

LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2018, BOARD MEETING

The following is a true copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Linn County, Iowa, Conservation Board held on **Monday, February 26, 2018**, at the Wickiup Hill Learning Center, 10260 Morris Hills Rd, Toddville, Iowa.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Hanson, Hillary Hughes, Cindy Burke, Steve Emerson and George Kanz,

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Dennis Goemaat, Deputy Director; Randy Burke, Planner; and Ryan Schlader, Community Outreach;

OTHERS PRESENT

Jon Bogert, Anderson Bogert Engineers; Marty Lenss and Pam Hinman, Eastern Iowa Airport; Nicholas Longbucco, The Nature Conservancy; Brent Oleson and Jim Houser, Linn County Board of Supervisors; Neil Mittelberg.

CALL TO ORDER

Conservation Board President Hughes called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.
John Hanson was appointed temporary secretary.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were received

ITEM R1. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Kanz, second by Emerson.

To approve the consent agenda.

VOTE: aye; all present
 nay; none
 absent: Burke

The consent agenda was approved and involved the following items:

ITEM C1. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 22, 2018 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING AND THE FEBRUARY 9, 2018 SPECIAL CLOSED MEETING

ITEM C2. APPROVE CLAIMS AND EXPENDITURES – CLAIMS LIST #2018-8
Claims and Transfer list #2018-8 involving claim #8-451 through claim #8-509.

ITEM C3. RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE THE JANUARY 2018 FINANCIAL/BUDGET REPORT

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ITEM C4. RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE THE JANUARY 2018 ACTIVITY REPORT

ITEM C5. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

1. Gift #24-2018 – David & Sara Steil - monetary donation (\$500) to taxidermy a snowy owl.
2. Gift #25-2018 – Duane Arnold Energy Center – monetary donation (\$2,500) for the Wickiup Hill Wetland Enhancement Project
3. Gift #26-2018 – Whitetails Unlimited – monetary donation (\$5,000) to assist with the Paris Natural Area acquisition.

ITEM C6. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES

REGULAR AGENDA:

ITEM R2. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS CONCERNING WETLAND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT AT WICKIUP HILL OUTDOOR LEARNING AREA, PROJECT #5-17.

President Hughes opened the public hearing at 12:05 PM. Proof of publication was presented. No written or oral objections were received.

MOTION by Emerson, second by Kanz

To close the public hearing.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Burke

ITEM R3. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION #2018-8, APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS FOR THE WETLAND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT AT WICKIUP HILL OUTDOOR LEARNING AREA, PROJECT #5-17.

Randy Burke reviewed the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated costs with the Board for the Wickiup Hill Wetland Enhancement project.

MOTION by Emerson, second by Hanson

To approve and adopt Resolution #2018-8.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Burke

Board Secretary Cindy Burke arrived at this point in the meeting

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ITEM R4. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE MODIFIED PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT, AND ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS CONCERNING CONSTRUCTION OF THE EAST BLUE CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, PROJECT #10-12.

President Hughes opened the public hearing at 12:15 PM. Proof of publication was presented. No written or oral objections were received.

MOTION by Emerson, second by Kanz

To close the public hearing.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

ITEM R5. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION 2018-9, APPROVAL OF PROPOSED PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATED COST FOR THE EAST BLUE CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, PROJECT #10-12.

Randy Burke reviewed the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated costs with the Board for the East Blue Creek Bridge replacement project.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Emerson.

To approve and adopt resolution #2018-9.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

ITEM R6. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON APPROVING CONTRACT WITH ANDERSON-BOGERT ENGINEERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT OF THE EAST BLUE CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, PROJECT #10-12.

Randy Burke reviewed the proposed contract with Anderson Bogert Engineers for construction oversight of the East Blue Creek Bridge replacement project. Hughes asked if Terracon's geotechnical services are under a different contract. Jon Bogert confirmed that Terracon services will be covered under a separate contract.

MOTION by Emerson, second by Kanz.

To approve the contract with Anderson Bogert Engineers and authorize the Board President to sign on behalf of the Board.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

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ITEM R7. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN AND EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE EAST BLUE CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, PROJECT #10-12

Jon Bogert reviewed the bids received for the East Blue Creek Bridge replacement project with the Board. Iowa Bridge and Culvert submitted the low bid of \$609,265.40.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke.

To authorize the Executive Director to sign a construction contract for \$609,265.40 with Iowa Bridge and Culvert, the apparent low bidder.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

ITEM R8. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION #2018-10 SETTING DATE AND TIME FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATED COST CONCERNING THE RESTROOM AND PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT AT PINICON RIDGE PARK, PROJECT #38-18.

Burke reviewed the Pinicon Ridge Park restroom and playground replacement project with the Board.

MOTION by Emerson, second by Kanz.

To approve and adopt Resolution 2018-10.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

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ITEM R9. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION #2018-11, SETTING DATE AND TIME FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATED COST FOR THE GRANT WOOD TRAIL CONSTRUCTION AND SURFACING PROJECT, PROJECT #05-14A.

Burke reviewed the Grant Wood Trail construction and surfacing project with the Board.

MOTION by Hanson, second by Emerson

To approve and adopt Resolution 2018-11.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Burke

This item was moved ahead on the agenda, so Secretary Burke was not present for the vote.

