

Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2023. The meeting was held in person at the Anette Nature Center. Meeting called to order by President Mark Kickbush at 5:00 p.m.

Those present:

Absent:

Mark Kickbush, President

Ace Hendricks, Vice-president

Joe Schettler, Secretary

Sue Boll

Angie Croll

Comprising a quorum of the board,

Also present:

Guest:

Mark Wilson, Director

Mallory Wells, Officer Manager

Tyler Seuferer, Natural Resource Specialist

Kelsey Longnecker, EE Coordinator

Hannah Hernandez, Naturalist

Monty Freeman, FWCC Treasurer

- i. Reading of the Minutes
 - a. Ace Hendricks made a motion to approve the December minutes as written. Sue Boll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
- ii. Staff Reports.
 - a. Environmental Education Coordinator Kelsey Longnecker
 - i. She is working on the playscape. Snyder & Associates gave her three plans, but they were all missing several items she would like to see as part of the final piece.
 - ii. She plans to put in her intent for the Philanthropic Grant.
 - iii. Jason with KNIA Radio met with Kelsey. She shared her annual review, update what's going on at the different parks, and upcoming programs.
 - iv. Book club is being run by a Friends member Carla. Staff help with marketing and use of space.
 - b. Naturalist
 - i. She worked with Kelsey to update the 2023 calendar of events and it's been rolled out.
 - c. Natural Resource Specialist
 - i. The charcoal filter was not allowing fuel to go into the fuel tank. Tyler did some research and was able to replace the filter.

iii. Business Agenda

a. New Business

i. Easement

1. Mark Wilson and Nichoel Church will be presenting the easement, that was presented at the January meeting, to the Warren County Board of Supervisors on February 21st. Joe Schettler would like to approve the easement.

ii. Hunerdosse Lease

1. The State Auditor's needed an updated lease for Jory Hunerdosse. Mark Wilson typed up a new lease. Jory agreed to the lease and signed.

iii. Lawson Lease

1. Blair Lawson updated his lease to subtract out the prairie that is in CRP funds. The new lease is 7 acres less due to the CRP certification on the prairie.

iv. Mobile Bar - Rentals

1. Renters have asked to have a mobile bar for their wedding to provide liquor. The board would like to table their decision so they can get more clarification from the County Attorney.

b. Old Business

i. Friends of Warren County Conservation Report

1. FriendsWCC approved their bylaws, Annual Report, and elected new Officers at their January meeting. They are working with Kelsey and Hannah to clarify the difference between a Friends of WCC and a WCCB event.

ii. GWT 20th Ave. Property

1. The property owner is meeting on Friday February 10th with their Attorney, Warren County Attorney, and the Zoning office to discuss their property.

c. Discussion Items

i. FY 2024 Budget/Work session Update

1. Mark Wilson, Joe Schettler, and Ace Hendricks attended the budget workshop session. The Board of Supervisors were impressed with the Strategic Plan and Pavement Analysis.
2. All members discussed funding the Great Western and Summerset Trails. Mark Wilson asked for \$50,000.00 to be placed in our budget for trail use.

ii. Grant Nature Land Campground

1. The water lines and septic system are being placed. This should be done within the next week.
2. Staff will need to make some changes to the roadway before the campground can be opened this spring.

iii. Wetland

1. The Iowa DNR reached out to Mark Wilson regarding the repair to the dam on the wetland. They are planning to run bids in April and May. Then start the repair to the dam between June and September of 2023.

iv. Land Donation

1. Mark Wilson has scheduled a meeting with the landowner regarding his land donation. The owner hopes to have this donation completed by the end of 2023.

v. Exhibit Hall

1. McCullough Creative has picked up a few pieces and is working to put together the wetland portion of the exhibit.
2. At this time staff have decided to hold off on the Native American exhibit.

d. Financial Report

- i. Joe Schettler made a motion to approve the financial reports. Sue Boll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

e. Approval of Bills

- i. Joe Schettler made a motion to approve the claims. Sue Boll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

f. Closed Session

- i. Joe Schettler made a motion to move into closed session at 6:18pm. Sue Boll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
- ii. Joe Schettler made a motion to move out of closed session at 6:56pm. Sue Boll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

g. Adjournment

- i. Joe Schettler made the motion to adjourn at 6:58pm. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.