

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION**  
**FEBRUARY 20, 2018 – 6:04 PM**  
**PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON PRESIDING**

1. Karen Kinney, County Clerk, called the roll: (Record)

R. Brunk, L. Burns, K. Callaway-Thompson, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, K. Maranda, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, S. Noyd, C. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, V. Shelton, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, M. Steffen, S. Terry, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl, M. Maranda

**TOTAL PRESENT 24**

P. Moreno

**TOTAL ABSENT 1**

2. President Swanson introduced Bill Nelson, who spoke about the activities of the Community Advisory Board at Niabi Zoo.

Mr. Nelson stated, "Very good! Thank you. First of all, I am pleased to represent the Community Advisory Board as its Chairman and to report to the Rock Island County Forest Preserve our activities to date. Excuse me; I am going to put on glasses because I am semi-blind otherwise once in a while. First of all, I want to thank the Forest Preserve Commission for enabling a group of citizens who you selected to study and recommend direction on items of interest that pertain to Niabi Zoo. We understand we serve the Forest Preserve District and Niabi Zoo, in particular. It is our intent to serve the community as a community support group for the Zoo and the Forest Preserve Commission. It is also an opportunity for the Forest Preserve Commission to enable a group of citizens to become the experts on the operation of the zoo. Through the use of the CAB, ideas, plans, expansions and fundraising can be vetted before coming for a vote for the Forest Preserve District. It is an opportunity for the commission to request a recommendation from the CAB on issues that pertain to the zoo with the understanding that all final actions are determined by the Forest Preserve Commission. With the desire of the government to be more open and factious, this is a good model for input. I also wish to commend the commission on the selection on the CAB Members. It is a diverse group that comes from several walks of life and includes a good representation of our citizens. Now, on with our report. Our first meeting was held on November 13, 2017, when officers were selected and a range of topics were discussed; plus a report from the Zoo Director. One of the very first topics of interest was the fees for the zoo. And I made the recommendation that we support the report of the Zoo Director for an increase of fees. The Chairman of the Forest Preserve also provided us with some background information on how and why the CAB was formed and what our purpose was. The first few meetings helped us get our feet under us. We identified who could attend meetings. And in the case of some of the CAB, and

they understanding the CAB, did not match up for them personally. As a result, there are some vacancies on the Board that can be filled. And, I have relayed those to the Chairman. The CAB will also have met a total of four times as a result of this report. Our last meeting was last night. So, the direction is becoming more focused as we move along in a fairly short time. As noted before, fees were an early topic with quite a bit of discussion. While there is a desire for the zoo to be affordable, it is equally important for the fees are competitive with other recreational outlets and to pay the bills at the zoo. There is a recognition that there are several opportunities for the economically disadvantaged to have access to the zoo. But, the greater issue is transportation and a personal adult desire to attend the zoo with children. Future discussion will be on how to target those individuals that do not have the resources to get to the zoo and find ways to get that experience into their wheelhouse. The vast majority of individuals, who would come to the zoo, have the resources to pay the entry fee that supports the operations of the zoo. Another topic that was discussed that had general agreement was the Vision and Missions Statement for the CAB. These are certainly not final, but they helped us to move along with our meetings. The Vision is: It is the vision on the Niabi Zoo Community Advisory Board to assist and developing an outstanding Zoological Park Attraction. The Mission of the Niabi Zoo Advisory Board is to support and advise the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District with an effort to provide a first class experience for visitors and quality care for the collections. While we are still in our infancy as a Board, some of the topics on our current and future agendas cover the following: 1) Options for increasing revenue or tenants, which results in improved operational funds. 2) Review of the Forest Preserve survey, provided by MindFire and how it relates to the zoo. 3) Discussion and review of the Master Plan for the zoo. 4) Possible additional surveys to the zoo and the community desires. 5) And reports from the Zoo Director and staff on operations of the zoo. As a means of communication of the zoo, we will also provide minutes of our meetings with the Forest Preserve Commission and we encourage the commission to send matters of concern that you have for the future of the zoo. Our purpose is to be a sounding board that promotes Niabi Zoo as a group of citizens and we thank you for that opportunity. If you have questions, please let me know. Like I said, we have just gotten started, but I have to tell you I am really encouraged at how much have been discussed in a very short time and the willingness of the committee to delve into these. They are very strong supporters of the zoo and they want to see good things happen."

Commissioner Oelke was recognized.

Mr. Oelke asked, "Just a quick one... How many vacancies...you mentioned there were vacancies. How many are there?"

