



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB5253

by Rep. Frances Ann Hurley

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

70 ILCS 410/6

from Ch. 96 1/2, par. 7106

70 ILCS 805/8

from Ch. 96 1/2, par. 6315

70 ILCS 810/14

from Ch. 96 1/2, par. 6417

Creates the Forest Preserve District and Conservation District Design-Build Authorization Act. Provides that a forest preserve district or conservation district may enter into design-build contracts. Includes scope and performance criteria for design-build contracts, a two-phase procedure for selection of contracts, requirements for submission of proposals, procedures for awarding contracts, and requirements of reports and evaluation of contracts. Provides that if the total overall cost of a project is estimated to be less than \$12,000,000, the forest preserve or conservation district may combine the two-phase procedure for selection into one phase. Amends the Conservation District Act, Downstate Forest Preserve District Act, and Cook County Forest Preserve District Act making conforming changes. Further amends those Acts increasing the minimum contract amount to \$50,000 (currently \$25,000) before competitive bidding is required. Effective January 1, 2021.

LRB101 18472 AWJ 67920 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Forest  
5 Preserve District and Conservation District Design-Build  
6 Authorization Act.

7 Section 5. Purpose. This purpose of this Act is to  
8 authorize forest preserve districts and conservation districts  
9 to use design-build processes to increase the efficiency and  
10 effectiveness of delivering public projects.

11 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

12 "Delivery system" means the design and construction  
13 approach used to develop and construct a project.

14 "Design-bid-build" means the traditional delivery system  
15 used on public projects that incorporates the Local Government  
16 Professional Services Selection Act, the competitive bidding  
17 process set forth in Section 6 of the Conservation District  
18 Act, the competitive bidding process set forth in subsection  
19 (b) of Section 8 of the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act,  
20 or the competitive bidding process set forth in Section 14 of  
21 the Cook County Forest Preserve District Act.

22 "Design-build" means a delivery system that provides

1 responsibility within a single contract for the furnishing of  
2 architecture, engineering, land surveying, and related  
3 services as required and the labor, materials, equipment, and  
4 other construction services for the project.

5 "Design-build contract" means a contract for a public  
6 project under this Act between a forest preserve district or  
7 conservation district and a design-build entity to furnish:  
8 architecture, engineering, land surveying, public art or  
9 interpretive exhibits, and related services, as required; and  
10 the labor, materials, equipment, and other construction  
11 services for the project.

12 "Design-build entity" means any individual, sole  
13 proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, corporation,  
14 professional corporation, or other entity that proposes to  
15 design and construct any public project under this Act. A  
16 design-build entity and associated design professionals shall  
17 conduct themselves in accordance with the relevant laws of this  
18 State and the related provisions of the Illinois Administrative  
19 Code.

20 "Design professional" means any individual, sole  
21 proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, corporation,  
22 professional corporation, or other entity that offers services  
23 under the Illinois Architecture Practice Act of 1989, the  
24 Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989, the Structural  
25 Engineering Practice Act of 1989, the Illinois Professional  
26 Land Surveyor Act of 1989.

1 "Evaluation criteria" means the requirements for the  
2 separate phases of the selection process as defined in this Act  
3 and may include the specialized experience, technical  
4 qualifications and competence, capacity to perform, past  
5 performance, experience with similar projects, assignment of  
6 personnel to the project, and other appropriate factors.

7 "Proposal" means the offer to enter into a design-build  
8 contract as submitted by a design-build entity in accordance  
9 with this Act.

10 "Public art designer" means any individual, sole  
11 proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, corporation,  
12 professional corporation, or other entity that has  
13 demonstrated experience with the design and fabrication of  
14 public art including any media that has been planned and  
15 executed with the intention of being staged in the physical  
16 public domain outside and accessible to all or any art which is  
17 exhibited in a public space including publicly accessible  
18 buildings, or interpretive exhibits including communication  
19 media that is designed to engage, excite, inform, relate or  
20 reveal the intrinsic nature or indispensable quality of a topic  
21 or story being presented.

22 "Request for proposal" means the document used by the  
23 forest preserve district or conservation district to solicit  
24 proposals for a design-build contract.

25 "Scope and performance criteria" means the requirements  
26 for the public project, including, but not limited to, the

1 intended usage, capacity, size, scope, quality and performance  
2 standards, life-cycle costs, and other programmatic criteria  
3 that are expressed in performance-oriented and quantifiable  
4 specifications and drawings that can be reasonably inferred and  
5 are suited to allow a design-build entity to develop a  
6 proposal.

