

September 2022

Call to Order

The Tama County Conservation Board met in regular session on Wednesday, September 21st, 2022, at the Tama County Nature Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:28 pm by Chair, Wacha.

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

Staff Members present: Mayne, Horne, Conrad, Bruck.

Public present: Ruby Boedecker

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the August 2022 regular meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Adolphs, seconded by Keenan to approve the minutes as recorded, carried, all voting aye.

Approval of Bills

Bills were presented to be paid from the month of August 2022. It was moved by Keenan, seconded by Adolphs to approve bills, carried, all voting aye.

Reports & Updates

Public Comment: N/A

Maintenance Report: Horne's report included trimming and chipping trees on Wolf Creek Trail, parks/campground ready for holiday weekend, mowed Columbia's Prairie seeding, mowed westside and all areas mowed before lake restoration, entrance of Otter Creek Lake and Park ditch filled and seeded. His report also included closing campground/shower house, attending NRCS presentation and DNR Oxbow Bottom site tour, and quarterly safety training.

Environmental Education Report: Bruck's report included field trip schedules and planning, public program preparation, classroom programming planning, summer day camp planning and live animal care. Her report also included meeting with Iowa State Extension and 4-H to discuss and plan upcoming programs for winter and summer.

Meetings Attended: Mayne's report included held interviews for Naturalist position, attending NCRS field day and presentation, attended Wetland Mitigation Meeting, attended IRWC meeting and CCDA meeting.

Old Business

Lake Restoration Project Update: Mayne informs the board that the pre-construction meeting for the lake restoration project is planned to be complete by the first week in October. Mayne mentioned that Rachel Construction is planning to mobilize by November 2nd and be mostly complete by the end of December. He informed the board that the clean-up and finishing touches will start in March or April when the ground thaws.

Oxbow Bottom Strategic Plan: Horne informs the board that he spoke with Pheasants Forever about their management plan, recommendations and ideas. Pheasants Forever recommendations included

moving dirt to make a wetland and remove old backings. Horne mentioned that a parking lot will be built in the next month for public access to Oxbow Bottom.

Stephen mentioned reaching out to Julie, Bob McCoy's Power of Attorney to resolve fencing issues.

New Building Update: Horne's updates the board that the new building is finished. He mentions that the concrete won't be poured until spring or summer of 2023, in order to let the gravel settle. Horne also mentions that a trench from the shed to the new building will need to be dug to supply power to the building.

New Vehicle: Mayne informs the board that he received a quote at \$36,390 on a Ford Explorer for the Naturalist vehicle. Keenan motioned to purchase the new vehicle. Adolphs seconded the motion, all voting aye.

New Business

Z-Line Snowplow: Mayne mentioned that they will be selling the plow truck and that money will go back into vehicle funds. Mayne informed the board that he received a quote at \$15,807 on a plow and spreader. Adolphs motioned to purchase the plow and spreader. Keenan seconded the motion, all voting aye. Mayne also received a quote at \$3,356 on a snowblower. Keenan motioned to purchase the new snowblower. Adolphs seconded the motion, all voting aye.

Wolf Creek Trail: Horne's mentioned concern about a section of the Wolf Creek Trail. He informed the board that it needs to be resurfaced to keep the trail safe for the public. He asked for recommendations from the board from past resurfacing events and the board recommended fixing this section now. In the future, the board will revisit with the possibility of a total resurface in the future.

Floor Discussion

Floor Discussion: There was no floor discussion.

Adjourn

With no further discussion items, it was motioned by Keenan, seconded by Adolphs to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Board Chair
Tama County Conservation Board