

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION  
ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS PUBLIC HEARING  
JUNE 17TH, 2025 – 6:14 PM  
PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON - PRESIDING**

President Swanson stated, "Thank you. Thank you very much. Good evening ladies and gentlemen, before we get started on the main meeting, we've got another bit of business to do here. I'd like to move to open the Appropriations Public Hearing of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District for the Fiscal Year, beginning the first day of July, 2025, and ending the last day of June, 2026. I will ask the Clerk to please call roll."

1. Karen Kinney, County Clerk, called the roll:

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL PRESENT      15**

E. Dewith, T. Foster, P. McNeil, M. Moreno-Baker

**TOTAL ABSENT      4**

President Swanson stated, "Thank you. Publication of such hearing that occurred on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Rock Island Argus Daily Dispatch, the newspaper of general circulation in Rock Island County. The only order of business here is to conduct an Appropriations Public Hearing as provided by statute for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Forest Preserve Appropriation Ordinances. I will make 3 calls to the public. If anyone wishes to address the Forest Preserve Commission with regard to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Appropriation Ordinances, that have been on public display in the office of the County Clerk, for the past 30 days. I will make a first call for anyone wishing to address the Forest Preserve Commission with reference to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Appropriation Ordinances. I will make a second call. I will make a third and final call. Let the record state, I made three calls to the public with regard to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Forest Preserve Appropriation Ordinances, and that those wishing to address the Commission had an opportunity to do so. I now ask for a motion to close the hearing."

President Swanson stated, "And, unfortunately, this will require a roll call vote...so, I...let's see, that was to show who is Present. So, we have to do a Roll Call, please, Madam Clerk."

Madam Clerk Kinney stated, "Okay, but this is to close?"

President Swanson confirmed, "This is to close the Public Hearing."

Madam Clerk Kinney stated, "Okay, I had to make a move on it...hang on."

President Swanson stated, "Oh yeah, we need a motion...Mr. Vyncke moves and Mr. Burns seconds."

A roll call vote was taken.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried. (The Public Hearing is closed at 6:16pm.)

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**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION  
JUNE 17TH, 2025 – 6:16 PM  
PRESIDENT KAI SWANSON - PRESIDING**

2. President Swanson stated, "With apologies to members of the public, but this is how the slow work of ethical government takes place. So, we don't get slighted on anything, I'm now going to ask the Forest Preserve Commission to be called to order. And, seeing no objection, I will ask that the establishing roll be the first roll for vote as well. Seeing no objection, I will ask the Clerk to call roll to open the Commission Meeting."

(Time is 6:16pm)

County Clerk Kinney stated, "I just do as I'm told."

Karen Kinney, County Clerk, called the roll:

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL PRESENT 15**

E. Dewith, T. Foster, P. McNeil, M. Moreno-Baker

**TOTAL ABSENT 4**

President Swanson stated, "Thank you. Our first order of business tonight, I'd like to introduce you all to Rocio Ayard Ochoa, who is here from the Quad Cities Community Foundation. We're very grateful for your time, and this is an important partner for the Commission, in raising philanthropy, and pulling private dollars on behalf of our Forest Preserve Commission. Ms. Ayard Ochoa, the floor is yours."

