

Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

- i. The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, July 8, 2020. The meeting was held electronically. Meeting called to order by President Kickbush at 6:00 p.m.

Those present:

Absent: Sue Boll

Mark Kickbush, President
Ace Hendricks, Vice-president
Ron Miller, Secretary
Joe Schettler

Comprising a quorum of the board,

Also present:

Jim Priebe, Director
David Youngblut, Op Coordinator
Karen Johlas-Szalkowski, Naturalist II
Mark Wilson, Natural Resource Specialist
Kelsey Longnecker, Naturalist I

Guest(s): Anthony Bellizi, Veenstra & Kim

- ii. Reading of Minutes.

Minutes of the June 2020 Warren County Conservation Board meeting were reviewed. Ron Miller moved to approve minutes as printed. Seconded by Joe Schettler. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- iii. Staff reports for June 2020 were discussed.

- iv. Business Agenda (New Business 1 was taken before Old Business items for the convenience of guests):

- a. Old Business:

1. Friends of Warren County Conservation report:

As printed.

The 2020 Prairie Picnic will be virtual.

2. Annett Nature Center Lodge:

A). Update

Electrical work is complete, counter top is in, septic is installed, and ceiling beams are up. The Board requested a formal water line easement from Blair Lawson be generated and brought to them for execution.

B). Consider change orders, possible action:

- i). Floor sealing
- ii). Eaves
- iii). Siding installation
- iv). Increased patio size
- v). Automatic door opener for main entrance door

Requested change orders total \$32,542. Jim Priebe informed the Board that there is a little over \$10,000 in the Geyer donation that could be used for change orders and requested the Board authorize \$22,500 to come from fiscal year 2021 funding to Finance the remaining proposed costs.

Ron Miller moved to approve change orders as presented. Seconded by Joe Schettler. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. Strategic planning:

Tabled.

4. Annett Nature Center open/closed status:

After discussion the Board did not take action. The consensus of the Board was that the Annett Nature Center and all drinking fountains in WCCB areas remain closed until further notice and that the issue should be discussed at each Board meeting until conditions warrant changing that status.

5. Evaluations:

Jim Priebe informed the Board that he has filed retirement papers with IPERS and that his last day as Director of the Warren County Conservation Board will be October 2, 2020.

President Kickbush designated Ace Hendricks and Joe Schettler to continue working on the new evaluation tools that Ace has been developing.

4. Park signage and mapping was discussed.

b. New Business:

1. Request from Veenstra & Kim for sewage easement across the Great Western Trail:

Mr. Bellizi presented a request from Veenstra & Kim on behalf of the City of Cumming for a sanitary sewer easement under the Great Western Trail (documents attached in the July 2020 meeting packet). Trail use would be interrupted for one or two days. The location was checked to make sure the easement did not impact the nearby prairie remnant and Mr. Bellizi was asked to make sure that notices were placed in Martensdale, Cumming, and Des Moines so trail users have notice of the impending work. Work should be completed prior to October 1, 2020.

Ron Miller moved to approve the easement. Motion seconded by Ace Hendricks. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

2. Consider lease purchase of truck:

Tabled until the August 19, 2020 WCCB meeting.

c. Discussion Items:

Board members were reminded that the August 2020 meeting has been moved to August 19th.

- v. Financial reports were distributed.
- vi. Bills. Joe Schettler I moved to approve the list of claims totaling \$11,573.03, including \$1,100 in rental refunds that were not on the most recent sheet emailed to Board Members. Seconded by Ace Hendricks. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- vii. Ace Hendricks moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried by unanimous vote at 6:55 p.m.

Ron Miller, Secretary
Warren County Conservation Board