

Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

- i. The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 10, 2021. The meeting was held electronically. Meeting called to order by President Kickbush at 6:00 p.m.

Those present:

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

Comprising a quorum of the board,

Absent:

Sue Boll

Also present:

Karen Johlas-Szalkowski, Naturalist II, Interim Director
Mark Wilson, Natural Resource Specialist
Kelsey Longnecker
David Youngblut

Guest(s):

George Shillcock, Indianola Record Herald
Rich Voelker, Synder and Associates
Callie Hopper
Crystal McIntyre, Warren County Supervisor

- ii. Reading of Minutes.

Minutes of the January 2021 Warren County Conservation Board meetings were reviewed. Ace Hendricks moved to approve minutes as written. Motion seconded by Joe Schettler. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- iii. Staff reports for January were presented.

- iv. Business Agenda:

- a. Old Business:

1. Friends of Warren County Conservation report:

The FWCC are planning an in person & virtual Osprey 5K Trail Run. Friends voted to keep the same officers.

2. Middleswart Lodge:

The Middleswart donation amount remaining is \$11,609. February lodge expenses totaled \$2,743.42. The following still need to be completed in the lodge: additional tables/chairs, concrete, restroom partitions, kitchen backsplash, and potentially a sprinkler system. Joe Schettler reported the findings from the fire inspector and options for opening the building without a sprinkler system and still meeting code. The lodge could be opened with no stove or anything that would cause a grease fire, no sprinkler system, and no alcohol with a letter explaining the policy prior to reservations. Discussion followed in regards to Annett Nature Center rentals and the goals of the new lodge. Joe Schettler moved to adopt a policy at this

time with no alcohol allowed at the lodge or outdoor space and to include the kitchen modifications required to meet code. Motion seconded by Ron Miller Motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. Snyder & Associates Great Western Trail-Rich Voelker

Rich presented the draft, scope, and fee proposal for the Great Western & Summerset Trails. Part of the proposal includes assistance with 3 grants state, federal, or private. The assistance includes them writing & submitting the grants. Grants will likely need to be submitted multiple times before awarded. The first grant will be due July 1. The evaluation of the trails can begin as soon as the trail is clear of snow. WCCB will need to provide background and location of culverts to Snyder. The first payment will be in April and billing occurs monthly. Ron Miller moved to accept the Great Western Trail and Summerset Proposal with Snyder & Associates. Motion seconded by Joe Schettler Motion carried by unanimous vote.

b. New Business:

1. Carlisle Connection 28 E Agreement

The board reviewed the Carlisle 28 E Agreement for the Carlisle Connection Trail. WCCB would maintain about ¼ mile of the trail. Joe Schettler moved to approve the Carlisle Connection 28 E Agreement Motion seconded Ace Hendricks Motion carried by unanimous vote.

2. Co-Director & Office Manager Positions

The co-director and office manager positions were discussed. Discussion included: positions, options of relisting the director's position, command chart, bylaws update process, attendance at workshops, developing partnerships, and organizational change. Joe Schettler moved to proceed with the co-director and office manager position. Motion seconded by Ace Hendricks. Aye votes-Mark Kickbush, Ace Hendricks, Joe Schettler Nay votes-Ron Miller

d. Discussion Items:

WCCB discussed if next month's meeting should be in person, zoom, or both. It was agreed to offer both. Joe mentioned the Warren County Philanthropic grant applications were announced and suggested WCCB apply for various projects.

v. Financial reports were distributed. Karen is still working on the credit cards. New computers have been ordered.

vi. Bills. Ace Hendricks moved to approve the list of claims totaling \$24,691.54 Seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

vii. Ron Miller moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Joe Schettler. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Ron Miller, Secretary
Warren County Conservation Board