Ms. Ayard Ochoa stated, "Thank you for having me. Again, my name is Rocio. First of all, thank you all for being our partner. I represent the Quad Cities Community Foundation. I'm the Director of Engagement. My supervisor, Anne Calder couldn't be here tonight, so I will represent her as well, and talk to you a little bit about the Quad Cities Community Foundation, but most importantly, I would like to talk to you about a new tax incentive that effects some of our residents. So first, we've been in existence for 60 years. We started in 1964 with a group of volunteers and we created this charitable organization. Our main mission is to provide dollars into the community, to work with families, donors, non-profit organizations who want to make an impact in the community and guide their philanthropic goals. And so, by doing that, we provide scholarships, we provide grants to non-profit organizations, and really, our ultimate goal is to create change and to transform the region through charitable giving. I will talk about the Illinois Gifts Tax Credit Program. You all should have a hand-out in front of you, and there are three reasons why this program started. It's brand new to the State of Illinois. It was created just this year, with the specific goal to encourage charitable giving. The hope is that through this tax credit, folks in our state are able to be incentivized to give to endowments. It also provides a community benefit, so contributions help fund programs and projects in the community. And of course, the third, is that it has a personal tax savings incentive for folks. It offers a 25% state income tax credit, which is different than the deduction that folks receive through charitable giving. It is awarded at a first-come, first-serve basis, and folks do have to apply. It offers a maximum annual credit of \$100,000 per individual, or up to \$200,000 per couple. Anybody that pays Illinois taxes, can claim this tax credit. It is not transferable or refundable, but it can be carried-over up to five years. And so why is this important? It's very important because tax payers can give to an endowment and can receive this tax credit, for that gift. At the Quad Cities Community Foundation, we're a qualified community foundation that can help all of the taxpayers through the process and we help them through the application process. The funds are limited, so we do encourage folks to act quickly if they are interested in giving to an endowment, to give at the beginning of the year, versus later. I'm going to stop here because you may have questions, and I want to answer them. Again, I do want to thank you for partnering with us. You all do have an endowment with us. I do want to clarify though, the endowment that you all have with us, wouldn't qualify, specifically, for this tax benefit because it does have specific statements in our agreement that does not make it a true endowment, because the funds in the endowment you have with us, can be retracted. So, if this is something of interest to your organization, we can absolutely set a sister fund that would remove that clause, and would make it a true endowment. As long as the funds are not removed, then folks can give, and this is something that you can work with donors to be able to incentivize them."

President Swanson asked, "I know I have a question, and I'm looking around for others, but have you seen an impact already in giving to endowments?"

Ms. Ayard Ochoa stated, "Absolutely. As you all know, the Quad Cities Community Foundation serves Iowa and Illinois. Iowa has had a similar tax credit for the past 20-25 years, and so this is something that we absolutely see our philanthropic values increase because of it. This is our first year in Illinois and we've already seen some traction."

President Swanson asked, "Any other questions? Something we could do with constituents, is if they express interest in supporting things like the Trust that we have for Loud Thunder, Illiniwek, something like that...or even for Niabi Zoo, is to tell them to talk to their financial advisor, who will probably be well-informed about this. It's a pretty robust incentive."

Ms. Ayard Ochoa stated, "It's very substantial."

President Swanson stated, "Yeah. Any other questions? Alright. Well, please accept our thanks for everything that the Community Foundation does. Please express our greetings to Ms. Calder, and friends, if you'll join me in thanking Ms. Ayard Ochoa. Thank you for being with us."

Ms. Ayard Ochoa stated, "Thank you."

(Group Applause)

President Swanson stated, "Alright, at this time, I would entertain a motion to approve the May Commission minutes."

3. Commissioner Adams moved to approve the May Commission minutes, as presented. Commissioner Meilke seconded.

A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS - (NONE)** (Three calls were made.)

5. **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

President Swanson stated, "Just a couple of things on President's Comments, the weather has been well today was a little warm, but for the most part, pretty nice and fairly dry. Folks have been out enjoying our preserves. I hope you've had a chance to get out to Niabi. As fate would have it, I got there twice in the last week. The Big Cat Exhibit is almost done. Ms. Cleo, our beautiful black panther, is chomping at the bit to get outside and enjoy it. But, if you haven't seen those otters, my goodness. If you've got kids or grandkids in your orbit, take them out to see those otters. They are so much fun. I want to salute whoever it was that came

up with the names Tina and Louise. If you're old enough to remember Gilligan's Island, you'll know that those are good names for them. So, we'll have time for questions in the staff reports here in just a moment, but we're going to move on now."

6. Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the Forest Preserve Claims and Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$789,017.42 as presented. Commissioner Burns seconded.