7 Section 15. Solicitation of proposals.

8 (a) A forest preserve district or conservation district may  
9 enter into design-build contracts. In addition to the  
10 requirements set forth in its local ordinances, when the forest  
11 preserve district or conservation district elects to use the  
12 design-build delivery method, it must issue a notice of intent  
13 to receive proposals for the project at least 14 days before  
14 issuing the request for the proposal. The forest preserve  
15 district or conservation district must publish the advance  
16 notice in the manner prescribed by ordinance, which shall  
17 include posting the advance notice online on its website. The  
18 forest preserve district or conservation district may publish  
19 the notice in construction industry publications or post the  
20 notice on construction industry websites. A brief description  
21 of the proposed procurement must be included in the notice. The  
22 forest preserve district or conservation district must provide  
23 a copy of the request for proposal to any party requesting a  
24 copy.

25 (b) The request for proposal shall be prepared for each

1 project and must contain, without limitation, the following  
2 information:

3 (1) The name of the forest preserve district or  
4 conservation district.

5 (2) A preliminary schedule for the completion of the  
6 contract.

7 (3) The proposed budget for the project, the source of  
8 funds, and the currently available funds at the time the  
9 request for proposal is submitted.

10 (4) Prequalification criteria for design-build  
11 entities wishing to submit proposals. The forest preserve  
12 district or conservation district shall include, at a  
13 minimum, its normal prequalification, licensing,  
14 registration, and other requirements; however, nothing  
15 precludes the use of additional prequalification criteria  
16 by the forest preserve district or conservation district.

17 (5) Material requirements of the contract, including,  
18 but not limited to, the proposed terms and conditions,  
19 required performance and payment bonds, insurance, and the  
20 entity's plan to comply with the utilization goals for  
21 business enterprises established in the Business  
22 Enterprise for Minorities, Women, and Persons with  
23 Disabilities Act and with Section 2-105 of the Illinois  
24 Human Rights Act.

25 (6) The performance criteria.

26 (7) The evaluation criteria for each phase of the

1 solicitation. Price may not be used as a factor in the  
2 evaluation of Phase I proposals.

3 (8) The number of entities that will be considered for  
4 the technical and cost evaluation phase.

5 (c) The forest preserve district or conservation district  
6 may include any other relevant information that it chooses to  
7 supply. The design-build entity shall be entitled to rely upon  
8 the accuracy of this documentation in the development of its  
9 proposal.

10 (d) The date that proposals are due must be at least 21  
11 calendar days after the date of the issuance of the request for  
12 proposal. In the event the cost of the project is estimated to  
13 exceed \$12,000,000, then the proposal due date must be at least  
14 28 calendar days after the date of the issuance of the request  
15 for proposal. The forest preserve district or conservation  
16 district shall include in the request for proposal a minimum of  
17 30 days to develop the Phase II submissions after the selection  
18 of entities from the Phase I evaluation is completed.

19 Section 20. Development of scope and performance criteria.

20 (a) The forest preserve district or conservation district  
21 shall develop, with the assistance of a licensed design  
22 professional or public art designer, a request for proposal,  
23 which shall include scope and performance criteria. The scope  
24 and performance criteria must be in sufficient detail and  
25 contain adequate information to reasonably apprise the

1 qualified design-build entities of the forest preserve  
2 district's or conservation district's overall programmatic  
3 needs and goals, including criteria and preliminary design  
4 plans, general budget parameters, schedule, and delivery  
5 requirements.

6 (b) Each request for proposal shall also include a  
7 description of the level of design to be provided in the  
8 proposals. This description must include the scope and type of  
9 renderings, drawings, and specifications that, at a minimum,  
10 will be required by the forest preserve district or  
11 conservation district to be produced by the design-build  
12 entities.

13 (c) The scope and performance criteria shall be prepared by  
14 a design professional or public art designer who is an employee  
15 of the forest preserve district or conservation district, or  
16 the forest preserve district or conservation district may  
17 contract with an independent design professional or public art  
18 designer selected under the Local Government Professional  
19 Services Selection Act to provide these services.

20 (d) The design professional or public art designer that  
21 prepares the scope and performance criteria is prohibited from  
22 participating in any design-build entity proposal for the  
23 project.

24 (e) The design-build contract may be conditioned upon  
25 subsequent refinements in scope and price and may allow the  
26 forest preserve district or conservation district to make



1 modifications in the project scope without invalidating the  
2 design-build contract.

