

# Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

- i. The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2016, at the Annett Nature Center, 16656 118<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Indianola, Iowa. Meeting called to order by President Kreidler at 6:06 p.m.

Those present:

Absent:

Mick Kreidler, President

Sue Boll, Vice-President

Joe Gavin, Secretary

Ace Hendricks

Ron Miller

Comprising a quorum of the board,

Also present:

Absent:

Jim Priebe, Director

David Youngblut, Op Coordinator

Karen Johlas-Szalkowski, Naturalist II

Mark Wilson, Natural Resources Specialist

Doug Gaumer, Conservation Technician

Logan Roberts, Naturalist I

Tyler Seuferer, Conservation Technician

Guest(s): Crystal McIntyre, Warren County Supervisor; Dean Yordi, Warren County Supervisor; Justin Jackson, Hartford, Iowa; Erin Dobson, Hartford, Iowa; one other.

- ii. The minutes of the October 2016 meetings were reviewed. Ron Miller moved to accept the minutes as printed. Sue Boll seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- iii. October 2016 Staff Reports were discussed and accepted.

Sue Boll shared a compliment she had received regarding Lundy Acres. Mike Kreidler added her compliments on the management of the park.

- iv. Business Agenda:

a. Old Business:

1. Friends of Warren County Conservation report:

Strategic plan updated.

2. Cumming Drainage:

Forms submitted for project closeout, waiting for any final requests from Iowa DOT.

3. Iowa DOT North River mitigation site reports:

Ready to schedule closing for North River II access.

4. Web report:

Attached to the meeting packet.

5. Discuss, approve staff proposal for Fiscal 2018 budget:

Moved to the end of new business.

b. New Business:

1. Remove seasonal employees from payroll:

Staff requested that the board remove John Fensterman, Sean Seymour, Andrew Peeler, and Kevin Brown from payroll, effective November 18, 2016.

Sue Boll moved to remove the listed employees from payroll as requested. Joe Gavin seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

2. Grant Park update, possible action (items 2 and 3 from new business were taken in reverse order):

David Youngblut reviewed the work currently being done at Grant Park. He also outlined the proposal in the Fiscal 2018 staff budget proposal to build a 10 site primitive campground at the park.

The road project in the Fiscal 2017 budget is nearly complete and includes an expanded parking area for the shelter, re-graded and rocked service road to and through the ridge top, and moving the gate from the near the shelter to the ridge top where the service road descends to the pond.

The proposal for a primitive campground at Grant Park has been discussed for years and is included in the park summaries that were presented to the Board in 2013. Each campsite would have a fire ring surrounded by a small concreted pad and a picnic table. A pit latrine would be located near the center of the campground.

Youngblut also discussed the issues of planks breaking on one of the two entrance road bridges during this work and the steps being taken to repair and strengthen the bridges.

President Kreidler invited comment from those attending the meeting.

Erin Dobson expressed concern about erosion on the road up the hill (currently the service road) and the lack of detailed engineering. She discussed access to the current trails, the bridge issues reviewed by David Youngblut, and said she would prefer a hike-in campground.

Justin Jackson expressed concern about what he called a piecemeal approach and a lack of public notice about the projects.

Board member Ron Miller sited public input session that were held (and well attended in Carlisle) and asked what the interested parties goals would be.

Mr. Jackson suggested closing the road up the hill until all areas needing rock get rock.

Supervisor McIntyre expressed appreciation for the work the Conservation Board does in maintaining Warren County's public lands. She suggested posting upcoming work on the park information boards as far ahead as possible.

3. Great Western Trail/Veterans Parkway discussions, possible action:  
Supervisor Yordi informed the Board that no representative from West Des Moines would be able to attend the meeting.  
Jim Priebe informed the board that Mick Kreidler and he would be meeting with West Des Moines again on November 14<sup>th</sup>. He also shared some alternative drawings of possible Veterans Parkway alignments that had been received from West Des Moines via email just prior to the meeting.  
The drawings were reviewed. Alternative A involved a complete rerouting that does not utilize any Great Western Trail right-of-way. President Kreidler stated she felt this to be the safest route.  
With no firm proposal from West Des Moines, the Board consensus was to see what develops as the meetings with the road-planning group continue.

a. Old Business:

5. Discuss, approve staff proposal for Fiscal 2018 budget:  
The staff proposal for the Fiscal 2018 budget (included in the board packet) was reviewed and discussed. Amounts for proposed pond to protect Lester Pond at the Annett Nature Center, the shelter at Lester Pond for programming, and the total amount for permanent landscaping were adjusted. Jim Priebe said that final numbers on salaries and insurance would be partially dependent on action by the Board of Supervisors  
Sue Boll moved to adopt the Fiscal 2018 budget proposal as adjusted. Ron Miller seconded.  
Motion carried by unanimous vote

c. Other Business:

1. Ace Hendricks asked to be replaced as Board representative to the Strategic Plan committee. President Kreidler indicated she would take that role.
  2. The December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., following a potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m.
- v. Financial reports were distributed.
- vi. Bills were approved and signed.
- vii. Sue Boll moved to adjourn. Seconded by Joe Gavin. Motion carried by unanimous vote at 8:19 p.m.

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Joe Gavin, Secretary  
Warren County Conservation Board