Minutes of the
Warren County Conservation Board

The Warren County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, July 8, 2026. The meeting was held in person at the Annett Nature Center. Meeting called to order by Vice President Joe Schettler at 5:00 p.m.

Those present:

Joe Schettler, Vice President
Angie Croll
Jake Sickels
Ryan Williams
Comprising a quorum of the board.

Absent:

Mark Kickbush, President

Staff present:

Zach Hall, Director
Kelsey Longnecker, EE Coord.
Tyler Seuferer, Park Super.
Kevin Brown, Conservation Tech
Monty Freeman, FWCC Treasurer
Jon Livermore, Conservation Ecologist
Mallory Wells, Office Manager
Colton Schwenke, Conservation Tech.
Mankato Stonebrook, Conservation Tech

Guests:

None

Convene

a) **Call to order**
b) **Agenda Review**
c) **Review the Minutes**
   i) Jake Sickels made the motion to approve the regular June 2026 minutes as presented. Joe Schettler seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.
d) **Public Comment**
   i) None
e) **Friends of Warren County Conservation (FWCC)**
   i) The FWCC is gearing up for the prairie picnic in September. They have been trying to do a few pop-up plant sales. The most recent sale was held in Norwalk but wasn't as successful as they hoped. EE Coordinator Longnecker and Director Hall presented on the playscape and the FWCC voted to support the playscape with a $250,000.00 donation. This will allow EE Coord. Longnecker to start fundraising and applying for grants.
f) **Business Agenda**
   i) **New Business –**
      (1) **Playscape Partnership with FWCC**
         (a) Angie Croll made a motion to partner with FWCC for the playscape. Jake Sickels seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.
      (2) **Falcon Heights Easement**
         (a) Joe Schettler made a motion to approve the easement at a cost of $5,000.00 to connect to the trail. Ryan Williams seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion Carried.

ii) Discussion Items

(1) Summary of GWT projects 2 & 3

(a) Director Hall shared that phase 3 grant was submitted on June 30th. Results will be preliminary in October and finalized in November. Culvert repairs tied to the trail increased the price of the project. The WCCB would like Director Hall to ask the Board of Supervisors to cover the up-front costs like they did with the previous phase.

(b) Director Hall said Phase 2 is complete, staff are just waiting on the DOT to do their walk through and he will finish up the paperwork within the next few months.

(2) Resolution w/Cumming update

(a) Director Hall shared that the partnership with Cumming fell through. The city could not apply for the grant they discussed and will not be able to complete the work they wanted to at this time.

(3) Trail Planning – Counters and Pavement Analysis

(a) Director Hall presented trail counters that he would like to purchase. The Board discussed the counters and different options that could be available. They would like to see if there are any trail counters they could lease or if there are other options out there.

(4) Summerset Trail

(a) Park Superintendent Seuferer shared that the Summerset Trail has had some damage due to the heavy rains we have gotten over the previous weekend. He is working with different providers to see what options we have to repair the shoulder of the trail where the creek has started to wash it away.

(5) Playscape Planning – Environmental Education (EE) Cash balances

(a) EE Coordinator Longnecker shared that she received a $250,000.00 donation from FWCC. She is excited to receive this donation as it now allows her to start applying for grant funding. She plans to apply for the Land & Water Conservation Fund. She has been working with Director Hall to total their income from the last four years. Director Hall would like to allow EE to keep the income they generate for the playscape or educational purposes. WCCB's consensus agreed to this management strategy.

iii) Financial Report

(1) Year to Date

(a) VP Schettler requested to have a breakdown of income from each rental facility over the last two years at the next meeting.

(b) July's expenses resulted in spending 7.16% of WCCB's total budget.

(c) Angie Croll made a motion to accept the financial reports presented by Director Hall. Ryan Williams seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

(2) Approval of Bills

(a) Monthly bills totaled: $15,323.09.

(b) Angie Croll made a motion to approve the bills as submitted. Ryan Williams seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

iv) Staff Reports

(1) WCCB staff shared what they were most proud of since the last board meeting.

v) Adjournment

(a) Jake Sickels made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting and move into closed session at 6:16 pm. Ryan Williams seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion Carried.