3 Section 25. Procedures for Selection.

4 (a) The forest preserve district or conservation district  
5 must use a two-phase procedure for the selection of the  
6 successful design-build entity. Phase I of the procedure will  
7 evaluate and shortlist the design-build entities based on  
8 qualifications, and Phase II will evaluate the technical and  
9 cost proposals.

10 (b) The forest preserve district or conservation district  
11 shall include in the request for proposal the evaluating  
12 factors to be used in Phase I. These factors are in addition to  
13 any prequalification requirements of design-build entities  
14 that the forest preserve district or conservation district has  
15 set forth. Each request for proposal shall establish the  
16 relative importance assigned to each evaluation factor and  
17 subfactor, including any weighting of criteria to be employed  
18 by the forest preserve district or conservation district. The  
19 forest preserve district or conservation district must  
20 maintain a record of the evaluation scoring to be disclosed in  
21 event of a protest regarding the solicitation.

22 The forest preserve district or conservation district  
23 shall include the following criteria in every Phase I  
24 evaluation of design-build entities: (i) experience of  
25 personnel; (ii) successful experience with similar project

1 types; (iii) financial capability; (iv) timeliness of past  
2 performance; (v) experience with similarly sized projects;  
3 (vi) successful reference checks of the firm; (vii) commitment  
4 to assign personnel for the duration of the project and  
5 qualifications of the entity's consultants; and (viii) ability  
6 or past performance in meeting or exhausting good faith efforts  
7 to meet the utilization goals for business enterprises  
8 established in the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Women,  
9 and Persons with Disabilities Act and with Section 2-105 of the  
10 Illinois Human Rights Act. The forest preserve district or  
11 conservation district may include any additional relevant  
12 criteria in Phase I that it deems necessary for a proper  
13 qualification review.

14 The forest preserve district or conservation district may  
15 not consider any design-build entity for evaluation or award if  
16 the entity has any pecuniary interest in the project or has  
17 other relationships or circumstances, including but not  
18 limited to, long-term leasehold, mutual performance, or  
19 development contracts with the forest preserve district or  
20 conservation district, that may give the design-build entity a  
21 financial or tangible advantage over other design-build  
22 entities in the preparation, evaluation, or performance of the  
23 design-build contract or that create the appearance of  
24 impropriety. No proposal shall be considered that does not  
25 include an entity's plan to comply with the requirements  
26 established in the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Women,

1 and Persons with Disabilities Act, for both the design and  
2 construction areas of performance, and with Section 2-105 of  
3 the Illinois Human Rights Act.

4 Upon completion of the qualifications evaluation, the  
5 forest preserve district or conservation district shall create  
6 a shortlist of the most highly qualified design-build entities.  
7 The forest preserve district or conservation district, in its  
8 discretion, is not required to shortlist the maximum number of  
9 entities as identified for Phase II evaluation, provided that  
10 no less than 2 design-build entities nor more than 6 are  
11 selected to submit Phase II proposals.

12 The forest preserve district or conservation district  
13 shall notify the entities selected for the shortlist in  
14 writing. This notification shall commence the period for the  
15 preparation of the Phase II technical and cost evaluations. The  
16 forest preserve district or conservation district must allow  
17 sufficient time for the shortlist entities to prepare their  
18 Phase II submittals considering the scope and detail requested  
19 by the forest preserve district or conservation district.

20 (c) The forest preserve district or conservation district  
21 shall include in the request for proposal the evaluating  
22 factors to be used in the technical and cost submission  
23 components of Phase II. Each request for proposal shall  
24 establish, for both the technical and cost submission  
25 components of Phase II, the relative importance assigned to  
26 each evaluation factor and subfactor, including any weighting

1 of criteria to be employed by the forest preserve district or  
2 conservation district. The forest preserve district or  
3 conservation district must maintain a record of the evaluation  
4 scoring to be disclosed in event of a protest regarding the  
5 solicitation.

6 The forest preserve district or conservation district  
7 shall include the following criteria in every Phase II  
8 technical evaluation of design-build entities: (i) compliance  
9 with objectives of the project; (ii) compliance of proposed  
10 services to the request for proposal requirements; (iii)  
11 quality of products or materials proposed; (iv) quality of  
12 design parameters; (v) design concepts; (vi) innovation in  
13 meeting the scope and performance criteria; and (vii)  
14 constructability of the proposed project. The forest preserve  
15 district or conservation district may include any additional  
16 relevant technical evaluation factors it deems necessary for  
17 proper selection.

