

# Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 11, 2022. The meeting was held in person at the Anette Nature Center. Meeting called to order by President Kickbush at 5:00 p.m.

Those present:

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

Absent:

Joe Schettler

Comprising a quorum of the board,

Also present:

Karen Johlas-Szalkowski, Co-Director/Naturalist II  
Mark Wilson, CO-Director/Operations Coordinator  
Mallory Wells, Officer Manager  
Tyler Seuferer, Natural Resource Specialist

Guest:

Patrick O'Neil  
Melissa O'Neil  
Dan Sherman

## Reading of the Minutes

- a. Warren County Conservation Board meeting minutes from the regular April meeting were reviewed. Ron Miller made a motion to approve the April Regular Meeting. Sue Boll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
- ii. Staff Reports.
  - a. Staff reports were presented.
- iii. Business Agenda
  - a. Old Business
    - i. Friends of Warren County Conservation Board (FWCC)
      1. The Osprey 5K had 51 participants. The board is working on ways to improve the run.
      2. Deer Tag Auction was a success. The tag sold for \$22,000.00.
      3. The Plant Sale will be held Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup>. Ryan McPherran has been busy working to get the plants ready for the sale.
    - ii. Strategic Plan
      1. The Warren County Conservation Board and staff reviewed the strategic plan.
- iv. New Business
  - a. Special Use Permits
    - i. Space University
      1. Patrick O'Neil presented to the board his request to use the Middleswart Lodge for Space University. His troop will be offering this university for Central Iowa Boy Scouts to obtain 3 space merit badges and one super nova. Sue Boll made the motion to sponsor Space University and allow the scouts

to camp along the trail east of the Middleswart Lodge. Ron Miller seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

ii. Boy Scouts, Hickory Hills

1. A Troop leader reached out to Co-Director Wilson to see about camping near the barn and shelter at Hickory Hills. The date they wanted is not available, so they would like to use Otter Creek. The Troop will need to complete a Special Use Permit.
2. Co-Directors have discussed utilizing Otter Creek for a group camping option for Scouts or large groups.
3. Groups will still need to complete a special use permit and park/camping use fee will be determined by the Warren County Conservation Board. Groups will still need to provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance.
4. Sue Boll made a motion to update the Special Use Permit with "Park Use Fee, or as determined by the Warren County Conservation Board". Ron Miller seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carries.

iii. Hillbilly Hike

1. Sue Boll made a motion to sponsor the Hillbilly Hike for use of the Summerset Trail. Ron Miller seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carries.

b. Hazard Mitigation Resolution

- i. Ron Miller made the motion to approve the Hazard Mitigation Resolution as presented. Sue Boll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carries.

c. Donation Policy

- i. Sue Boll made the motion to approve the donation policy as presented. Ron Miller seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carries.

d. Approve Seasonal Hires

- i. Sue Boll made the motion to approve the following seasonal hires:
  1. Monty Freeman effective June 1, 2022
  2. Madison Christian effective June 1, 2022
  3. Corben Boot effective May 16, 2022
  4. Vickie Morton effective May 16, 2022
  5. Allan Allsup effective May 16, 2022

Ron Miller seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

v. Discussion Items

a. ARPA Funds Update

- i. The Warren County Board of Supervisors awarded \$150,000.00 for the exhibit hall renovation. Co-Director Johlas-Szalkowski has reached out to the contractor to get renovations started.

b. Great Western Trail

- i. The project is still on track to let bids out on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Iowa DOT is getting a feel for the market, where prices are, and where contractors are. They moved the late start date back to September of 2023.

c. Mission and Vision Statement

- i. Staff worked to complete a Vision and Mission statement. The board would like to remove "the" and "Board" from the mission statement.

- vi. Financial Report
  - a. Sue Boll made a motion to approve the monthly financial report. Ron Miller seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.
- vii. Approval of Bills
  - a. Sue Boll made a motion to approve the May Claims. Ron Miller seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.
- viii. Adjournment
  - a. Sue Boll made a motion to adjourn at 6:28 p.m. Ron Miller seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.