

**LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD**

**MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, MAY 21, 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, May 21, 2018**, at the Morgan Creek Park Shop, 7611 Worcester Road, Palo, Iowa 52324.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

Dennis Goemaat, Director; Daniel Gibbins, Deputy Director; Randy Burke, Planner; Ryan Schlader, Community Outreach; Josh Fossum, Assistant Resource Manager; Dawn Zimpfer, Natural Resource Tech; Jared Van Hamme, Natural Resource Tech; Dana Kellogg, Natural Resource Manager; and Kurtis Buckman, Project Coordinator.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Craig Erickson, Monica Converse, Shive-Hattery; Linn County Board of Supervisors Jim Houser and John Harris; Dan Biechler and Rick Davis

**CALL TO ORDER**

Conservation Board Vice President Emerson called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM. President Hughes joined the meeting at 12:14 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ITEM R1. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Hanson, second by Burke

To approve the consent agenda.

**VOTE:**            aye; Emerson, Kanz, Hanson, Burke  
                          nay; none  
                          absent: Hughes

The consent agenda was approved and involved the following items:

**ITEM C1. APPROVE THE APRIL 23, 2018 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

**ITEM C2. APPROVE CLAIMS AND EXPENDITURES – CLAIMS LIST #2018-11**

Claims and Transfer list #2018-11 involving claim #10-624 through claim #10-674.

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

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

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**ITEM C5. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS**

1. Gift #34-2018 – Jack and Pamalie Reynolds, monetary donation (\$100) for Wickiup Hill Learning Center in memory of Jack Prediger.
2. Gift #35-2018 – Robert Van Horn, donation of two Operation ReLeaf trees for planting in the county parks.
3. Gift #36-2018 – Erik and Sarah Brakke, monetary donation (\$20) for Wickiup Hill Learning Area’s Wickiup Wandering Woods playscape.
4. Gift #37-2018 – Don Schott, monetary donation (\$100) undesignated.
5. Gift #38-2018 – Anderson Family Easement Endowment monetary donation (\$438) for easement monitoring.
6. Gift #39-2018 – Various monetary donations (\$235) in memory of Jay Prediger for use at Wickiup Hill.
7. Gift #40-2018 – Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation monetary donation (\$3,550) to support the Native American Cultural Day activities at Wickiup Hill.
8. Gift #41-2018 – Roger and Sandra Lennox, monetary donation (\$300) to purchase two Legacy Trees in memory of Dillan Sackett

**ITEM C6. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES**

**ITEM C7. APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH L.L. PELLING REGARDING ROAD SEAL COAT APPLICATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019.**

**ITEM C8. 35-ACRE ADDITION TO MORGAN CREEK PARK COMPLETED – REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**ITEM R2. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF SQUAW CREEK PARK INTO MARION.**

Goemaat updated the Board briefly regarding the Squaw Creek Park annexation discussion. Supervisor Oleson has requested that he be on the agenda to address the Board at the June 25 meeting.

**No action was taken on this item.**

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**ITEM R3. REVIEW BIDS FOR GRANT WOOD TRAIL RECONSTRUCTION AND SURFACING. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN AND EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE GRANT WOOD TRAIL RECONSTRUCTION AND SURFACING, PROJECT #05-14A.**

The Board reviewed a memo from Randy Burke regarding bids for the Grant Wood Trail reconstruction and surfacing project. The apparent low bidder is Peterson Contractors Inc. with a bid of \$598,570.30

**MOTION** by Hanson, second by Burke.

To award the construction contract to Peterson Contractors Inc. for the low bid of \$598,570.30 and authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute the construction contract.

**VOTE**: aye; Emerson, Kanz, Hanson, Burke  
nay; none  
absent; Hughes

**ITEM R4. BOARD MEMBER AND STAFF REPORTS**

- 1) Community Outreach/Marketing – Ryan Schlader followed up on his written report regarding the celebration event for the Center Point Depot being included on the National Register of Historic Places held on Sunday, May 20.
- 2) Discuss ConnectCR request for support for the Cedar Lake project from the Linn County Water and Land Legacy Bond – Goemaat referenced the information in the Board packet and associated materials from Jennifer Pratt, Cedar Rapids Community Development Director. Emerson discussed meeting with ConnectCR to discuss their request to Linn County Conservation Board for bond funding by the Board. Discussion centered on bond funding parameters and the desire of the Board to focus on water quality related projects. The bond attorney will be asked to review the project in relation to project ownership requirements of the bond and eligibility for bond funding.
- 3) Goemaat distributed the program and registration information for the upcoming IACCB Conference. Board members were asked to contact Goemaat if they are interested in attending.

Member Hughes joined the meeting.

**ITEM R5. PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM SHIVE-HATTERY RELATED TO PARK DEVELOPMENT SITE PLANNING FOR MORGAN CREEK PARK.**

Craig Erickson of Shive-Hattery presented an overview of the proposed park improvement site plan. The presentation focused on the new E-Avenue entrance to the park and associated facilities. The guiding principles for the master plan vision and goals were reviewed. This site plan focuses on the southern border of the park with this proposed project enhancing customer access and amenities for year round use.

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Board questions or comments regarding the draft plan included:

- Hanson commented on elements of cross-country ski course design.
- Hanson asked about depth of the quarry lake - Fossum estimated a maximum 22' depth.
- Emerson & Hanson expressed interest in rain garden function to capture storm water.
- Kanz commented on subdivision water detention and camping expansion.
- Kanz commented on land acquisition and impact on the master plan.
- Hughes commented on species diversity and strategy for development of arboretum.
- Burke commented on the potential campground expansion.
- Hanson commented on lighting design and requested full cutoff lighting.

**Park Tour:** The Board, staff and public in attendance traveled to 7212 E Avenue property to view the park development plan proposal on site.

Erickson answered questions on amenity locations, overall design and watershed function.

**ITEM R6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rick Davis commented as a park user and noted the importance of the park. He suggested expanding the campground in the northeast corner of the park.

**ITEM R7. ADJOURN**

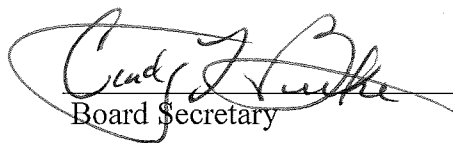
The meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM.

**MOTION** by Emerson, second by Burke.

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

Amanda Bieber typed the above minutes.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recording Secretary

  
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 Board Secretary

SEAL