

June 2021

Call to Order

The Tama County Conservation Board met in regular session on Wednesday, June 2nd, 2021 at the Tama County Nature Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Chair, Atchison.

Board Members present: Adolphs, Atchison, Wacha, and Wrage.

Staff Members present: Mayne, Wise, and Kelly.

Public present: N/A

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the April 2021 regular meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Adolphs, seconded by Wrage to approve the minutes as recorded, carried, all voting aye.

Approval of Bills

Bills were presented to be paid from the month of April 2021. It was moved by Adolphs, seconded by Wacha to approve bills, carried, all voting aye.

Reports & Updates

Public Comment: No public in attendance.

Maintenance Report: Wise's report included; Summer staff started. Rebuilt purple martin house. Maintenance on both Ike's shooting range and Clark's Park. Vehicle maintenance including repairing flat tires. Cleaned up for the holiday including mowing, weed eating, and spraying the campgrounds.

Environmental Education Report: Kelly's report included; continuation of the basement displays. He mentioned that the Marshalltown Community College loaned out their aquaponics system for a basement display. He ran three public programs and one program with the schools. The base of the live animal display has been completed this month with plans to acquire the live animal tanks in the near future. Kelly touches on future programming for the summer and the intentions of going virtual during the lake restoration after the park closure.

Meetings Attended: Mayne's report included; May 6th met with, attended a department head meeting with Craig, met with Bill for Magellan to discuss tree clean up along the pipeline through Otter Creek, public hearing budget meeting on May 24th, Lake restoration pre-construction meeting on May 25th.

Old Business

Lake Restoration Project: Mayne presented budget and contract for the pre-construction for phase 2, Mayne stated that July 6th will be the date that we will close off the damn to the public to begin the lake draw down. June 14th marks the date of promiscuous fishing at Otter Creek Lake and Park. Mayne also mentioned that Paul Sleeper with the Iowa DNR will come and electroshock for some fish. Wise informed the board that the contractors have begun mobilization of their equipment to the park. August 9th we will be posting that the hunting on property will be closed until 2023. August will be the begin final draw down of the lake. A discrepancy in the contract about TCCB being the contractor instead of the DNR. Wrage moved, pending change of DNR to contractor instead of TCCB, to approve contract, Adolphs seconded, all in favor aye.

COVID-19 Response: Stephen recommends to lift the mask mandate in the nature center. Adolphs makes the motion to lift all mandates in the building, Wacha seconded the motion, all in favor aye.

FEMA Update: Mayne mentions the demolition of the hog house and boat house to make room for a new building. Mayne proposes the estimate for the slab for the new building. Wise states the cost of the new dock has been covered by insurance. Wrage moves to motioned to write insurance a letter as to why the building should move, Adolphs seconded the motion, all in favor aye.

New Business

Oxbow Bottoms Property: Mayne discussed the property with the county attorney, the attorney has given Mayne all of the easements on the property. Mayne states he will contact Jody Haggerty for the right of way easement for Bob McCoy and his cattle. Mayne will also contact Hindegardner about getting his easement signed on the north side of the property.

Tree Damage at Ike's: Marty McCoy approached Mayne about his cattle getting out into Ike's due to damage from trees. Wise is meeting with Bru Tree Service on Sunday, June 6th, 2021 to get an estimate about cleaning up the trees that have fallen on the fence around the shooting range. Wise also states that we will have to fix about 850 feet of fence following the "right hand rule."

Credit Card Approval: Adolphs moves to motion to include all three credit cards, Wacha seconds the motion, all in favor aye.

- **VISA:** Mayne stated that we have two credit cards, Wise carries one and Mayne carries one. The credit line had been increased to \$5,000.
- **Casey's:** Mayne stated that the whole staff now has Casey's master cards that can only be used for gas, only able to be used if you put the odometer reading in prior to using.
- **Home Depot:** Mayne stated that this card is for the ability to shop around for tools to expand abilities to purchase tools. Wrage questioned what the advantage of a Home Depot card is compared to the VISA card. Mayne informs that this is similar to having an open account at Home Depot.

Transfer of Budget to LAD Fund: Mayne states that we would like to have all unused budget be transfer over to the LAD with \$4,000 being transferred to motor vehicle account to cover the cost of the sidearm mower deck. Wrage moves to motion transfer of unused budget to LAD account, Adolphs seconds the motion, all in favor aye.

Flag Pole Plaza: Mayne reports that he had been in contact with the family that donated the flag pole at the nature center to move the flag pole to the front entrance. This would allow groups to help develop the flag pole plaza such as Eagle Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, etc.

Future Meeting Location While Park is Shutdown: Mayne states that he has discussed with Tammy, head of HR, about moving the board meeting location to the county annex building conference room or the county engineer building during the lake restoration.

Floor Discussion

Wacha asks about hunter education programs at the park. Kelly will reach out to Brett Reece about getting a program set up.

Adjourn

With no further discussion items, it was motioned by Wrage, seconded by Adolphs to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Board Chair

Tama County Conservation Board