18 The forest preserve district or conservation district  
19 shall include the following criteria in every Phase II cost  
20 evaluation: the total project cost, the construction costs, and  
21 the time of completion. The forest preserve or conservation  
22 district may include any additional relevant technical  
23 evaluation factors it deems necessary for proper selection. The  
24 total project cost criteria weighing factor shall not exceed  
25 60%.

26 The forest preserve or conservation district shall

1 directly employ or retain a licensed design professional or a  
2 public art designer to evaluate the technical and cost  
3 submissions to determine if the technical submissions are in  
4 accordance with generally accepted industry standards.

5 Upon completion of the technical submissions and cost  
6 submissions evaluation, the forest preserve or conservation  
7 district may award the design-build contract to the highest  
8 overall ranked entity.

9 Section 30. Small projects. In any case where the total  
10 overall cost of the project is estimated to be less than  
11 \$12,000,000, the forest preserve or conservation district may  
12 combine the two-phase procedure for selection described in  
13 Section 25 into one combined step, provided that all the  
14 requirements of evaluation are performed in accordance with  
15 Section 25.

16 Section 35. Submission of proposals. Proposals must be  
17 properly identified and sealed. Proposals may not be reviewed  
18 until after the deadline for submission has passed as set forth  
19 in the request for proposals. All design-build entities  
20 submitting proposals shall be disclosed after the deadline for  
21 submission, and all design-build entities who are selected for  
22 Phase II evaluation shall also be disclosed at the time of that  
23 determination.

24 Proposals shall include a bid bond in the form and security

1 as designated in the request for proposals. Proposals shall  
2 also contain a separate sealed envelope with the cost  
3 information within the overall proposal submission. Proposals  
4 shall include a list of all design professionals, public art  
5 designers, and other entities to which any work may be  
6 subcontracted during the performance of the contract.

7 Proposals must meet all material requirements of the  
8 request for proposal or they may be rejected as non-responsive.  
9 The forest preserve or conservation district shall have the  
10 right to reject any and all proposals.

11 The drawings and specifications of the proposal may remain  
12 the property of the design-build entity.

13 The forest preserve or conservation district shall review  
14 the proposals for compliance with the performance criteria and  
15 evaluation factors.

16 Proposals may be withdrawn prior to evaluation for any  
17 cause. After evaluation begins by the forest preserve or  
18 conservation district, clear and convincing evidence of error  
19 is required for withdrawal.

20 Section 40. Award. The forest preserve or conservation  
21 district may award the contract to the highest overall ranked  
22 entity. Notice of award shall be made in writing. Unsuccessful  
23 entities shall also be notified in writing. The forest preserve  
24 or conservation district may not request a best and final offer  
25 after the receipt of proposals. The forest preserve or

1 conservation district may negotiate with the selected  
2 design-build entity after award but prior to contract execution  
3 for the purpose of securing better terms than originally  
4 proposed, provided that the salient features of the request for  
5 proposal are not diminished.

6 Section 45. Reports and evaluation. At the end of every 6  
7 month period following the contract award, and again prior to  
8 final contract payout and closure, a selected design-build  
9 entity shall detail, in a written report submitted to the  
10 forest preserve or conservation district, its efforts and  
11 success in implementing the entity's plan to comply with the  
12 utilization goals for business enterprises established in the  
13 Business Enterprise for Minorities, Women, and Persons with  
14 Disabilities Act and the provisions of Section 2-105 of the  
15 Illinois Human Rights Act.

16 Section 905. The Conservation District Act is amended by  
17 changing Section 6 as follows:

18 (70 ILCS 410/6) (from Ch. 96 1/2, par. 7106)

19 Sec. 6. Officers and employees. As soon as possible after  
20 the initial election or the initial appointments, as the case  
21 may be, the trustees shall organize by selecting from their  
22 members a president, secretary, treasurer, and other officers  
23 as are deemed necessary, who shall hold office for 2 years in

1 the case of an elected board, or the fiscal year in which  
2 elected in the case of an appointed board, and until their  
3 successors are selected and qualify. Three trustees shall  
4 constitute a quorum of the board for the transaction of  
5 business if the district has 5 trustees. If the district has 7  
6 trustees, 4 trustees shall constitute a quorum of the board for  
7 the transaction of business. The board shall hold regular  
8 monthly meetings. Special meetings may be called by the  
9 president and shall be called on the request of a majority of  
10 members, as may be required.