Mr. Nelson answered, "I believe we have three at the present time."

Commissioner Morthland was recognized.

Mr. Morthland stated, "I just want to thank you for your community service. You've been at this quite a while and we really appreciate it greatly."

Mr. Nelson stated, "I really enjoy this. The zoo and the Forest Preserve have been one of those things that I want to see do well in our community. Some of you know that I have been active with other stuff and I will continue to do so."

President Swanson stated, "That's an understatement. Are there any other questions?"

Commissioner Mayberry was recognized.

Ms. Mayberry asked, "First of all, thanks for your dedication to this and for being willing to volunteer your time. If you didn't already say this, what is kind of on your guys' agenda right now and the next things you are going to tackle?"

Mr. Nelson stated, "The next big thing we are looking at is the Master Plan. I think we see, as that comes out, will recognize some of the primary projects we want to work and support. We would like to follow up on some additional survey items that we have to vet out, information from MindFire to see what we can do to specifically ask some questions of the community that pertain to the zoo. And those are probably going to lead us to the idea of additional fund-raising. That is actually on our next agenda to talk about the (501-c3). So, like you say...this is moving very quickly for an advisory group that is really looking to support the zoo. "

Ms. Mayberry stated, "Great. Thank you."

President Swanson stated, "While Mr. Nelson is here, I would just build on his report and as you know, we have more people expressing interest in serving than we had spaces. So, we have a bullpen, if you will...I would like to invite the Commissioners, if you have heard from constituents since we have established the CAB who are now interested in it, please forward those names to me and I would invite you please, if you do so, to copy Mr. Craver and if you like, the other Members of the Executive Committee would be happy to work with Mr. Nelson on getting those positions filled. No other questions for Mr. Nelson? I would like to express thanks for everything you do."

Mr. Nelson stated, "Thank you."

(Group Applause)

3. Commissioner Morthland moved to approve the January 18, 2017, Commission Minutes. Commissioner Maranda seconded.

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: (None)**

5. Commissioner Maranda moved to approve the Forest Preserve claims @ \$31,031.83, Niabi Zoo Fund claims @ \$95,774.42, the Liability Fund claims @ \$370.00. Commissioners Shelton and Langdon seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

R. Brunk, L. Burns, K. Callaway-Thompson, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, K. Maranda, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, S. Noyd, C. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, V. Shelton, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, M. Steffen, S. Terry, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

6. Commissioner O'Brien moved to approve the Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$27,959.11. Commissioners L. Moreno and Sowards seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

R. Brunk, L. Burns, K. Callaway-Thompson, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, K. Maranda, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, S. Noyd, C. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, V. Shelton, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, M. Steffen, S. Terry, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

7. Commissioner Deppe moved to waive the reading and approve the Settlement Agreement regarding the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Plant assessment, as presented. Commissioner Vyncke seconded.

(Note\*\* The Resolution is in a .pdf format and begins on the next page.)

Rock Island County Forest Preserve District

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL AND EXECUTION OF  
QUAD CITIES POWER STATION REAL PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT  
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, Rock Island County Forest Preserve District (hereinafter referred to as the "Taxing District") is an Illinois Taxing District, organized and existing pursuant to Illinois law, and is involved in litigation with Exelon Generation Company, LLC and MidAmerican Energy Company (collectively the "Property Owner") (hereinafter referred to as the "Litigation"); and

WHEREAS, the subject of the Litigation is the assessed value of the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, Parcel No. 03-18-200-001 for Tax Years 2017 through 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Taxing District has a financial interest in and jurisdiction to levy taxes against the parcel listed above and believes it is in its best interest to resolve all of the real property assessment valuation disputes by negotiation; and

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to resolve all real property assessment valuation disputes regarding the Subject Property including cases and disputes involving tax years 2017 through 2023 as shown in the Quad Cities Power Station Real Property Tax Assessment Settlement Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:**

**Section 1.** The Board hereby authorizes its Commission President to execute the attached Quad Cities Power Station Real Property Tax Assessment Settlement Agreement, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit A, and subject only to final approval of the Board's legal counsel.

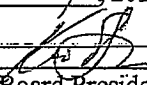
**Section 2.** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

AYES:

NAYS:

PRESENT:

ADOPTED this 20th day of February, 2018.

  
Board President

ATTEST:

  
Board Secretary

Commissioner Simmer was recognized.

Mr. Simmer asked, "This is for Moose... Is this the last time around?"

