



LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 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, August 27, 2018**, at the Wickiup Hill Learning Center, 10260 Morris Hills Rd, Toddville, IA 52341.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Cindy Burke

STAFF PRESENT

Dennis Goemaat, Director; Daniel Gibbins, Deputy Director; Randy Burke, Planner; Ryan Schlader, Community Outreach; Andrew Huck, Ecologist; Dana Kellogg, Natural Resources Manager;

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat Conrad, EOR; Derek Lash, EOR; Jim Houser, Linn County Supervisor; Steve Hershner, City of Cedar Rapids; Adam Rodenberg, Middle Cedar WMA; John Bruene, USDA; John Gallagher, NRCS; Marty Lenss, CID; Mike Kunz, City of Cedar Rapids; Pam Hinnan, CID; Brian Heimer, City of Cedar Rapids.

CALL TO ORDER

Conservation Board President Hughes called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM.

Hughes appointed Kanz acting secretary.

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 JULY 23, 2018 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

ITEM C2. APPROVE CLAIMS AND EXPENDITURES – CLAIMS LIST #2019-2
Claims and Transfer list #2019-2 involving claim #2-52 through claim #2-120.

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

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

ITEM C5. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

1. Gift #1-2019 – Frank and Barb Edmunds - monetary donation (\$50) to support Wickiup Hill education program.
2. Gift #2-2019 – Wellmark Foundation - monetary donation (\$50) to match Mary Lawler gift in memory of Harold Paul.

ITEM C6. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES

REGULAR AGENDA:

ITEM R2. PRESENTATION BY PAT CONRAD OF EMMONS OLIVIER RESOURCES REGARDING THE MORGAN CREEK WATERSHED STUDY.

Member Emerson joined the meeting at 12:06.

Pat Conrad and Derek Lash presented on Morgan Creek Watershed Study. Question by Hughes about typical project elements. Lash described variability of sites and need for specific engineering, but project construction could be small berms to wetland creation with structures. Goemaat question on practices and tracking of nutrient reduction. Houser asked if development would see incorporation of these practices. Conrad indicated Cedar Rapids has done planning toward those goals. Hughes question on how land acquisition impacts success. Conrad described how these practices take land out of production, usually requiring acquisition. Hughes question about partnerships for landowners to allow the practice while retaining ownership. Hughes comments on goals for partnerships for implementing as many of these projects as possible.

ITEM R3. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION #2018-20 SUPPORTING CONNECTCR CEDAR LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

Goemaat discussed timing of support being brought back to the Board to leverage other support efforts by CONNECTCR.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Emerson

To approve Resolution #2018-20.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke

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ITEM R4. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH E AVENUE ROAD WORK BY THE CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS.

Goemaat presented on E Avenue Road project and related assessment and costs associated with the Cedar Rapids project. Emerson commented on assessments being due to development and deferment should continue until the property is developed. Hughes question on when Assessor would reassess new zoning. Goemaat stated this was unclear. Emerson suggested conversation with the City.

Staff were directed to continue conversations with the City of Cedar Rapids concerning these assessments. No motion was taken.

ITEM R5. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION #2018-21, APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE DAM MITIGATION PROGRAM THROUGH THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR A PLANNING GRANT TO STUDY THE PINICON RIDGE PARK DAM AND POTENTIAL HAZARD MITIGATION EFFORTS, PROJECT # 19-19.

Gibbins presented on Resolution #2018-21 describing grant application to the Iowa DNR for design of dam modification to the Pinicon Ridge Park Dam. The application will be submitted to the State with a request of \$50,000 toward a design project estimated at \$160,500. This funding would hire a design consultant to work with the Board and staff on a dam mitigation study and public outreach process to design a project that would meet the needs of both river ecology and recreational use.

MOTION by Emerson, second by Hanson

To approve Resolution 2018-20 and authorize staff to submit a grant application for the Pinicon Ridge Dam Mitigation Design to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke

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ITEM R6. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH ANDERSON-BOGERT ENGINEERS FOR PLANNING WORK RELATED TO THE GRANT WOOD TRAIL AND AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT, PROJECT #05-14B.

R. Burke discussed the project management contract with Anderson Bogert concerning work related to planning work to fill a gap in the Grant Wood Trail.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Emerson

To award contract to Anderson Bogert in the amount of \$62,000 for planning work and authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute the contract.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke

ITEM R7. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE EASTERN IOWA AIRPORT FOR WINGS2WATER FUNDING INITIATIVE.

Gibbins discussed the Wings2Water Funding Agreement in partnership with the Eastern Iowa Airport. This donation program would funnel donation money to a Linn County Conservation water quality project when public donations were made through the program. Lenss described the program details and planning.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Emerson

Approve the Wings2Water agreement and authorize the Board President to sign the agreement.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke

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ITEM R8. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION #2018-22 SETTING THE DATE AND TIME FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATED COST CONCERNING THE WATER SYSTEM FOR PINICON RIDGE PARK CAMPGROUNDS, PROJECT #17-05.

R. Burke presented on project #17-05 regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost concerning the water system for Pinicon Ridge Park Campgrounds.

MOTION by Hanson, second by Emerson

To approve Resolution 2018-22 and set a public hearing for Monday, September 17, 2018 at 12:00 P.M.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke

ITEM R9. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING CONCURRENCE WITH THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING LEASING EXCESS PROPERTY ADJACENT TO THE CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL TO HIAWATHA FOR A COMMUNITY DOG PARK AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD PRESIDENT TO SIGN THE LEASE RETROACTIVE TO AUGUST 20, 2018.

Goemaat discussed lease agreement with the City of Hiawatha for use of a portion of Linn County Conservation land to develop a dog park.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Emerson

To authorize the Board President to sign the lease agreement retroactive to August 20, 2018.

VOTE: aye; all
 nay; none
 absent: Burke

ITEM R10. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING FUTURE BOND FUNDED PROJECTS.

Goemaat reviewed potential projects for a second bond letting in November- December of 2018.

The Board concurred with staff to move forward with bond projects. No formal action was taken at this time.

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ITEM R11. 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. R. Burke has still not heard from Biotope. Staff will give Biotope a deadline of September 10th to respond.

- 3) Hanson discussed dove hunting season and thanked staff for work on food plots. Reported on Rockwell Collins presentation that included bond topics.

ITEM R12. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEM R13. CLOSED SESSION REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE.

The Board did not go into closed session.

ITEM R14. ADJOURN

MOTION by Hanson, second by Emerson.

To adjourn the meeting at 1:38 PM.

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

Amanda Bieber typed the above minutes.

SEAL



Recording Secretary



Board Secretary