



Benton County Conservation Board Meeting

Monday, June 12, 2023 at 5:30 PM

Hannen Lake Park, White Oak Shelter, 1948 Benton/Iowa Rd, Blainstown, IA

Members present: Becky VanWey, Mike LaGrange, Dan Hill, Randy Scheel, Denni Randall, and Liaison Tracy Seeman

Staff present: Shelby Williams, Zach Parmater, and Camryn Grubic

Call to order: Called to order at 5:30 pm.

Guests or public participation: Dan Schorg

Consent Agenda (previous minutes, expenditures, revenues): Motion to approve by Scheel seconded by LaGrange. All aye, motion passed.

Organizations

- a. TriCounty Snowmobile Association - no update
- b. Wildcat Disc Golf Volunteers – World Champion Played the course as his 1500th play.
- c. Foundation - Next meeting: Tentative - Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 7:00pm.
 - i. Foundation has approved a swinging memorial bench started by Dan Schorg and water to the top hill cul-de-sac at Hannen Lake Park, all fundraised by community members.
- d. OCNT Committee - Next meeting: June 19th, 2023.
 - i. Vinton Trailhead – Discussed updated gift agreement and stipulations.
 - ii. Other – Discussed bridge replacement needs and costs on the next designed bridges.
- e. Winegar Equestrian Volunteers - no update
- f. REAP Committee – Next meeting: Monday, August 14, 2023 at 2:00pm, at the Nature Center

BCCB Properties and Projects

- a. Garrison Paha: Waiting to hear back on Habitat Grant
- b. Wells
 - i. Engineering/Samples – Rodgers campground well casing was raised, water sample came back good, campground back up and running.
 - ii. Rodgers Shop WL02 – Work has begun on the shop well that also feeds the dump station. It has been suggested to utilize the existing shop for the out of pit location.
- c. Wildcat Bluff Recreation Area
 - i. Funding/Outreach – Over \$210,000 raised so far and continuing efforts. Working with videographers, hoping to have advertising by the end of July.
 - ii. Development –
- d. Hannen Lake Shop – Shop and Park Updates – Staff and Board toured Hannen Lake Park
- e. Conservation Easements – The Board discussed the conservation easements and what holding them means for the department. Looking into them further.
- f. Other



Old business

- a. City of Atkins - Atkins Roundhouse - City was given permission to remove trees causing issues with the creek.
 - i. Lease – City to County questions are being discussed with the attorneys.
 - ii. Canopy Grant – waiting to hear back.
- b. One-acre parcels - no update

Environmental Education – Naturalists went from field trips to summer camps. After that they'll be doing River Raiders. They are reassessing the boundary waters trip dates.

- a. Project aware – Happening in Tama and Benton Counties in July. Aaron will be in attendance and assist with programing. Faith, Cecilia, and Riley will attend or assist with a couple days as well.

Law Enforcement

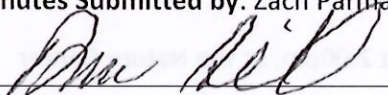
- a. On-call Weekends – On call was recapped for the board. Discussion of editing the policy to include call in hours. Updated policy will be brought to the next meeting.

Director updates – Discussed IRM and the conservation department's involvement.

Set next regular meeting: Monday, July 10, 2023 at 5:30pm, Benton County Nature Center

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 7:28 pm by Randall, seconded by VanWey. All aye, motion passed.

Minutes Submitted by: Zach Parmater



7-10-23

Approved

Date