



Benton County Conservation Board Meeting

Monday, October 9th, at 4:21 PM

Benton County Nature Center 5718 20th Ave Dr, Vinton

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

Staff present: Shelby Williams, Faith Hunt

Call to order: 4:21PM by Hill

Guests or public participation: None

Consent Agenda (previous minutes, expenditures, revenues): Motion made by Randell, seconded by LaGrange. All aye, motion passed.

Organizations

- a. TriCounty Snowmobile Association - ITC has work to be done in December and January on OCNT. Association has been notified of possible trail disruption.
- b. Wildcat Disc Golf Volunteers – On the tour, Hagen updated on current events and usage.
- c. Foundation – Next meeting: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 6:30pm - No changes or updates.
- d. OCNT Committee – Next meeting: Spring 2024 - Gift and easement agreement notarized by Anderson to finalize.
- e. Vinton Trailhead: Gift Agreement, Deed, Appraisal: LaGrange motioned to accept and sign the Gift Agreement, Scheels seconded. All aye, motion passed. Alisha Burmeister, Notary
- f. Winegar Equestrian Volunteers - No updates.
- g. REAP Committee – Next Meeting: Tentatively April 2024 - No updates.
- h. REAP Assembly: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 1:00pm at Bloomsbury Farm Party
 - i. Barn #1 - No RSVP, open to the public. BCC has advertised in local press.

New Business

- a. Budget - Discussion on what the budget will look like in upcoming fiscal years.

Old business

- a. Animal Shelter/Old VFW Post - County attorney reviewing. No updates.
- b. One-Acre Parcels - County attorney reviewing. No updates.
- c. City of Atkins – Atkins Roundhouse
 - i. Lease – BCC is on Atkins City Attorney list. Conceptual designs discussed.
 - ii. Canopy Grant – Waiting on Environmental Review and further information.
- d. Hannen Lake
 - i. Shop – Visited on county tour.
- e. Wells



- i. Iowa Geological Survey Sample Station - Install the station between Rodgers and Nature Center. Scheel moved to approve, Randall seconded, All aye. Motion passed.
- ii. Iowa Flood Center Hydrostation - No update.
- iii. Rodgers Park - BCC is waiting for well work.
- f. Wildcat Bluff Recreation Area
 - i. Funding/Outreach - Scheel met with the Regional Title Group at Vinton Country Club to discuss the project. BCC is working on a Benton County Community grant for acquisition. Wildcat was featured in INHF magazine.
 - ii. Development - DNR permits for shower house, dump station, host sites are submitted.
 - iii. REAP Grant – Ross Baxter, INHF, spoke on the project. Scheel moved to deny \$300,000 REAP offer to allow application in Fall 2024, LaGrange seconded. All aye, motion passed.
- g. Garrison Paha - No update.
- h. Conservation Easements – Benton County attorney working on plan for follow-up on easements.

Environmental Education - Submitting REAP CEP grant at the end of October. Naturalists are in the schools all fall, Naturalist are attending the Fall IAN Conference in Carroll County, October public programs: Nature at Night and Artistry with Aaron: Autumn Eve are next week.

Law Enforcement - CCPOA at Camp Dodge this week.

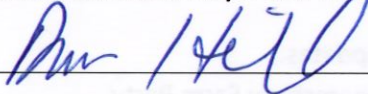
- a. Law Enforcement Coordinator - Job description in the works.

Director updates: Employee reviews, budget, and director reviews discussed for next meeting.

Set next regular meeting: Monday, November 13, 2023 at 5:30pm, Benton County Nature Center

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 5:54 PM by Randall, seconded by VanWey. All aye, motion passed.

Minutes Submitted by: Faith Hunt



Approved

12-11-2023

Date