



Benton County Conservation Board Meeting

Monday, January 9, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Benton County Nature Center 5718 20th Ave Dr, Vinton

Members present: Randy Scheel, Liaison Tracy Seeman; Mike LaGrange and Denni Randall via teleconference.

Staff present: Cecilia Dirks, Layla Hagen, Zach Parmater, Larry Reiter, Shelby Williams.

Call to order: Called to order at 5:00 PM by Scheel.

Guests or public participation: N/A

Consent Agenda (previous minutes, expenditures, revenues): Motion to approve Consent Agenda by Randall with the exception of expenditures and revenue which will be discussed at the next board meeting. Seconded by LaGrange. All aye, motion passed.

Old business

- a. **City of Atkins:** Tabled.
- b. **Hannen Lake Shop:** Williams and some staff met with Seeman on Friday, January 6.
 - a. **Bid Packets:** Notice to Bidders will be posted publicly. Reiter discussed the alternate options that are posted within the bid packet in regards to heating. Estimated timeline shows bids going out in January 2023 and construction being completed in December 2023. Plan Bid Set: Contains detailed maps, drawings, and pictures for the shop. More electrical and mechanical information will be added per addenda. LaGrange motioned to move forward with this bid process; seconded by Randall. All aye, motion passed.
- c. **One-acre parcels:** Tabled.

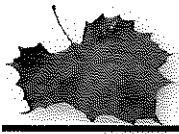
BCCB Properties - This agenda item may be in closed session to discuss particular real estate in accordance with Section 21.5 (1)(j) of the Iowa Code: For property donation we need title opinion and deed completed. Future grant possibility for timber stand improvements. In other recreation areas, several gates and new access points have been put in.

Environmental Education: Several events coming up: Better Birders Workshop, Toddler Time, Sandhill Crane Tour, etc. Faith and Aaron are working on completion of the Bison Display. The Naturalist van is now in hand.

Law Enforcement: Officers have body cameras, starting to wear them daily. Grubic is at ILEA. Grubic's work truck was hit while parked at home, Belle Plaine Police Department took the case and the truck will be fixed.

Budget: Health Insurance Rates have been adjusted. The compensation board meets tonight after the board meeting which may affect original submission per the discussion. Fiber Optics budget addition was discussed, splitting cost between IT and our department, approximately \$25,000.00. Randall motioned to approve; seconded by LaGrange. All aye, motion passed.

Organizations



- a. **TriCounty Snowmobile Association:** No update.
- b. **Wildcat Disc Golf Volunteers:**
 - i. Possibility of holding a World Championship Tournament in the next few years. Steve Hepker will be discussing items with Hagen this spring.
- c. **Foundation - Next meeting: Tuesday, January 17th, 2023 at 7:00pm.**
- d. **OCNT Committee - Next meeting: Spring 2023**
 - i. Vinton Trailhead: Tenant and landowner want a few adjustments to the survey. Parties would like to not swap land sections and just donate the new portion.
- e. **Winegar Equestrian Volunteers:** Interest from Becky VanWey in getting involved with this group.

Director updates: Winterfest will be January 24-26, 2023. Williams has started National Association of Counties High Performance Leadership Academy as of January 9, 2023. Ice fishing tournament will be held Saturday, February 11, 2023.

Set next regular meeting: February 13, 2023 at 5:30 PM. Bid packets will be opened at 5:45 PM.

Adjourn: Randall motioned to adjourn at 5:56 PM; seconded by LaGrange. All aye, motion passed.

Minutes Submitted by: Jayla Hagen



Approved

2-13-23

Date