

Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

- i. The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at the Annett Nature Center, 15565 118th Avenue, Indianola, Iowa. Meeting called to order by President Boll at 6:00 p.m.

Those present:

Sue Boll, President
Ron Miller, Secretary
Ace Hendricks
Joe Schettler

Absent:

Mark Kickbush

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
Tyler Seuferer, Conservation Technician

Absent:

Guest(s): Brian Hemaseth, City of West Des Moines
Brian Sheriff, Colby Interests
Scott Kelly, DR Horton
Brandon Stubbs, Stubbs Engineering
Nathan Drew, Drew Realty
Monty Freeman, Indianola, Iowa

Newly appointed Board Member Joe Schettler was introduced.

- ii. Reading of Minutes.

Minutes of the December 2019 Warren County Conservation Board meeting were reviewed. Ron Miller moved to approve minutes as printed. Second by Ace Hendricks. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- iii. Staff reports for December 2019 were reviewed.

- iv. Business Agenda: New Business 1 and New Business 3 were taken first, out of order, for the convenience of attending guests.

- a. Organization:

1. Election of 2020 officers:

Ace Hendricks nominated Mark Kickbush as president. Ron Miller seconded. There being no further nominations, the question was called. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ron Miller nominated Ace Hendricks as vice-president. Joe Schettler seconded. There being no further nominations, the question was called. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ace Hendricks nominated Ron Miller as secretary. Joe Schettler seconded. There being no further nominations, the question was called. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

2. Review of bylaws:

The following corrections were requested by Ace Hendricks:

The FLSA status of the Naturalist II and Natural Resource Specialist should be non-exempt, Add “Provides input on the implementation and maintenance of program to enhance existing, or develop new recreation or related natural resource programs” to the Conservation Technician essential functions, and

Add the word “be” to the second sentence of the final item on page 18.

Ace Hendricks moved to adopt the corrections. Ron Miller seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Vice-President Hendricks assumed the chair.

New Business 1 was taken first for the convenience of attending guests.

b. Old Business:

1. Friends of Warren County Conservation report:
As printed.

c. New Business:

1. Request from DR Horton to approve previously planned Veterans Parkway/residential area access across the Great Western Trail:

Brian Hemaseth, City of West Des Moines, reviewed past land use changes along the Veterans Parkway and Great Western Trail along with the 2017 agreement between West Des Moines and the Warren County Conservation Board. Included were the elimination of the Adams Street trail crossing, the future removal of the County Line Road trail crossing, and the future addition of a crossing west of where the Adams Street crossing was located. Scott Kelly of DR Horton showed the Board preliminary plans for housing south of Adams Street and west of the Fox Valley development that will include the new trail crossing.

Mr. Kelly did not ask for approval of the crossing at this time and will bring more detailed information when DR Horton is ready to formally request the crossing.

2. Request from Iowa DNR to transfer non-modern toilet located on Summerset Trail right-of-way to Warren County Conservation:

Staff shared documents from the Iowa Department of Transportation that would transfer the pit latrine located on the Summerset Trail right-of-way, as shown in the attached documents, to the Warren County Conservation Board. Staff have been maintaining the latrine for some time, as the vast majority of its users are trail users. The facility needs some minor repairs and costs and time for maintenances should be minimal

Ron Miller moved to accept the Iowa Department of Natural Resources proposal to transfer the pit latrine on the Summerset Trail right-of-way at the Banner Shooting Range to the Warren County Conservation Board. Sue Boll seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

c. Other Business:

1. Annett Nature Center Park Lodge update:

The framing, roofing, windows, and first stage of electrical work are done. Staff will begin their work soon.

2. Finishing the committee review of the Strategic Plan was discussed

3. It was noted that Joe Gavin served on the Conservation Board from 1998 through 2019. Board Members and staff noted their appreciation of his service and support.

v. Financial reports were distributed.

vi. Bills were approved and signed.

vii. Sue Boll moved to adjourn. Motion seconded Ron Miller.

Motion carried by unanimous vote at 7:157 p.m.

Ron Miller, Secretary
Warren County Conservation Board