

Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

- i. The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2015, at the Annett Nature Center, 15565 118th Avenue, Indianola, Iowa. Meeting called to order by President Miller at 7:22 p.m.

Those present:

Ron Miller, President
Joe Gavin, Vice-President
Mick Kreidler

Absent:

Ace Hendricks, Secretary
Sue Boll

Comprising a quorum of the board,

Also present:

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

Absent:

Doug Gaumer, Conservation Technician

Guest(s): Randy Edwards, Indianola, Iowa, Friends of Warren County Conservation

- ii. The minutes of the November 2015 meetings were discussed. Mick Kreidler moved to approve the November 2015 minutes as presented. Joe Gavin seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- iii. November 2015 Staff Reports were discussed and accepted.
- 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. Iowa DOT North River mitigation site reports:
A surveyor has been lined up to determine the exact description of the access acquisition for North River II.
 3. Pollinator Project Report:
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. Strategic Plan Report:
Moved to—and combined with—New Business 2; Joint discussion session with Friends of Warren County Conservation.
- b. New Business:
 1. Removal of seasonal staff from payroll:
Staff requested the removal of the remainder of the 2015 seasonal staff from payroll. Specifically, Ashley Vanderflight and John Fensterman, effective December 18, 2015, and Paul (Tyler) Seuferer and Kevin Brown, effective January 2, 2016.
Mick Kreidler moved to remove the seasonal staff from payroll as requested, second by Joe Gavin. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
 2. Joint discussion session with Friends of Warren County Conservation:
Randy Edwards, President of the Friends of Warren County Conservation, joined the meeting. He informed the board the FWCC has finished their review of the Strategic Plan and is compiling all the input from the Friends, the WCCB, and staff and will distribute it when finished.
Mr. Edwards asked if the Board would work with the Friends on a volunteer recognition program. The Board was enthusiastic and Jim Priebe said he would be pleased to work with Randy on the program.
- c. Other Business:
 1. Swamp White Oak Tract refuge signing is substantially complete.
 2. Staff has discussed the possibility of sharing a Conservation Technician with the Iowa DNR at the Banner Shooting Range. Mark Wilson brought up the idea and staff all felt it could be an acceptable compromise to hiring a full-time staff member during budget workshops. Such a shared position would be funded by the DNR contracting with the county and the county acting as the hiring entity. DNR has expressed interest in the idea.
The Conservation Board directed Jim Priebe to include information about this possibility in the budget detail submitted to the Board of Supervisors.
- v. Financial reports were distributed.
- vi. Bills were approved and signed.
- vii. Joe Gavin moved to adjourn, Mick Kreidler seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote. 7:52 p.m.

Ace Hendricks, Secretary
Warren County Conservation Board