

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD (WCCB)**

June 10th, 2021

*****Meeting was made available to the public via Zoom audio/video call**

Meeting to order: President Craig Capps called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM at the Washington County Conservation Center at Marr Park.

Roll call:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Barb Donkersloot, Bill Nickell, Craig Capps, and Stan Stoops

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Kim Prier

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Zach Rozmus

GUESTS PRESENT: Gary Wenger (NRCS), Jacob Donaldson, Jim Waterhouse

Approval of agenda: A motion was made to approve the agenda as provided by Stan Stoops and seconded by Barb Donkersloot. Carried unanimously.

Review previous meeting minutes: A motion was made by Barb Donkersloot to approve the May 13th, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Stan Stoops and carried unanimously.

DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS:

a. **Foster Woods Eagle Scout Project**

Jacob Donaldson provided a presentation to the board for an Eagle Scout Project he created for Foster Woods. Donaldson's project consists of the building and placement of three wooden benches to be located near the pond at Foster Woods. Rozmus complimented Donaldson on his organization and initiative. Rozmus fully endorsed the project but recommended that the board consider two benches since lumber costs were still very high.

Due to lumber prices Board President Craig Capps asked Donaldson to seek out donations for the project. Rozmus added that he would assist with the acquisition of building materials.

At this time Stan Stoops made a motion to endorse the placement of two benches near the Foster Woods pond. Motion was seconded by Barb Donkersloot, and carried unanimously.

Donaldson was advised to return to the board with potential donations and if necessary the board would assist with funding.

b. **Schmitter Heritage Area Easement**

Gary Wenger from NRCS and Jim Waterhouse spoke to the board regarding the creation of a new pond on Waterhouse's property that is adjacent to the south side of Schmitter Heritage Area. Those present discussed the potential layout of the pond and how it would capture nitrates from nearby farm ground. The project will be funded by an NRCS pilot pond program with a portion cost shared by the private landowner.

Rozmus advised the board that he was in favor of the project because the creation of the new pond dam would provide improved equipment access to the south east corner of the property. Rozmus noted that it would be important to ensure that the property line was clearly fenced and signed.

Rozmus presented an ingress egress easement to the board that would allow access to the county owned property during the construction process. Rozmus advised the board that the easement was standard operating procedure and he had no objections to it. Rozmus advised those present that in order for the board to formally approve the project he would like to see formal plans that show the exact location of the pond and more specifically the north pond dam.

Wenger advised that he would work to have those plans ready for the board for the July 8th board meeting.

At this time Bill Nickell made a motion to approve the Schmitter Heritage Area construction easement, and furthermore provide Director Zach Rozmus the authority to sign. Motion was seconded by Stan Stoops and carried unanimously.

c. **Kewash Easement**

Rozmus advised the board that a land developer had reached out to him regarding a potential lot line adjustment along the Kewash Nature trail in the town of Washington. At this time Rozmus had not received anything formal regarding the easement but anticipated it would be on future agendas.

d. **Keota Library Story Trail**

The Keota Library was seeking WCCB endorsement for a \$5,000 American Rescue Plan Act Grant. The grant would fund the placement of a permanent story book trail along the Kewash trail beginning in Keota then heading east down the trail. Rozmus said he thought the project was a great idea and that he felt that the project would build on current momentum the community of Keota is building on the Kewash.

Stan Stoops made a motion to endorse the Keota Library grant application. The motion was seconded by Barb Donkersloot and carried unanimously.

e. **End of 2020-21 Fiscal Year**

Rozmus advised that as the end of fiscal year approached he was keeping a very close eye on all the expenditures. Rozmus anticipated that full operating budget would be used and that revenues would far exceed the original estimates.

f. **Patrol Truck Install**

Rozmus advised that the new patrol truck was scheduled for install later in the month with hopes of being ready for a July 1st deployment.

g. **Updates:**

i. **Covid Relief Grant**

a. Grant has been submitted and now all parties were awaiting the State's decision.

ii. **Drinking Fountain/Water Bottle Filling Station**

a. WCCB staff had poured the concrete base and were now working with the City of Washington to schedule the physical install of the fountain.

iii. **Kewash Phase 2**

a. Bid letting for the project is set for June 16th, 2021. Rozmus advised that the board's engineering firm had received a number of calls regarding the project, so he anticipated that the bid process would be competitive.

iv. **Foster Woods Shelter**

a. Rozmus stated that there was little to update on the tear down of the shelter at this time. Rozmus hoped the project would be completed sometime in the next several weeks.

Review of monthly reports

Maintenance Technician Fritz Engel's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Ranger/Technician Cody Smith's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Ranger/Technician Brett Johnson's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Naturalist Assistant Randi Brase's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Naturalist Megan Jorgensen's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Executive Director Zach Rozmus' monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Bills

During this time a summary of the bills totaling \$18,613.12 for the month of June, 2021 were presented to the board.

TO WHOM	FOR	AMOUNT
4H Wood Product LLP	Mulch	\$325.00
Ace-N-More	Cleaning supplies, paint, worms, herbicides, seed, light bulbs, plumbing material, pressure washer, hedge trimmer, hand tools, propane	\$942.10
Agriland	Fuel, LP Service	\$3,505.06
Arnold Motor	Floor dry	\$13.19
Baker Paper	Toiletries	\$193.70
Cash-N-Carry Chemicals	Herbicides	\$395.00
Cody Smith	Logo reimbursement	\$51.74
Copy Systems	Monthly contract	\$72.49
Dwight & Deborah Manning	Campground hosts	\$300.00
Eastern Iowa Light & Power	Monthly electricity	\$1,193.64
Gingerich Well & Pump	Valve	\$107.90
IDALS	Commerical Applicator License - Cody	\$75.00
Ideal Ready Mix	Cement for Water Fountain	\$272.25
Iowa Law Enforcement Academy	De-Escalation Training	\$100.00
Iowa Prison Industries	Kewash Mile Markers	\$1,686.35
Kalona Tire	Tracks for skid loader	\$2,855.88
Leison Pumping Inc.	Pump out septic tank	\$540.00
MSA	Kewash Phase 2	\$3,450.00
NASP	Bow Case	\$475.00
One Source	Campground hosts background check	\$48.00
State Hygienic Lab	Water testing	\$33.50
US Cellular	Monthly cell service	\$272.74
VISA	Postage, drop box, surface pro case, drygas	\$321.96
Washington Discount Tire	Mount and balance	\$149.61
Washington Rental	Chainsaw maintenance	\$296.94
Wemiga	Trash disposal	\$300.00
Wilson's Plumbing	Toilet repairs	\$480.52
Windstream	Monthly internet	\$155.55
TOTAL BILLS		\$18,613.12

Meeting Adjourned: A motion was made by Stan Stoops and seconded by Bill Nickell to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 PM. Motion was carried unanimously.

SIGNATURE

DATE