ITEM R10. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON APPROVING THE ARCHITECTURAL CONTRACT WITH DESIGN DYNAMICS FOR DESIGN, BIDDING, AND ADMINISTRATION FOR PINICON RIDGE PARK OVERLOOK SHELTER, PROJECT #04-19.

Randy Burke reviewed the architectural contract between the Board and Design Dynamics for design, bidding and administration of the Pinicon Ridge Park overlook shelter. Emerson would like to see more details in the contract regarding the scope of services and level of involvement by subcontractor. Rob Peck of Design Dynamics will be invited to attend the next meeting.

No board action was taken on this item.

ITEM R11. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES REGARDING THE 2018 SPRING OPERATION RELEAF PROGRAM.

Goemaat updated the Board concerning the spring operation ReLeaf tree distribution program and the associated memorandum of understanding.

MOTION by Emerson, second by Burke.

To approve the memorandum of understanding with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources regarding the spring Operation ReLeaf program and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the Board.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

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ITEM R12. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE HABITAT STAMP AGREEMENT WITH THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES , PROJECT #18-11W.

Goemaat reviewed the Wildlife Habitat Stamp Agreement between the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Board regarding the Toms land acquisition adjacent to the Buffalo Creek Natural Area.

MOTION by Hanson, second by Emerson.

To approve the agreement with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the Board.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

ITEM R13. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION #2018-12, FEES AND CHARGES, AMENDMENT 35.

Goemaat reviewed a memorandum to the Board regarding proposed modifications to the 2018 season fees.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Emerson.

To approve and adopt Resolution 2018-12.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

ITEM R14. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING UPDATES TO POLICY #4-8 LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMAND STRUCTURE AND DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

Goemaat updated the Board concerning modifications to the Law Enforcement command structure and proposed changes to Board Policy #4-8.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke.

To approve Policy #4-8 for immediate implementation with readings waived.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

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ITEM R15. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING UPDATES TO POLICY #4-7 COUNTY CONSERVATION PEACE OFFICERS – DESIGNATION, CERTIFICATION, AND ASSISTING OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

Goemaat updated the Board concerning updates to the county conservation peace officer designations and modifications to Board Policy #4-7.

MOTION by Burke, second by Emerson.

To approve Policy #4-7 for immediate implementation with readings waived.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; none

ITEM R16. BOARD MEMBER AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Community Outreach activities – Schlader reported concerning the following activities:
 - County GIS is developing baseline map updates for our brochures and print materials. The goal is to utilize these functions into creating more interactive maps and experiences that we can eventually post and utilize online.
 - Working with Linn County communications staff on website development as they are working toward an upgrade. This will further improve resources and outreach to the public.
 - Gathering materials to edit and publish April *Oak Hickory* newsletter
 - We hosted a successful Linn County Conservation Partners meeting. About 40 different organizations were represented and shared their current activities.
 - Linn County Conservation will co-sponsor the Freedom Bike Ride, which is part of Freedom Festival events. There are long and short bike rides, that include the Cedar Valley Nature Trail.

Upcoming events:

- Cedar River Watershed Coalition~ Spring 2018 meeting will be held at Wickiup Hill Learning Center March 9,
 - Public open house for the Grant Wood Trail Project March 6 at Red Cedar Lodge,
 - Public open house Morgan Creek Watershed input session March 13, spearheaded by the Middle Cedar River Watershed Management Authority, will be held at Cedar Hills Christian Church.
2. FY19 Conservation Board Budget Update – Goemaat reported that the Board of Supervisors has approved the FY2019 Conservation Board budget.
 3. Iowa Water and Land Legacy Update – Goemaat updated the Board concerning discussions with legislators regarding the Iowa Water and Land Legacy Day at the Capitol on February 12. Focus appears to be on trying to include the 3/8 cent sales tax increase as part of overall tax reform discussion.

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ITEM R17. PUBLIC COMMENT

Brent Oleson from the Linn County Board of Supervisors spoke and said he met with Robert Jacobson, a constituent from Ely, regarding consideration of a future project. There have been issues with Hoosier Creek. Oleson has asked for more information from Mr. Jacobson that may be shared with the LCCB. Supervisor Jim Houser also shared concerns regarding Hoosier Creek.

ITEM R18. CLOSED SESSION REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE.

The Conservation Board went into closed session in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.5(1j) to discuss the purchase of real estate.

MOTION by Hanson, second by Emerson.

To go into closed session at 12:48 PM

VOTE: aye: Hughes
 aye: Hanson
 aye: Kanz
 aye: Burke
 aye: Emerson
 nay: none
 absent: none

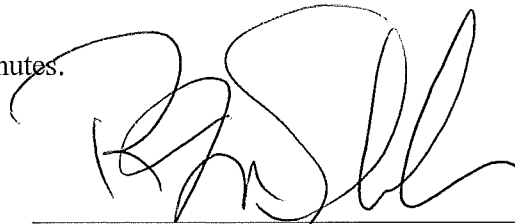
President Hughes reported that the Board is out of closed session at 1:43PM.

The closed session was tape recorded according to Iowa law.

ITEM R13. ADJOURN


The meeting adjourned at 1:43 PM.

Amanda Bieber typed the above minutes.



Recording Secretary

SEAL



Board Secretary