11 The board shall provide for the proper and safe keeping of  
12 its permanent records and for the recording of the corporate  
13 action of the district. It shall keep a proper system of  
14 accounts showing a true and accurate record of its receipts and  
15 disbursements, and it shall cause an annual audit to be made of  
16 its books, records, and accounts.

17 The records of the district shall be subject to public  
18 inspection at all reasonable hours and under regulations as the  
19 board may prescribe.

20 The district shall annually make a full and complete report  
21 to the county board of each county within the district and to  
22 the Department of Natural Resources of its transactions and  
23 operations for the preceding year. The report shall contain a  
24 full statement of its receipts, disbursements, and the program  
25 of work for the period covered, and may include recommendations  
26 as may be deemed advisable.



1 Executive or ministerial duties may be delegated to one or  
2 more trustees or to an authorized officer, employee, agent,  
3 attorney, or other representative of the district.

4 All officers and employees authorized to receive or retain  
5 the custody of money or to sign vouchers, checks, warrants, or  
6 evidences of indebtedness binding upon the district shall  
7 furnish surety bond for the faithful performance of their  
8 duties and the faithful accounting for all moneys that may come  
9 into their hands in an amount to be fixed and in a form to be  
10 approved by the board.

11 All contracts for supplies, material, or work involving an  
12 expenditure in excess of \$50,000 ~~\$25,000~~, or a lower amount if  
13 required by board policy, shall be let to the lowest  
14 responsible bidder, after due advertisement, excepting work  
15 requiring personal confidence or necessary supplies under the  
16 control of monopolies, where competitive bidding is impossible  
17 or as provided in the Forest Preserve District and Conservation  
18 District Design-Build Authorization Act. All contracts for  
19 supplies, material, or work shall be signed by the president of  
20 the board and by any other officer as the board in its  
21 discretion may designate.

22 (Source: P.A. 99-771, eff. 8-12-16.)

23 Section 910. The Downstate Forest Preserve District Act is  
24 amended by changing Section 8 as follows:

1 (70 ILCS 805/8) (from Ch. 96 1/2, par. 6315)

2 Sec. 8. Powers and duties of corporate authority and  
3 officers; contracts; salaries.

4 (a) The board shall be the corporate authority of such  
5 forest preserve district and shall have power to pass and  
6 enforce all necessary ordinances, rules and regulations for the  
7 management of the property and conduct of the business of such  
8 district. The president of such board shall have power to  
9 appoint such employees as may be necessary. In counties with  
10 population of less than 3,000,000, within 60 days after their  
11 selection the commissioners appointed under the provisions of  
12 Section 3a of this Act shall organize by selecting from their  
13 members a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and  
14 such other officers as are deemed necessary who shall hold  
15 office for the fiscal year in which elected and until their  
16 successors are selected and qualify. In the one district in  
17 existence on July 1, 1977, that is managed by an appointed  
18 board of commissioners, the incumbent president and the other  
19 officers appointed in the manner as originally prescribed in  
20 this Act shall hold such offices until the completion of their  
21 respective terms or in the case of the officers other than  
22 president until their successors are appointed by said  
23 president, but in all cases not to extend beyond January 1,  
24 1980 and until their successors are selected and qualify.  
25 Thereafter, the officers shall be selected in the manner as  
26 prescribed in this Section except that their first term of

1 office shall not expire until June 30, 1981 and until their  
2 successors are selected and qualify.

3 (a-5) An officer selected pursuant to subsection (a) may be  
4 removed, with or without cause, upon a motion adopted by an  
5 affirmative vote of four-fifths of the board of the forest  
6 preserve district. Upon adoption of a motion to remove an  
7 officer: (i) the office becomes vacant and the former officer's  
8 compensation shall be prorated to the date the motion was  
9 approved; (ii) if the officer removed is the president then the  
10 vice president immediately assumes the duties of the president  
11 without president compensation and, if the officer removed is  
12 the vice president, treasurer, or secretary, then the president  
13 shall select an interim appointee who shall serve until the  
14 next regularly scheduled forest preserve district board  
15 meeting; and (iii) a new officer shall be selected at the next  
16 regularly scheduled forest preserve district board meeting. An  
17 officer removed under this Section maintains his or her status  
18 as a member of the forest preserve district board.