Commissioner Mielke moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Adams seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods  
**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

7. Commissioner Woods moved to approve Transfers of Appropriation, as presented. Commissioner Simmer seconded.

Commissioner Vyncke moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioners Moreno and Perkins seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods  
**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

8. Commissioner Mielke moves to waive the reading and approve the Resolutions regarding the General Fund Transfer of Appropriations to Niabi Zoo Fund, additional Fiscal Year 2025 Appropriation in the Niabi Zoo Fund, Fiscal Year 2025 Niabi Zoo Fund appropriations for Mixed Primate and Otter Exhibit Improvements, the Bike Path Grant Improvements, and Cooling system for the Biodiversity Building at Niabi Zoo. Commissioner Perkins Seconded.

(Note\*\* Resolutions are in .pdf format and begin on the next page.)

**RESOLUTION**

RE: Appropriations to be transferred to Niabi Zoo

**WHEREAS**, additional funds are required in the Forest Preserve Fund #130 to be transferred to the Niabi Zoo Fund #131, and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available from unappropriated funds within the Forest Preserve Fund #130, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County, Rock Island, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1. An emergency exists as outlined above.

SECTION 2. An amount of \$192,251.72 be transferred from unappropriated funds in the Forest Preserve General Fund #130 to the following:

AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION	DESCRIPTION
\$192,251.72	130-32-10 991.74	Transfer to Niabi Zoo

SECTION 3. This Resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025.

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Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

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Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

**RESOLUTION**

RE: Niabi Zoo Fund Additional FY 25 Appropriations

**WHEREAS**, additional funds are required for ARPA project expenses in the Niabi Zoo Fund # 131 for FY 25, and

**WHEREAS**, revenue has been collected over budget including a transfer of funds to be received from the Forest Preserve General Fund & DCFI Fund to the Niabi Zoo Fund #131, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County, Rock Island, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** An emergency exists as outlined above.

**SECTION 2.** An amount of \$280,013.59 be transferred from unappropriated additional revenue funds in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
\$1,248.34	131-32 347.30	Zoo Research & Conservation Fee
\$36,495.36	131-32 361.10	Investment Earnings
\$2,694.34	131-32 361.30	Collector's Interest '90
\$6,998.31	131-32 364.10	Contributions from Private Sources
\$32.00	131-32 392.11	Sales of junk or salvage
\$40,293.52	131-32-35 391.68	Transfer from DCFI Fund
\$192,251.72	131-32-35 391.60	Transfer from General Fund

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
\$280,013.59	131-32-35 767.00	Infrastructure over \$15,000
	ARPA24-60-767	

**SECTION3:** This resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

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Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

## **RESOLUTION**

### **FY 2025 Niabi Zoo Fund Appropriations for Mixed Primate and Otter Exhibit Improvements**

**WHEREAS**, Niabi Zoo will be reimbursed from the Niabi Zoo Foundation for expenses related to the construction of an otter pool within the Biodiversity Building and fencing refurbishment to the mixed primate exhibit at Niabi Zoo, and

**WHEREAS**, expenses and construction on the project have been completed, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County, Rock Island, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1. An emergency exists as outlined above.

SECTION 2. Expenditures in the amount of \$53,966.11 to provide the necessary funds to complete the project in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
\$29,610.00	131-32-08 767	Infrastructure over \$15,000
\$24,356.11	131-32-08 766	Building Remodeling \$2000-\$4,999

SECTION 3. Revenues in the amount of \$53,966.11 shall be increased from a Niabi Zoo Foundation donation to the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 in the following:

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
\$53,966.11	131-32 364.10	Contributions from Private Sources

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

## **RESOLUTION**

### **FY 2025 Development of Forests & Construction Fund-Bike Path Grant Improvements**

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserve District was awarded grant funds to resurface a portion of the Great River Trail in unincorporated Rock Island County, and

**WHEREAS**, a grant award fee is required, and

**WHEREAS**, expenditures for the design and construction documents are forthcoming, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County, Rock Island, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1. An emergency exists as outlined above.

