

LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, JULY 23, 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, July 23, 2018**, at the Wickiup Hill Learning Center, 10260 Morris Hills Rd, Toddville, IA 52341.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Hillary Hughes, John Hanson, and George Kanz

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Cindy Burke and Steve Emerson

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

John Harris, Linn County Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Conservation Board President Hughes called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM.

Hughes appointed John Hanson as acting Secretary in Burke's absence.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEM R1. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Hanson, second by Kanz

To approve the consent agenda.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke, Emerson

The consent agenda was approved and involved the following items:

ITEM C1. APPROVE THE JUNE 25, 2018 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

ITEM C2. APPROVE CLAIMS AND EXPENDITURES – CLAIMS LIST #2019-1
Claims and Transfer list #2019-1 involving claim #1-1 through claim #1-51.

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

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

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ITEM C5. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

1. Gift #45-2018 – Erik and Sarah Brakke - monetary donation (\$20) to support Wickiup's Wandering Woods Playscape.
2. Gift #46-2018 – Goldfinch Cyclery - monetary donation (\$800) to help purchase and install a kiosk at the Mountain Bike Trailhead at Squaw Creek Park.
3. Gift #47-2018 – ITC Holdings Corp - monetary donation (\$5,000) to support Wickiup's Wandering Woods Playscape.

ITEM C6. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES

REGULAR AGENDA:

ITEM R2. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION #2018-19, APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE RESOURCES ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION (REAP) GRANT PROGRAM THROUGH THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES CONCERNING THE ACQUISITION OF 77 ACRES (MORE OR LESS) OF LAND ADJOINING THE PARIS BRIDGE NATURAL AREA.

Gibbins reviewed a draft grant application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) program requesting funding for acquisition of the Kerr property.

Hanson commented on Camp Wapsie use and potential hunting on the Kerr property in regard to safety. Hughes commented on the project positively affecting minority populations through proximity and use by the camp.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Hanson

To approve resolution #2018-19 authorizing the Board President to sign and Executive Director to submit Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) application on behalf of the Linn County Conservation Board to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke, Emerson

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ITEM R3. DISCUSS RESOLUTION #2018-20, SUPPORTING CONNECT CR CEDAR LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

Goemaat reviewed Resolution #2018-20 regarding discussion concerning Board support of the Connect CR Cedar Lake project including a possible pledge of at least \$100,000 toward the project.

Hanson commented on support of the project. Hughes commented on waiting to take action for more review and full Board attendance. Hughes suggested focus of support should be on water quality. Kanz commented on support for elements fitting to Bond parameters. Hanson commented on the timeline of Cedar Lake project. This item will be discussed again following receipt of the Cedar Lake Watershed Plan.

The Board did not take formal action on this item.

ITEM R4. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING INCLUDING THE NEW COUNTY LOGO ON OFFICIAL BOARD AND DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION.

Schlader reviewed newly adopted Linn County logo and Conservation intent to use when possible in support of Linn County branding.

Hughes commented on current and future business card purchasing. County purchasing will arrange the initial printing of business cards.

MOTION by Hanson, second by Kanz

To approve use of the Linn County logo on Conservation Board documents and printed material as requested in the Linn County logo use guidance.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke, Emerson

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ITEM R5. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE CONSERVATION BOARD AND THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES REGARDING THE 2018 FALL OPERATION TREE RELEAF PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE MOU.

Gibbins reviewed the memorandum of understanding between the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Board to administer the 2018 ReLeaf program this fall.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Hanson

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

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke, Emerson

ITEM R6. DISCUSS POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE SECOND BOND LETTING.

Goemaat reviewed potential bond projects for the second bond letting. Hughes asked about timing. Goemaat confirmed the next round target timeline would be September 2019 for Linn County. Kanz commented on the list as being appropriate with consideration for funding of future project phases. Hughes questions on EOR wetlands and Learning Farm for water quality impact. Goemaat confirmed EOR will present at the August Board meeting. Hughes question on the dam mitigation project timeline. Goemaat discussed the grant application cycle for design funding in 2019. Hughes commented on the RFP schedule for dam modification. Hughes commented on Morgan Creek development phases. Goemaat discussed current draft design to gain a phase 1 that provides access and amenities. Hughes commented on restroom and shelter projects and possible use of budgeted reserve capital. Goemaat reviewed Buffalo Creek Park project needs for continued future viability and requested Board review of the site. Goemaat discussed trail design planning for Dows/Maniti to be complete to the Sac and Fox Trail.

The Board did not take formal action on this item.

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ITEM R7. REVIEW, UPDATE, DISCUSS, DECIDE AND UPDATE CURRENT BOARDS END POLICIES – SERIES 1, 1-1 OUTDOOR RECREATION EXPERIENCES.

The Board reviewed Policy #1-1, Outdoor recreation Experiences.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Hanson

Motion to approve Policy No. 1-1, Outdoor Recreation Experiences, for immediate implementation with readings waived.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke, Emerson

SERIES 1, 1-2 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS, CONSERVATION ETHIC.

The Board reviewed Policy #1-2, Environmental Awareness, Conservation Ethic.

MOTION by Hanson, second by Kanz

Motion to approve Policy No. 1-2, Environmental Awareness, Conservation Ethic, for immediate implementation with readings waived.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke, Emerson

SERIES 1, 1-3 OUTDOOR AESTHETIC FULFILLMENT

The Board reviewed Policy #1-3, Outdoor Aesthetic Fulfillment.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Hanson

Motion to approve Policy No. 1-3, Outdoor Aesthetic Fulfillment, for immediate implementation with readings waived.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke, Emerson

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SERIES 1, 1-4 CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Board reviewed Policy #1-4, Conservation of Natural Resources.

MOTION by Hanson, second by Kanz

Motion to approve Policy No. 1-4, Conservation of Natural Resources, for immediate implementation with readings waived.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke, Emerson

ITEM R8. BOARD MEMBER AND STAFF REPORTS

- 1) Community Outreach/Marketing:
 - a. Schlader updated the Conservation Board on recent marketing and outreach activities.
- 2) Update regarding Biotope Contract Update:
 - a. Randy Burke reported on communication delays with the consultant. Member Hanson indicated he will call the consultant and attempt to gauge their level of interest in completing the work.
- 3) Quinquennial Bond Celebration/Educational:
 - a. Hanson reported on draft ideas for potential Bond celebration event. Hanson highlighted the art contest and Darling exhibit ideas. The Board discussed the timeline for celebrations throughout the life of the Bond.
- 4) Linn Ag Conservation Tour:
 - a. Gibbins reported on attendance by Goemaat and Gibbins to the Linn Legislator Ag Interest Tour.

ITEM R9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEM R10. CLOSED SESSION REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE.

The Conservation Board did not go into closed session.

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ITEM R11. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 1:33 PM.

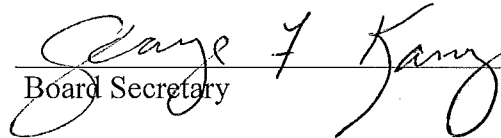
MOTION by Kanz, second by Hanson.

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

Amanda Bieber typed the above minutes.



Recording Secretary



Board Secretary

SEAL