

# **Minutes of the**

## **Warren County Conservation Board**

The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 2025. The meeting was held in person at the Anette Nature Center.

Meeting called to order by President Mark Kickbush at 5:04 p.m.

Those present:

Mark Kickbush, President

Joe Schettler, Vice President

Angie Croll, Secretary

Ace Hendricks

*Comprising a quorum of the board.*

Absent:

Sue Boll

Staff present:

Zach Hall, Director

Kevin Brown, Conservation Tech

Hannah Hernandez, Naturalist

Nathan Reinke, Conservation Tech

Tyler Seufferer, Natural Resource Specialist

Mankato Stonebrook, Conservation Tech

Mallory Wells, Office Manager

Monty Freeman, Friends WCC Board Member

Guests:

Convene

### a. Agenda Review

1. Director Hall asked to amend the April agenda with two additions.

a. Accept the resignation of Nathan Reinke, Conservation Technician, last day effective April 23, 2025 and remove from payroll effective April 24, 2025.

b. Issue WCCB Director permission to review and construct a Maintenance Tech. position, and pursue re-hiring the vacant position.

2. Ace Hendricks made a motion to accept the agenda with the amendments as presented. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes.

### ii. Reading of the Minutes

a. Ace Hendricks found a correction of the spelling of his last name under Adjournment. His last name is missing the “s” on Hendricks.

b. Angie Croll found a correction under “Reading of the Minutes” It read Sue Croll seconded the motion. It should read Sue Boll.

c. Ace Hendricks made the motion to approve the minutes with the corrections. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

### iii. Public Comment

a. None

- iv. Friends of Warren County Conservation
  - a. FWCC is preparing for the cleanup at Swamp White Oak on Earth Day.<sup>5</sup> They are going to offer moving the plants and<sup>7</sup> working on getting the new logo out in front of the public. They have been working on setting short and long-term goals for the group.
- v. Business Agenda
  - a. New Business
    - 1. Gilbert's Addition
      - a. Director Hall presented options for setting rules for Gilbert's addition. The board discussed the different options and what would work best for the addition.
      - b. Joe Schettler made a motion to manage the Gilbert Addition and Woodland Mounds State Preserve as the same property, under WMSP policies, effective as soon as legally permissible. Ace Hendricks seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
    - 2. REAP Grant Update
      - a. Director Hall shared the appraisal has been approved and he can move forward with completing the contract to get the REAP funds for reimbursement for the Warren County Supervisors.
    - 3. Hire 2025 Summer Seasonals
      - a. Angie Croll made a motion to approve the following Owen Hueyer at \$14.00 per hour and Vicki Morton at \$14.00 per hour for the summer conservation technicians effective May 12, 2025. All ayes. Motion carried.
      - b. Director Hall discussed the environmental education intern positions. The EE Coordinator has two interviews coming up and Director Hall would like to approve the hires once chosen at \$14.00 per hour. WCCB unanimously approved of this.
    - 4. Cumming Trail Easement
      - a. The City of Cumming sent a new easement for a trail access. Assistant County Attorney Dawn Bowman previously read and approved the exhibit submitted.
      - b. Ace Hendricks made a motion to approve the easement as presented. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
    - 5. Resignation of Nathan Reinke
      - a. Ace Hendricks made a motion to accept the resignation of Conservation Technician, Nathan Reinke, effective April 23, 2025. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
      - b. Ace Hendricks made a motion to remove Conservation Technician, Nathan Reinke, from payroll effective April 24, 2025. Angie Croll seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
    - 6. Maintenance Technician
      - a. Director Hall discussed adding a Maintenance Technician in place of a Conservation Technician. This would allow for an additional set of skills to function within the department. It would not require the conservation background and would open the doors to wider candidate pool. WCCB agreed to this and suggested Hall to pursue the re-hire process.

b. Discussion Items

a. My County Parks

- a. Director Hall and Office Manager Wells worked together to complete the PCI compliance. This is a safety net, put in place by law to protect our guests' credit card information.
- b. Office Manager Wells shared the site is now in test mode to start testing out credit process. She needs to get into the system to block out dates for 2025 and 2026. Her goal is to start accepting online reservation effective July of 2025.

b. Warren County Development

- a. Director Hall shared that the Warren County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution for a private developer to construct a sports complex on the north side of Indianola near the Summerset Trail.

c. Approval of Bills

1. Angie Croll made a motion to approve the bills as submitted. Ace Hendricks seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

d. Financial Report

1. Director Hall discussed the breakdown of the remaining fiscal year.
2. Angie Croll made a motion to accept the financial report. Ace Hendricks seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

e. Upcoming Events

1. Education Staff shared upcoming events.

f. Staff Reports

1. WCCB staff provided a summary of their workload.

g. Adjournment

1. Joe Schettler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:09pm. Angie Croll Seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion Carried.