



Benton County Conservation Board Meeting

Monday, July 10, 2023 at 5:30 PM

Benton County Nature Center, 5718 20th Ave Drive, Vinton, IA

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

Staff present: Shelby Williams, Zach Parmater, and Ed Hach

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

Guests or public participation: None

Consent Agenda (previous minutes, expenditures, revenues): Motion to approve without June revenue and expenditures by Scheel seconded by Van Wey. All aye, motion passed.

Organizations

- a. TriCounty Snowmobile Association - no update
- b. Wildcat Disc Golf Volunteers – very helpful having a seasonal involved.
- c. Foundation - Next meeting: Tentative - Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 7:00pm.
- d. OCNT Committee - Next meeting: August 21st, 2023.
 - i. Vinton Trailhead: Gift Agreement, Deed, Appraisal – working on details.
 - ii. Garrison Celebration: Went well, many compliments on the trailhead and a lot of use.
 - iii. Other – Cecilia Dirks is working on quotes for new bridges and plan moving forward.
- e. Winegar Equestrian Volunteers - no update
- f. REAP Committee – Next meeting: Monday, August 14, 2023 at 2:00pm, at the Nature Center – Invitations to REAP Committee meeting being sent out soon.

BCCB Properties and Projects

- a. Wells
 - i. Engineering – All wells will be getting bollards around them. For the Rodgers well, it is recommended to use the existing “old shop” structure for the well set up.
 - ii. Samples – everything has been passing so far.
- b. Wildcat Bluff Recreation Area
 - i. Funding/Outreach – Over \$260,000 raised/committed so far and continuing efforts. Newest Additions: State Pheasants Forever as well as Benton, Tama/Marshall, Iowa, Black Hawk, and Linn (TBD).
 - ii. Development – Working with the engineer for Wildcat, a structure will need constructed for a system.
 - iii. REAP Grant – Rough draft needs input before next meeting.
- c. Hannen Lake
 - i. Shop – Delay on the concrete but still moving forward.
- d. Animal Shelter – VFW Post Lease
 - i. Plan – VFW leaving the facility. Future of the property discussed.
 - ii. Utilities – Everything will get switched to Benton County.



- e. Other – none.
- f. Other

Old business

- a. City of Atkins - Atkins Roundhouse
 - i. Lease – City to County questions are being discussed with the attorneys.
 - ii. Canopy Grant – waiting to hear back, state is interested,
- g. One-acre parcels - no update
- h. Conservation Easements – no update
- b. Garrison Paha – Meeting July 19 to talk over grant with committee.

Environmental Education – Multiple public programs for the rest of the summer. No boundary waters trip this year due to lack of sign up.

Law Enforcement – rest of the new cameras going up. Updated the board on recent park encounters.

- a. On-call Weekends – Policy read by Hill. Motion to approve by LaGrange, seconded by Scheel. All aye, motion passed.

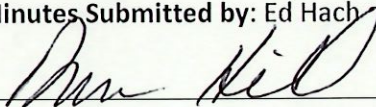
Director updates

- a. Vehicle – received a few bids for trucks, needing as soon as possible. Board requested several numbers before a decision be made. Looking into golf carts as a host form of transportation.

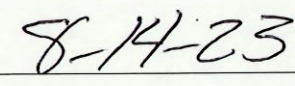
Set next regular meeting: Monday, August 14th, 2023 at 5:30pm, Benton County Nature Center

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 6.44 pm by Randall, seconded by VanWey. All aye, motion passed.

Minutes Submitted by: Ed Hach



Approved



Date