

# Minutes of the Warren County Conservation Board

The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 20, 2024. 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:

Mark Wilson, Director

Mallory Wells, Officer Manager

Kelsey Longnecker, EE Coordinator

Louis Sajovic, FWCC President

Hannah Hernandez, Naturalist

Monty Freeman, FWCC Treasurer

- i. Reading of the Minutes
  - a. Joe Schettler made a motion to approve the February minutes as written. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
- ii. Staff Reports.
  - a. Director
    - i. Mark met Hannah Inman with ICON Water Trails. This was just an introductory meeting about float ability in Warren County.
    - ii. The Warren County Supervisors have not finalized budgets as of the March meeting. They plan to have them finalized by April.
  - b. EE Coordinator
    - i. Kelsey received the final two proofs on the exhibit hall and the plans are to have it installed the second week of April. They are putting together the last of the panels and once that's complete, they will schedule a time to have the display installed.
- iii. Friends of Warren County Conservation
  - a. Louis Sajovic, Friends President, joined the meeting to introduce himself to the Conservation Board.
  - b. Friends are gearing up for the Native Plant Sale.
  - c. Monty Freeman received a positive note, within a friend's membership, regarding the great care WCCB puts into maintaining the bike trails in Warren County.

iv. Business Agenda

a. New Business

i. Art Installation Agreement

1. Sue Boll made a motion to approve the art installation agreement with David Richmond. Ace Hendrick seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

b. Discussion Items

i. TAP Grant Update

1. WCCB did not get accepted for the TAP Grant. The State Rec Trails Grant opens in June and WCCB can apply by themselves for this grant as well.
2. Director Wilson is going to meet with Tyler Jenson to see what the next step is for WCCB.

ii. Feasibility Study

1. Director Mark Wilson met with Hannah Inman with the Great Outdoors Foundation. She is of the opinion that Warren County could pass a bond for Conservation.
2. It would cost roughly \$50,000.00 for a feasibility study and polling the citizens. Then an additional \$150,000.00 for a campaign to get the word out on the bond.

iii. Bridge Inspection Report

1. Director Mark Wilson has a company come out and do bridge inspections for the bridges along the bike trails. The report gave the North River Bridge another 5 years of life expectancy.
2. Director Wilson believes the bridge will eventually need to have the back wall repaired. Should the board decide to move forward with this repair they should consider adding this cost into any grants that they apply for.

iv. Exhibit Hall

1. Environmental Education Coordinator Kelsey is finalizing the proofs and should have an install date set for April of 2024.

v. Nature Playscape

1. There hasn't been much movement on the playscape due to the finalization of the Exhibit Hall.

vi. Wetland update

1. Crews came in to repair the wetland drainage pipe. They tore out the old pipe and replaced it with a new one.

c. Upcoming Events

- i. Naturalist Hannah Hernandez updated the board on upcoming events.

d. Financial Report

- i. Joe Schettler approved the financial reports. Sue Boll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion Carried.

e. Approval of Bills

- i. Bills were approved at the Special meeting held on March 8, 2024.

f. Adjournment

- i. Sue Boll made the motion to adjourn at 5:28pm. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.