

Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

- i. The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2015, at the Annett Nature Center, 15565 118th Avenue, Indianola, Iowa. Meeting called to order by President Miller at 6:02 p.m.

Those present:

Ron Miller, President
Ace Hendricks, Secretary
Mick Kreidler
Sue Boll

Absent:

Joe Gavin, Vice-President

Comprising a quorum of the board,

Also present:

Jim Priebe, Director
David Youngblut, Op Coordinator
Mark Wilson, Natural Resources Specialist
Doug Gaumer, Conservation Technician
Karen Johlas-Szalkowski, Naturalist II
Logan Roberts, Naturalist I

Absent:

Guest(s): Greg Patteson, US Fish & Wildlife Service; Crystal McIntyre, Warren County Board of Supervisors; Judy Hendricks, Ackworth, Iowa.

- ii. The minutes of the March 2015 meetings were discussed. Ace Hendricks moved to approve the March 2015 minutes as corrected. Sue Boll seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- iii. March 2015 Staff Reports were discussed and accepted as presented.
The naturalists were complimented on working with the YMCA.
A discussion was held about vacant hours at the Annett Nature Center and developing plans to minimize them with staff and/or volunteers

- iv. Business Agenda:

a. Old Business:

1. Friends of Warren County Conservation report:

Minutes from the most recent FWCC meeting were included in the meeting packet. The potential of crowd funding to generate financing for projects like the pollinator room was discussed.

2. Cumming Drainage:

The area is very wet and this will prevent grading work from beginning.

3. Iowa DOT mitigation sites:

The 28E agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation for North River I has been submitted.

The permit application for a pedestrian bridge over North River at North River II has been submitted.

4. Chuck Lenze memorial:

Work is progressing on the plaque for the memorial.

5. 2015-16 budget status:

The County budget hearing was reviewed. There were no concerns expressed or changes made to the conservation portion of the fiscal 2016 budget.

6. Strategic Leadership Committee report & board discussion

Ace Hendricks distributed the compiled board input. Mick Kreidler asked that board members be given until the May 2015 meeting to look over the document. President Miller directed that the May 2015 meeting begin at 5:30 p.m. with this item coming before the rest of the agenda.

b. New Business:

1. Naturalist report on 40th anniversary activities:

The Anniversary/birthday open house will be April 18th.

2. Seasonal Hires:

Jim Priebe asked the Board to approve the following as seasonal hires for 2015:

Name	Year with WCCB	Pay rate	Effective date
Monty Freeman	16 th ?	\$12.55/hour	April 25, 2015
Sean Seymour	5 th	\$10.03/hour	April 25, 2015
Nick Reinter	4 th	\$9.98/hour	April 25, 2015
Drew Peeler	3 rd	\$9.93/hour	April 25, 2015

Mick Kreidler moved to approve the seasonal hires as presented. Sue Boll seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. US Fish & Wildlife Service re. butterfly conservation (this item was considered after the call to order and prior to the rest of the agenda for the convenience of the presenter):

Greg Patteson of the US Fish & Wildlife Service discussed the Partners for Fish & Wildlife program, particularly the pollinators project. USF&W is looking to create habitat for migrating monarchs along the Interstate 35 corridor and is looking for private and public partners that want to help accomplish that goal. USF&W has \$3.2 million available for the current fiscal year, including \$100,000 for Iowa. USF&W will provide seed for parcels up to 20 acres. Areas planted are subject to a 10-year management agreement.

Board and staff were enthusiastic about the program. It fits very well with current management plans on multiple areas. Several sites on WCCB property were discussed as possible locations for the project. David Youngblut will be working with Mr. Patteson to identify the best locations.

4. Preliminary management plans for North River I DOT mitigation site:

Jim Priebe presented staff's preliminary plan for North River I and outlined plans for a public meeting to be held April 23, 2015 at the Annett Nature Center, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be scheduled as a WCCB meeting so any or all board members are free to attend, but will only be informational and comment gathering.

He asked for board approval for the presentation of the plan and scheduling of the meeting. Ace Hendricks moved to approve the meeting as requested. Sue Boll seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

c. Other Business:

1. Ace Hendricks reviewed the State Auditors report and their comments on the WCCB and FWCC.
 2. Supervisor McIntyre discussed land near North River and Beardsley Street that might be suitable for a North River Greenbelt project.
 3. Supervisor McIntyre discussed the farm tour being held August 2015 and the WCCB's involvement.
- v. Financial reports were distributed.
- vi. Bills were approved and signed.
- vii. Mick Kreidler moved to adjourn, Sue Boll seconded.
Motion carried by unanimous vote. 8:24 p.m.

Ace Hendricks, Secretary
Warren County Conservation Board