SECTION 2. Funds in the amount of \$8,867.00 are available from unappropriated funds within Fund #335 Development of Forest and Construction of Improvements until the grant award is received to the following:

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
\$8,867.00	335-32-35 765.00 IBPG26-50-765	Construction in Progress

SECTION 3. Revenues in the amount of \$11,624.00 shall be increased from grant funds to be received to the Development of Forests & Construction Fund #335 in the following:

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
\$11,624.00	335-32-35 334.70 IBPG26-00-33470	State Grants-IL Bicycle Path Grant

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

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Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

## **RESOLUTION**

RE: Cooling System for Biodiversity Building at Niabi Zoo

**WHEREAS**, additional funds are required in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to increase the budget for the installation of a cooling system for the biodiversity building at Niabi Zoo, and

**WHEREAS**, (WCGF25) Woodward Community Grant Fund in the amount of \$13,000.00 was awarded and received in October of 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, the Niabi Zoo Foundation will contribute \$8,015.00 to offset the remainder of the project cost, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Forest Preserve Commission of Rock Island County, Rock Island, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1. An emergency exists as outlined above.

SECTION 2. An amount of \$21,015.00 to be transferred from grant funds already received and unencumbered in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
\$13,000.00	131-32-35 337.70 WCGF25	Local Grants-Culture & Recreation
\$8,015.00	131-32-35 364.10 WCGF25	Contributions from Private Sources

SECTION 3. An amount of \$21,015.00 be transferred from the above described revenue received in the Niabi Zoo Fund #131 to the following:

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
\$21,015.00	131-32-35 766.00 WCGF25	Building & Remodeling over \$5000

SECTION 4. This resolution to become effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** by the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, Rock Island County, Illinois, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kai Swanson, President  
Forest Preserve Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Kinney, Secretary  
Forest Preserve Commission

Commissioner Burns moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Simmer seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES            15**

**TOTAL NO            0**

Motion carried.

9. Commissioner Layer moved to approve the revised FY26 Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinances for the General Fund, Niabi Zoological Preserve Fund, IMRF Retirement Fund, Liability Fund, FISSA Fund, Audit Fund, and Development of Forests and Construction of Improvements Fund, as presented. Commissioner Woods seconded.

(Note\*\* Ordinances are in .pdf format and begin on the next page.)

## Forest Preserve District General Fund FY 26 Appropriation Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2025 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2026. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District General Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2025 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2026. The specific amounts of the said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.

Classification	Estimated	Amount From	Amount Raised
Objects & Purposes	Expenditures	Other Sources	From Taxation
Salaries & Wages	\$1,286,698	\$-0-	\$1,286,698
Personnel Benefits	283,505	-0-	283,505
Supplies	376,265	264,295	111,970
Other Services & Charges	444,044	444,044	-0-
Capital Outlay	169,990	169,990	-0-
Debt Service	378,828	378,828	-0-
Transfers	670,072	670,072	-0-0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,609,402</b>	<b>\$1,927,229</b>	<b>\$1,682,173</b>
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2025			<b>\$684,606</b>
Estimated Cash Income: TAXATION			
	Real Property Tax Levy	\$1,682,173	
	OTHER INCOME	<u>\$1,930,927</u>	
			<u>\$3,613,100</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$4,297,706</b>
Estimated Expenditures			<b>\$(3,609,402)</b>
Estimated Cash On Hand as of June 30, 2026			<b>\$688,304</b>

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

## Niabi Zoological Preserve Fund FY 26 Appropriation Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT, NIABI ZOOLOGICAL PRESERVE OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2025 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2026. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Niabi Zoological Preserve Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2025 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2026. The specific amounts are listed and totaled below.

Classification	Estimated	Amt. From	Amt Raised
Objects & Purposes	Expenditures	Other Sources	From Taxation
Salaries & Wages	\$1,783,391	\$113,641	\$1,669,750
Personnel Benefits	325,834	325,834	-0-
Supplies	644,790	644,790	-0-
Other Services & Charges	635,547	635,547	-0-
Capital Outlay	195,000	195,000	-0-
Debt Service	405,250	405,250	-0-
Transfers	180,072	180,072	-0-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,169,884</b>	<b>\$2,500,134</b>	<b>\$1,669,750</b>
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2025			\$80,698
Estimated Cash Income: TAXATION			
	Real Property Tax Levy	\$1,669,750	
	OTHER INCOME	<u>\$3,022,850</u>	
			<u>\$4,692,600</u>
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,773,298</b>
Estimated Expenditures			<b>\$(4,169,884)</b>
Estimated Cash On Hand as of June 30, 2026			<b>\$603,414</b>

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

## IMRF Retirement Fund FY 26 Appropriation Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2025 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2026. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District IMRF Retirement Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2025 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2026. The specified amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.

Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amt. From Other Sources	Amt. Raised From Taxation
Personnel Benefits -Retirement	<u>\$179,797</u>	<u>\$3,100</u>	<u>\$147,494</u>
Total	\$179,797	\$3,100	\$147,494
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2025			\$139,598
Estimated Cash Income:			
	Real Property Tax Levy	\$147,494	
	Other Income	<u>\$3,100</u>	
			<u>\$150,594</u>
TOTAL			\$290,192
Estimated Expenditures			\$(179,797)
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2026			\$110,395

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary, filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

## Liability Insurance Fund FY 26 Appropriation Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2025 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2026. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Liability Insurance Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2025 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2026. The specific amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.

Classification	Estimated	Amt. From	Amt. Raised
Objects & Purposes	Expenditures	Other Sources	From Taxation
Other Services & Chargers-Insur	\$328,750	\$5,100	\$221,240
Transfers	54,2888	-0-	-0-
Total	\$383,038	\$5,100	\$221,240
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2025			\$265,252
Estimated Cash Income:			
Real Property Tax Levy		\$221,240	
Other Income		<u>\$5,100</u>	
			<u>\$226,340</u>
TOTAL			\$491,592
Estimated Expenditures			\$(383,038)
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2026			\$108,554

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary, filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage thereof.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

## FISSA Fund FY 26 Appropriation Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2025 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2026. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Federal Income - Social Security Administration (FISSA) Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2025 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2026. The specific amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.

Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amt. From Other Sources	Amt. Raised From Taxation
Personnel Benefits - FISSA	\$239,869	\$3,100	\$242,311
Total	\$239,869	\$3,100	\$242,311
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2025			\$97,850
Estimated Cash Income:			
	Real Property Tax Levy	\$242,311	
	Other Income	<u>\$3,100</u>	
			<u>\$245,411</u>
TOTAL			\$343,261
Estimated Expenditures			\$(239,869)
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2026			\$103,392

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary, filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage thereof.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

## Audit Fund FY 26 Appropriation Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2025 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2026. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Audit Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2025 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2026. The specific amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.

Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amount From Other Sources	Amount Raised From Taxation
Other Services & Charges - Audit	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,653
Total	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,653
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2025			\$12,330
Estimated Cash Income:			
	Real Property Tax Levy	\$45,653	
	Other Income	<u>\$0</u>	
			\$45,653
TOTAL			\$57,983
Estimated Expenditures			<u>\$(45,000)</u>
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2026			\$12,983

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary, filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage thereof.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

## DCFI Fund FY 26 Appropriation Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION OF SUMS OF MONEY FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JULY 2025 AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF JUNE 2026. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District of Rock Island County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That there be the Annual Budget and Appropriation of sums of money to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of the Forest Preserve District Development of Forests and Construction of Improvements Fund of Rock Island County, Illinois, to be paid or incurred for and during the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2025 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2026. The specific amounts of said Annual Appropriation are listed and totaled below.

Classification Objects & Purposes	Estimated Expenditures	Amount From Other Sources	Amount Raised From Taxation
Capital Outlay - DCFI Fund	\$0	\$600	\$302,011
Total	\$0	\$600	\$302,011
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance July 1, 2025			\$14,450
Estimated Cash Income:			
	Real Property Tax Levy	\$302,011	
	Other Income	<u>\$600</u>	
			<u>\$302,611</u>
TOTAL			\$317,061
Estimated Expenditures			<u>\$0</u>
Estimated Unencumbered Cash Balance June 30, 2026			\$317,061

**SECTION TWO:** That forthwith upon passage and approval of this Ordinance, a copy thereof, properly certified by the Secretary as to its passage, approval and recordation, shall be by said Secretary, filed in the office of the County Clerk of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Ordinance be published in full in a Rock Island County newspaper within ten days after passage thereof.