19 (b) In any county, city, village, incorporated town or  
20 sanitary district where the corporate authorities act as the  
21 governing body of a forest preserve district, the person  
22 exercising the powers of the president of the board shall have  
23 power to appoint a secretary and an assistant secretary and  
24 treasurer and an assistant treasurer and such other officers  
25 and such employees as may be necessary. The assistant secretary  
26 and assistant treasurer shall perform the duties of the

1 secretary and treasurer, respectively in case of death of such  
2 officers or when such officers are unable to perform the duties  
3 of their respective offices. All contracts for supplies,  
4 material or work involving an expenditure in excess of \$50,000  
5 ~~\$25,000~~, or a lower amount if required by board policy, shall  
6 be let to the lowest responsible bidder, after advertising at  
7 least once in one or more newspapers of general circulation  
8 within the district, excepting work requiring personal  
9 confidence or necessary supplies under the control of  
10 monopolies, where competitive bidding is impossible, or as  
11 provided in the Forest Preserve District and Conservation  
12 District Design-Build Authorization Act. Contracts for  
13 supplies, material or work involving an expenditure of \$50,000  
14 ~~\$25,000~~, or a lower amount if required by board policy, or less  
15 may be let without advertising for bids, but whenever  
16 practicable, at least 3 competitive bids shall be obtained  
17 before letting such contract. All contracts for supplies,  
18 material or work shall be signed by the president of the board  
19 of commissioners or by any such other officer as the board in  
20 its discretion may designate.

21 (c) The president of any board of commissioners appointed  
22 under the provisions of Section 3a of this Act shall receive a  
23 salary not to exceed the sum of \$2500 per annum and the salary  
24 of other members of the board so appointed shall not exceed  
25 \$1500 per annum. Salaries of the commissioners, officers and  
26 employees shall be fixed by ordinance.

1           (d) Whenever a forest preserve district owns any personal  
2 property that, in the opinion of three-fifths of the members of  
3 the board of commissioners, is no longer necessary, useful to,  
4 or for the best interests of the forest preserve district, then  
5 three-fifths of the members of the board, at any regular  
6 meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose by an  
7 ordinance or resolution that includes a general description of  
8 the personal property, may authorize the conveyance or sale of  
9 that personal property in any manner that they may designate,  
10 with or without advertising the sale.

11       (Source: P.A. 101-544, eff. 8-23-19.)

12           Section 915. The Cook County Forest Preserve District Act  
13 is amended by changing Section 14 as follows:

14           (70 ILCS 810/14) (from Ch. 96 1/2, par. 6417)

15           Sec. 14. The board, as corporate authority of a forest  
16 preserve district, shall have power to pass and enforce all  
17 necessary ordinances, rules and regulations for the management  
18 of the property and conduct of the business of such district.  
19 The president of such board shall have power to appoint a  
20 secretary and an assistant secretary, and treasurer and an  
21 assistant treasurer and such other officers and such employees  
22 as may be necessary, all of whom, excepting the treasurer and  
23 attorneys, shall be under civil service rules and regulations,  
24 as provided in Section 17 of this Act. The assistant secretary

1 and assistant treasurer shall perform the duties of the  
2 secretary and treasurer, respectively, in case of death of said  
3 officers or when said officers are unable to perform the duties  
4 of their respective offices because of absence or inability to  
5 act. All contracts for supplies, material or work involving an  
6 expenditure by forest preserve districts in excess of \$50,000  
7 ~~\$25,000~~ shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, after  
8 due advertisement, excepting work requiring personal  
9 confidence or necessary supplies under the control of  
10 monopolies, where competitive bidding is impossible, or as  
11 provided in the Forest Preserve District and Conservation  
12 District Design-Build Authorization Act. Contracts for  
13 supplies, material or work involving an expenditure of \$50,000  
14 ~~\$25,000~~ or less may be let without advertising for bids, but  
15 whenever practicable, at least 3 competitive bids shall be  
16 obtained before letting such contract. Notwithstanding the  
17 provisions of this Section, a forest preserve district may  
18 establish procedures to comply with State and federal  
19 regulations concerning affirmative action and the use of small  
20 businesses or businesses owned by minorities or women in  
21 construction and procurement contracts. All contracts for  
22 supplies, material or work shall be signed by the president of  
23 the board or by any such other officer as the board in its  
24 discretion may designate.

25 Salaries of employees shall be fixed by ordinance.

26 (Source: P.A. 99-264, eff. 1-1-16.)

1           Section 997. Severability. The provisions of this Act are  
2           severable under Section 1.31 of the Statute on Statutes.

3           Section 999. Effective date. This Act takes effect January  
4           1, 2021.