

Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

- i. The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2020. The meeting was held electronically. Meeting called to order by President Kickbush at 5:59 p.m.

Those present:

Absent:

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

Comprising a quorum of the board,

Also present:

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

Guest(s): None

- ii. Reading of Minutes.

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

- iii. Staff reports for August 2020 were discussed.

- iv. Business Agenda:

- a. Old Business:

1. Friends of Warren County Conservation report:

As printed.

The 2020 Prairie Picnic virtual auction will be live September 12.

Trail run will be held at the Annett Nature Center in October.

2. Annett Nature Center Lodge update:

Floor sealing and patio installation are finished.

3. Annett Nature Center open/closed Status:

The Board reaffirmed that the ANC is closed except by appointment and that indoor use is restricted to County business.

4. Consider rental packet, including contract of Middleswart lodge at Annett Nature Center Park, possible action:

The Board accept the Naturalists' input and asked that it be incorporated into a unified rental contract.

5. Director's job description, application process, possible action:

The Board reviewed the bylaw change to the Director job description, discussed using Tessa

Baskerville, Warren County Human Resource Director as the main point of contact for applicants, opening applications September 10, 2020 and closing them November 6, 2020, and listing the salary range in the posted information.

Ron Miller moved to approve the bylaw change as presented and post the Director position as discussed. Motion seconded by Joe Schettler. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

b. New Business:

1. Receive draft of Fiscal 2020 Annual Report:

The Board received the draft for consideration.

2. Receive draft Fiscal 2022 Staff Conservation budget proposal:

The Board received the draft for consideration.

3. Receive letter of retirement from Director, effective October 2, 2020, possible action:

The Board received Jim Priebe's letter designating October 2, 2020 as his retirement date.

Ace Hendricks moved to accept Priebe's letter. Motion seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. Consider letter of support for Des Moines' grant application to connect Summerset Trail to Des Moines through Carlisle, possible action:

Jim Priebe asked the Board to approve accepting management of either the full mile of trail in Warren County or the ¼-mile of trail outside of Carlisle corporate limits that would be created if Des Moines' Carlisle Connector project is successful in linking the Summerset Trail to the Des Moines trail system. Des Moines will stand all construction costs.

Joe Schettler moved to approve accepting management of the ¼-mile of trail outside of Carlisle corporate limits. Motion seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried by unanimous, 5-0 vote.

d. Discussion Items:

President Kickbush said the Board would discuss the Middleswart Lodge fireplace in October.

The condition of the Great Western Trail was discussed, specifically between Martensdale and Cumming. Mowing along Veterans Parkway was also discussed.

- v. Financial reports were distributed.

- vi. Bills. Joe Schettler moved to approve the list of claims totaling \$38,154.15. Seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- vii. Sue Boll moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Ron Miller, Secretary
Warren County Conservation Board