

# Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

- i. The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, at the Annett Nature Center, 15565 118<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Indianola, Iowa. Meeting called to order by Vice-President Gavin at 6:06 p.m.

Those present:

Joe Gavin, Vice-President  
Mick Kreidler  
Sue Boll

Absent:

Ron Miller, President  
Ace Hendricks, Secretary

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): Stan Ripperger, Indianola, Iowa  
Tyler Seuferer, Milo, Iowa

- ii. The minutes of the October 2015 meetings were discussed. Sue Boll moved to approve the October 2015 minutes as presented. Mick Kreidler seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- iii. October 2015 Staff Reports were discussed and accepted. The excellent crowd at the Halloween Hike was noted.
- iv. Business Agenda:
- a. Old Business:
1. Friends of Warren County Conservation report:  
The minutes of the previous FWCC meeting were included in the packet.  
Friends are working on promoting the Pollinator Project and wrapping up their work on the first phase of the strategic plan.
  2. Cumming Drainage:  
The area remains unworkable. The culverts on County Road G14 are not allowing efficient drainage from the area. There are fiber optic lines in the area that will complicate clearing the culverts. The Engineer's Office is looking at the problem.
  3. Iowa DOT North River mitigation site reports:  
Equipment to finish signing the Swamp White Oak Tract has arrived.  
Iowa DOT has indicated that they would be willing to fund approximately 2/3 of the cost of engineering the pedestrian bridge at North River II. This will be written into the 28E management agreement. Jim Priebe has reestablished contact with Mr. Tigner regarding the purchase of an access from County Road R63.

4. 2015 Flooding:  
All repairs work and debris removal is done. Paperwork is finished and staff is waiting for payments. Jim Priebe said he would likely remove this item from the agenda.
  5. Fish Habitat Grant:  
Staff asked the Board to approve the grant application and authorize Vice-President Gavin to sign the application  
Sue Boll moved to approve applying for a Fish Habitat Grant for Hickory Hills and authorize Vice-President Gavin to sign. Mick Kreidler seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
  6. Pollinator Room Project:  
Karen Johlas-Szalkowski updated funding efforts for the project. To date, \$33,145 has been raised for the project.  
Framing for the addition is mostly complete.
  7. Strategic Plan Report:  
Friends of Warren County Conservation are nearly done with their review of the plan. The Plan will be reviewed by the leadership committee and then presented to all parties.
  8. Staff FY 2017 budget proposal:  
The staff budget proposal and the written thoughts of absent Board member Ace Hendricks were discussed.  
Mick Kreidler moved to accept the staff proposal as submitted. Sue Boll seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- b. New Business:
1. Removal of seasonal staff from payroll:  
No seasonal staff were ready for removal. Most, if not all, remaining seasonals will be on the agenda for removal at the December meeting.
  2. Stan Ripperger, re. Bernie Ripperger memorial (this item taken before old business):  
Mr. Ripperger presented the funds set aside from memorial contributions for his father, Bernard. Mr. Ripperger. He said the family would like to see the contributions use to further the Board's education efforts, like the donation of the Native American collection and the memorials for Mr. Ripperger's mother, Leota. He said there might be more contributions forthcoming and he will forward them as that happens.  
The Board thanked the Ripperger family for their continued generosity and several Board members and staff commented on their recollections of Bernard.
- c. Other Business:
1. Jim Priebe informed the Board of some items damaged by lightning November 5, 2015.
- v. Financial reports were distributed.
- vi. Bills were approved and signed.
- vii. Sue Boll moved to adjourn, Mick Kreidler seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote. 7:24 p.m.

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Ace Hendricks, Secretary  
Warren County Conservation Board