747.50	\$71,242.50	\$37,996.00	\$ 28,497.00	\$28,497.00	\$47,495.00
Tallgrass Restoration LLC	No Bid	No Bid	\$34,000.00	No Bid	\$25,500.00	\$42,500.00
Semper Fi Land Services	\$20,750.00	\$62,250.00	\$33,200.00	\$24,900.00	\$24,900.00	\$41,500.00

Staff recommends that the Board finds that Native Restoration Services Inc. is the lowest responsible bidder for all of the Projects and awards a contract to Native Restoration Services Inc.

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

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

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO
NATIVE RESTORATION SERVICES, INC FOR INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) has advertised in The Lake County News Sun for sealed bids for Invasive Plant Management at Multiple Forest Preserves (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 April 3, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. local time and such bids are summarized on Exhibit A; 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 (i) finds that Native Restoration Services, Inc. is the lowest responsible bidder for the Work and (ii) awards a contract for the Work (the “Contract”) to Native Restoration Services, Inc. in the total amount of \$128,015.00 (the “Contract Price); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that Native Restoration Services, Inc. is the lowest responsible bidder for the 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 submitted by Native Restoration Services, Inc. in the total amount of \$128,015.00 (the "Contract Price") is hereby accepted and a Contract for the Work is hereby awarded to Native Restoration Services, Inc.

Section 3: Execution of Contracts. The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract for the Work 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 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.

Angelo D. Kyle, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

Julie Gagnani, Secretary
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. _____

EXHIBIT A

Bid# 24019

Invasive Plant Management - Multiple Preserves

SITE	NATIVE RESTORATION SERVICES, INC.	BAXTER & WOODMAN	PIZZO & ASSOCIATES, LTD	TALLGRASS RESTORATION LLC	SEMPER FI LAND SERVICES
GRAINGER - HERBACEOUS	\$12,372.50	\$18,750.00	\$23,747.50	NO BID	\$20,750.00
GRAINGER - WOODY	\$37,117.50	\$63,750.00	\$71,242.50	NO BID	\$62,250.00
MIDDLEFORK	\$19,796.00	\$30,000.00	\$37,996.00	\$34,000.00	\$33,200.00
FORT SHERIDAN	\$14,847.00	\$22,500.00	\$28,497.00	NO BID	\$24,900.00
CUBA MARSH	\$16,482.00	\$22,500.00	\$28,497.00	\$25,500.00	\$24,900.00
TEASEL CONTROL ONLY	\$27,400.00	\$37,500.00	\$47,495.00	\$42,500.00	\$41,500.00
	\$128,015.00				