



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 7, 2025

TO: Forest Preserve District Executive Committee

FROM: Jennifer Rooks-Lopez, Planning and Land Protection Director
Benjamin Haberthur, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of a Construction Contractor Change for the Big Rock Forest Preserve RTP Trail Restoration Project.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider the approval of a change in construction contractors on the Big Rock Forest Preserve RTP Trail Restoration Project; from Evans & Son, Inc., to Obsidian Asphalt Paving, Inc. ('Obsidian' herein).

BACKGROUND:

On January 14th, 2025, The District awarded the construction project to the lowest (and at that time, qualified) bidder, Evans & Son, Inc. A multitude of issues including construction delays and communication lapses forced the District to take action to declare Evans & Sons in default and to terminate the Contract. The District also served the required notice upon the Surety. All parties agreed that Evans and Son, Inc. were not capable of undertaking the project and meeting the substantial completion date of August 1, 2025. The District consulted with legal counsel and the Surety to determine the best course of action to keep the project moving. This involved not only terminating the contract with Evans and Son, Inc. but also finding a replacement (covering) contractor. The District reached out to the second lowest bidder, determined it was qualified, and further confirmed it would honor their original bid price to perform the work.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The contract with Evans & Son, Inc. totaled \$210,640.09. The second highest bid from Obsidian totaled \$232,126.30. EMC Insurance has agreed to cover the difference between these two amounts, totaling \$21,486.21, so that the District will not be financially impacted by the change in contractors for project # 31014 in the general ledger account # 03-35-35-7050.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Committee approve the change in construction contractors from Evans and Son, Inc. to Obsidian, to complete the remainder of the Big Rock Forest Preserve RTP Trail Restoration Project.

ATTACHMENTS:

BR_CountyLocMap.jpg

BR_RTP_Site Development Plan.jpg

Abstract Big Rock Final 12.05.24