Mr. Maranda answered, "Yes, it then goes to the Board of Review and now, they will take it today in court and we're done."

Mr. Simmer stated, "Okay, thank you."

A roll call vote was taken.

R. Brunk, L. Burns, K. Callaway-Thompson, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, K. Maranda, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, S. Noyd, C. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, V. Shelton, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, M. Steffen, S. Terry, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

8. Commissioner O'Brien moved to waive the reading and approve the Niabi Zoo Concessions Agreement, as presented. Commissioners Vyncke and Sowards seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

R. Brunk, L. Burns, K. Callaway-Thompson, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, K. Maranda, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, S. Noyd, C. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, V. Shelton, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, M. Steffen, S. Terry, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

9. Commissioner Brunk moved to waive the reading and approve the Resolution regarding Beverage Exclusivity Agreement, as presented. Commissioner Cremeens seconded.

Commissioner Simmer was recognized.

Mr. Simmer asked, "What one was that?"

President Swanson answered, "This was the thing right here, and we do have hard copies over there if anybody else would like to see them. This is with the AD Huesing Corp. We had an earlier agreement that was with a different vendor. We are trying to get a couple things in and AD Huesing is the umbrella vendor."

Mr. Simmer asked, "This is local, right?"

President Swanson answered, "Yes...right."

A roll call vote was taken.

R. Brunk, L. Burns, K. Callaway-Thompson, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, K. Maranda, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, S. Noyd, C. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, V. Shelton, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, M. Steffen, S. Terry, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

10. Commissioner Vyncke moved to approve the Non-Monetary Policy, as presented. Commissioners O'Brien and L. Moreno seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

R. Brunk, L. Burns, K. Callaway-Thompson, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, K. Maranda, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, S. Noyd, C. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, V. Shelton, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, M. Steffen, S. Terry, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

11. Commissioner O'Brien moved to approve the Identity Protection Policy, as presented. Commissioner Vyncke seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

R. Brunk, L. Burns, K. Callaway-Thompson, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, K. Maranda, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, S. Noyd, C. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, V. Shelton, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, M. Steffen, S. Terry, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

12. Commissioner L. Moreno moved to approve the revised March Commission Meeting Date to March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Commissioner Cremeens seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

R. Brunk, L. Burns, K. Callaway-Thompson, D. Cremeens, J. Deppe, D. Johnston, E. Langdon, K. Maranda, M. Mayberry, D. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, S. Noyd, C. O'Brien, R. Oelke, R. Reagan, V. Shelton, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, M. Steffen, S. Terry, B. Vyncke, J.R. Westpfahl

**TOTAL YES 23**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

13. Commissioner Terry moved to approve all the Routine Reports from the Director and Department Heads of the Forest Preserve Commission. Commissioner Callaway-Thompson seconded. (Record)

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

President Swanson stated, "Just a couple of notes from the Executive Committee and my fellow Executive Committee Members are certainly welcome to weigh in. Some things have come up; you may have noticed Niabi have launched a speaker series. And, if you are a member, we hope you are all members of Niabi Zoo that grants you free admission. The first one was a tremendous success. I want to thank County Board Chairman Maranda for being there for that. It was outstanding and there are two more in the pipeline. Note that Illiniwek is going to be offering bike rental at the beginning of the summer. That's going to be a great addition to their services...not mountain bikes; this is for road bikes on the path. There is a little bit too much insurance in

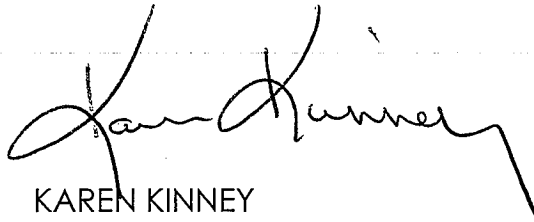


the mountain bikes. And then, one of the things we want you to be thinking about is...in order to bring our game up to the next level, Mr. Craver has challenged us as a commission to take a challenge of the advantage of the Illinois Association of park districts board evaluation and distinguished accreditation. Please note the email came from Mr. Craver. Take a look at that. There will be a little investment of time on our part, but this will be a very significant recognition for the work of the staff and we are backing them up as a governance body."

The next meeting of the Forest Preserve Commission is Tuesday, March 27, 2018, immediately following the meeting of the Rock Island County Board meeting.

President Swanson declared the Forest Preserve Meeting recessed.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Kinney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

KAREN KINNEY  
COUNTY CLERK AND SECRETARY  
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

KK: rw