

Call to Order

The Tama County Conservation Board met in regular session on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at the Tama County Nature Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:29 pm by Chair, Keenan.

Board Members present: Adolphs, Kenkel, Wacha, and Keenan.

Staff Members present: Horne, Conrad, Genaw.

Public present: Ruby McCallister with the Tama-Toledo Newspaper and Delania Halter

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the June 2023 regular meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Kenkel, seconded by Keenan, to approve the minutes as recorded, carried, all voting aye.

Approval of Bills

N/A

Reports & Updates

Public Comment: N/A

Environmental Education Report: Delivered 13 programs in July with total attendance of 403. Most attended were Dysart 150th and the Tama County Fair. Other programs included visiting Miss Lacy's Preschool, Outdoor Adventure Camp, Critter Camp, Elberon Library (cockroaches), Bug Catching at TF Clarks, and Birding at Wolf Creek Trail. Will be starting OWLS programs again in September. Topics are:

- Sep: Lake restoration
- Oct: Tom Colvin, CEO of ARL
- Nov: Jenni with IBR?
- Dec: Raina, topic TBD

Partnering with Pilgrim Heights for free Paddling 101 program on Aug 16th and Aug 28th, have been handling registration for that. August Knee High Naturalist has a butterfly theme and the Eco artists program for August is a Bee House Workshop. Getting ready for Meskwaki Powwow. Going to workshop for School of the Wild on Aug 8th.

- Face painting: Anna Love
- Clare's Tenderloin
- Big Acai food truck
- Minnerva's Meadow—flowers and farm products
- Pilgrim heights, 4H/ISU extension, master gardeners, Iowa Women in Natural Resources, Air Rifles (Eric with Young Guns), public health, Tama County Soil and Water Conservation District (Mel Bro), Humane Society
- Need volunteers for activities

Face painting by Anna Love approved for Fall Fest at a cost of \$275; motioned by Keenan, seconded by Kenkel, all voting aye. Music by Cain Alan & Deb for Fall Fest at a cost of \$250 approved; motioned by Keenan, seconded by Kenkel, all voting aye.

Park Officer's & Maintenance Report: Performed regular patrol of campgrounds, outparks, and boat ramps. Dealt with neighbors mowing a strip into our prairie at Heritage Wetlands. Discovered and assisted in motorcycle accident. Helped run traffic control in Toledo and Chealsea for Ragbrai. Checked and collected camping posts. Ran Traffic control for project AWARE at boat Ramps. Seasonals assisted with 2 outdoor adventure camps, collected data for a bat survey, helped clean river with Project Aware, helped clean animal displays, and aided in preparation for project AWARE. Bladed and Harley raked roads. Mowed all boat ramps in preparation for Project aware. Mowed Wolf Creek, Ike's, Reining, Clarks park, OCLAP, public hunting area parking lots, and Columbia trails. Mowed thistles at Heritage wetlands. Set up for project aware; Cleaned bathrooms, emptied all trash cans, and cleaned NC. Got log splitter from Theisen's and began splitting lots of firewood. Hauled seasonals and canoes around for project AWARE and outdoor adventure camp. Ordered and get new weed eater and brush blade kit. Got price quotes for new zero turn mower from Van Wall. Called around and brainstormed plans for what to do with spoils sites if they don't grow. Cleared brush around boat ramp. Took plow truck to Spankies auction. Began cutting brush along road and archery range at Ike's. It's Spring cleaning time in shop (put tools in right places). Measured and got quotes for the deck at Hrabak. Fixed animal damage on side of cold storage. Tractor, mower, and trailer tire repairs. Replaced chevy truck headlight. Fixed temperature issue in shower house. Hosted secondary roads saw class. Attended level 2 saw class. Cleaned up all downed trees in front of NC and on pipeline from saw class. Cleaned the NC. Took PTO shaft and universal joint to Garhing equipment in Van Horne. Changed oil and filter on 2012 Chevy. Ran junk metal to the landfill. Mowed and cleared spoil sites of debris. Placed sprinklers in beach to get grass to grow. Began building campers hill new pads. July 8th-Aug 2nd: total of 72 campers.

Old Business

Lake Restoration Update: Bills for overages on work were submitted by construction companies. Tabled until next meeting.

Horne. Total quote for decking, handrails, and screws is \$14,192. Approval of purchase for decking, fascia board, and face screws motioned by Keenan, seconded by Kenkel, all voting aye.

New Business

Zero Turn: Quote presented for a new Van-Walt totaling \$29,433.90. Tabled for next meeting.

Office HVAC: HVAC in office no longer functioning. It is from 1992. Will be getting quote to replace HVAC unit.

Fall Festival: Fliers and advertising begun. Aldophs may contact for hay rides. Wacha will handle archery.

Floor Discussion

Floor Discussion: N/A

Adjourn

With no further discussion items, it was motioned by Keenan, seconded by Kenkel to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Board Chair

Tama County Conservation Board