

Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

- i. The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at the Annett Nature Center, 15565 118th Avenue, Indianola, Iowa. Meeting called to order by President Boll at 6:02 p.m.

Those present:

Sue Boll, President
Ron Miller, Secretary
Mark Kickbush

Absent:

Joe Gavin, Vice-President
Ace Hendricks

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
Kelsey Longnecker, Naturalist I
Doug Gaumer, Conservation Technician
Tyler Seuferer, Conservation Technician

Absent:

Guest(s): Al Hayes and Ben Hayes, both of Beech, Iowa.

- ii. Reading of Minutes.

Minutes of the February 2019 and March 2019 Warren County Conservation Board meeting were reviewed. Ron Miller moved to approve minutes as printed. Second by Mark Kickbush. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- iii. Staff reports for the February 2019 and March 2019 were reviewed. Flood damage, including to the Middle River bridge on the Summerset Trail. Herberger Construction has looked at the damage and said the bridge is safe for trail traffic but will need repair. They are preparing a cost estimate.

- iv. Business Agenda (New Business 3: Discussion of Beech Park, was taken before Old Business):

a. Old Business:

1. Friends of Warren County Conservation Report:

Minutes of the previous FWCC meeting are attached.

The free lending library in the Annett Nature Center circle drive was dedicated.

A sign is being readied for a Norwalk park showing distance and direction from there to Warren county parks.

A concept is being prepared for the ANC exhibit hall

2. Lodge siting update, possible action:

The attached survey was discussed, along with an appraisal of that area, for lodge placement. Mr. Lawson has indicated that, at this time, he does not want to sell a larger parcel. David Youngblut said that removing slightly more than one acre from Mr. Lawson's CRP would incur costs of \$1,186.87. Jim Priebe and David Youngblut said that, with Board

concurrence, they will work with Mr. Lawson on a purchase agreement to bring to the Board in May. President Boll instructed them to do so.

Jim Priebe asked the Board to approve an agreement with MidAmerican Energy for installation of electrical service at the site and sign the bill for that work. Cost will not be incurred until installation, which will be after purchase of the property, if the Board chooses that course. Ron Miller moved to approve the agreement and authorize the Director to sign. Seconded by Mark Kickbush. Motion carried by unanimous vote

a. New Business:

1. Approve seasonal hires:

Mark Kickbush moved to approve seasonal hires as presented. Seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

2. Discussion of details re. proposed Lester Pond shelter:

David Youngblut and Karen Johlas-Szalkowski reviewed the interest of the Friends of Warren County Conservation in funding a small shelter at Lester Pond, a project that has been on the Conservation Board's list for several years. David indicated he has put together a material list so that any shelter funded by the FWCC and okayed by the WCCB will look consistent with the Davison Pavilion. The list will allow the FWCC to request further quotes, should they desire.

The Board concurred with these actions and directed staff to continue the process.

3. Discussion of Beech Park:

Al Hayes and Ben Hayes, both of Beech, Iowa, spoke to the Board regarding Beech Park.

A. Hayes said that he and other residents of Beech are unsatisfied with the care provided the park by the Union Township Trustees, and would like to see the park returned to management by the Warren County Conservation Board.

While sympathetic to the Hayes' concerns, Board Members said they felt the matter is currently between residents of Union Township and their Trustees. Board Members and staff indicated a willingness to help with technical matters or, possibly, procurement of trees to replace ash trees currently in the park.

4. Discussion, possible decision on allowing repair station on Summerset Trail:

Carlisle Knights of Columbus have asked permission to place a bike repair station at the Carlisle trail head of the Summerset Trail.

Mark Kickbush moved to allow the repair station, with exact placement to be approved by staff prior to installation. Seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

v. Financial reports were distributed.

vi. Bills were approved and signed.

vii. Ron Miller moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mark Kickbush.

Motion carried by unanimous vote at 7:20 p.m.

Ron Miller, Secretary

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