

Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 11, 2023. The meeting was held in person at the Annett Nature Center, 15565 118th Ave., Indianola, IA 50125. Meeting called to order by President Mark Kickbush at 5:00 p.m.

Those present:

Mark Kickbush, President
Ace Hendricks, Vice-president
Joe Schettler, Secretary
Angie Croll

Comprising a quorum of the board,

Absent:

Sue Boll

Also present:

Mark Wilson, Director
Tyler Seuferer, Natural Resource Specialist
Kelsey Longnecker, EE Coordinator
Hannah Hernandez, Naturalist
Mallory Wells, Office Manager
Monty Freeman, FWCC Board Member

Guest:

Ross Baxter,
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
Martin Wells

- i. Reading of the Minutes
 - a. Ace Hendricks found a correction to the minutes under the Business Agenda, New Business, Item 6. The word budge needs to be changed to budget.
 - b. Angie Croll made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes. Sue Boll seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.
- ii. Staff Reports.
 - a. Staff Reports were presented.
 - i. Naturalist
 - 1. Hosted a homeschool group ranging in age from kindergarten through high school.
 - 2. Held a working meeting with Kelsey for the playscape.
 - ii. Natural Resource Specialist
 - 1. Took the red truck to Putney Auction to be sold.
 - iii. Conservation Technicians
 - 1. Kato is spraying Lespedeza at Medora Prairie.

iii. Business Agenda

a. New Business

i. Indianola Carousel Theatre

1. Joe Schettler made a motion to not allow use of the Middleswart Lodge by the Indianola Carousel Theatre. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carries.

ii. Removal from payroll

1. Joe Schettler made the motion to remove Jon Gingerich from payroll effective September 30, 2023. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

iii. Conservation Technician Position

1. Director Mark Wilson offered the conservation technician to Nathan Ranke. He has accepted the position and will start in January.

iv. Herberger Bridge Repair Quote/Great Western Trail

1. The bridge repair quote came in at \$82,000.00.
2. Director Mark Wilson presented available funds to use towards bridge repair and patching on the Great Western Trail.
3. Angie Croll made a motion to accept the Jasper Construction quote and to utilize the funds Director Mark Wilson presented. Joe Schettler seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

v. Interstate Cable Vision, LLC. Easement

1. Interstate Cable Vision, LLC would like to bore a fiber line under the trail.
2. Ace Hendricks made a motion to approve the easement. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

vi. Scott Conservation Easement

1. Ace Hendricks made a motion to approve the Scott Conservation Easement. Joe Schettler seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

b. Discussion Items

i. Fiscal year 2025 Budget

1. Director Mark Wilson is working on getting a quote for a new septic system for the pavilion. He plans to ask for funds to redo the septic system.

c. Closed Session

i. Closed session Pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1) (j)

1. Joe Schettler made a motion to move into closed session at 5:01pm. Ace Hendricks seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
2. The board moved out of closed session at 6:05pm.

d. Financial Report

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

e. Approval of Bills

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

f. Adjournment

- i. Angie Croll made the motion to adjourn at 6:26pm. Ace Hendricks seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.