**SECTION FOUR:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten days after passage and publication thereof.

Commissioner Vyncke moves to approve the previous roll call vote.  
Commissioners Perkins, Adams, and Sowards seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland,  
B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

10. Commissioner Vyncke moved to approve purchase of a Ford F-150 in the amount of \$43,673.00, as presented. Commissioner L. Moreno seconded.

Commissioner Burns moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Simmer seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland,  
B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

11. Commissioner Burns moved to approve the purchase of a John Deere Mower in the amount of \$98,132.56, as presented. Commissioner Simmer seconded.

Commissioner Adams moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Sowards seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland,  
B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

12. Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the staff recommended bid from Stichter Construction in the amount of \$249,762.00 for the Great River Trail Project. Commissioner Enburg seconded.

Commissioner Vyncke moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Mielke seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

13. Commissioner Brunk moved to approve the bid for GASB 75 reporting from Lauterbach & Amen at FY25 (\$4,670), FY26 (\$1,710), FY27 (\$4,950), FY28 (\$1,820), as presented. Commissioner Vyncke Seconded.

President Swanson stated, "I am grateful that Ms. Palmer is here to unpack this. This is essentially our auditing services. Does anyone have any questions?"

Auditor, April Palmer stated, "It's not quite auditing services, just to clarify. It's actuarial services for our post-employment benefit packages that we offer current and soon-to- retire employees, and it's a calculation that is required to do the government-wide statements in the audit."

President Swanson stated, "...and that's why we rely on Ms. Palmer. Thank you very much for being with us tonight, I appreciate that very much."

Commissioner Adams moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Perkins seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

14. Commissioner Simmer moved to approve the MindFire Communications Agreement for Services at \$80,225.00, as presented. Commissioner Woods seconded.

Commissioner Burns moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Simmer seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

15. Commissioner Adams moved to approve the Amendment to Zoo Director salary of \$1,000.00, as presented. Commissioner Sowards seconded.

Commissioner Layer moves to approve the previous roll call vote. Commissioner Burns seconded.

D. Adams, R. Brunk, L. Burns, C. Enburg, C. Layer, P. Mielke, L. Moreno, R. Morthland, B. Perkins, R. Simmer, E. Sowards, K. Swanson, B. Vyncke, J. R. Westpfahl, J. Woods

**TOTAL YES 15**

**TOTAL NO 0**

Motion carried.

16. **Comments from Commissioners:**

(Commissioner Simmer was recognized.)

Mr. Simmer stated, "I was just talking to Jeff and I wanted to tell you, my daughter-my granddaughter is participating in Zoo Camp right now, she's loving it. She's a little confused, why on Monday, the zoo was closed. 'Because, you know Grandpa, the animals are all there.' (Group chuckles) So, she was a little confused why we couldn't go look at the animals, when they're there for sure. She's really enjoying it, she's having a great time and again, it's a wonderful program."

President Swanson stated, "The chimps and lion said they wanted to have Monday's off."

(Group laughter)

Mr. Simmer added, "She didn't think it was okay."

(Group laughter)

President Swanson stated, "Well, thank you Dr. Simmer. Thank you for bringing those beautiful grandkids out there and helping them. Any other questions? On the reports before you...I hope you get a chance to read them, there's just so much good stuff happening right now, in these Forest Preserves. I'm excited that you are all a part of it."

17. Commissioner Vyncke moved to approve all Routine Reports from the Director and Departments Heads of the Forest Preserve Commission, as presented.  
Commissioner Simmer seconded.  
A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried.

President Swanson stated, "Friends, the next meeting of this Forest Preserve Commission will be Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 pm, or after the County Board meeting, in these Chambers. We are in recess, thank you very much for your time and attention."

President Swanson declared the Forest Preserve Meeting in recess at 6:33 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Kinney", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

KAREN KINNEY  
COUNTY CLERK AND SECRETARY  
OF THE FOREST PRESERVE COMMISSION

KK: td