

Wapello County Conservation Board
Regular Meeting Notice
Monday, December 19th , 2022
5:30 PM Meeting
Pioneer Ridge Nature Center (1339 HWY 63, Bloomfield)

Call to Order:

Aaron Ruff called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

Jeff moved to approve the previous month's meeting minutes, John seconded, the minutes were approved.

Roll Call:

Aaron Ruff, Beth Doggett, Jeff Layton, Marsha Parker (zoom), John Henscheid

Staff Present:

Rick Tebbs, Paul Totten, Sara Runyan, Amanda Jones, Cari Nicely, and Austin Roe

Approval of Agenda:

Beth moved to approve the meeting agenda, Jeff seconded, the agenda was approved.

Approval of Previous Monthly Meeting Minutes:

Jeff moved to approve the previous meeting's minutes, Beth seconded, the minutes were approved.

Guests:

Darren Batterson and Brian Morgan

Claims:

- WCCB claims for the month of November were submitted for approval.
Jeff moved to approve the claims, John seconded, the claims were approved.
- The American Gothic House Center claims for the month of November were submitted for approval.
Jeff moved to approve the claims, John seconded, the claims were approved.

Old Business:

- **Conservation Budget**

Board received the proposed budget for 2023, a subcommittee met prior to the board meeting to look over budget and amend for the next year. Addition to this year's budget were added including a new vehicle purchase and money to cover possible employee retirement pay out. We are also waiting on a bid for new windows and doors for the Pioneer Ridge Nature Center.

Large budget items for next year's budget were given to the board. The board decided that the chemical storage unit, Eddyville Sand Dune signs, shower at Eddyville House, and the skid loader were priority. The supervisors requested that grants be perused for items that had them available, and to start looking for another ski loader.

Discussed upgrading shop at the same time as chemical storage unit to give the shop heat and a cement floor.

Raises were discussed at no less than 3% for 2023.

Jeff motioned to approve amended budget, John seconded, the amended budget was approved.

The American Gothic House Center budget was submitted for approval. Discussed budget changes for 2023 with the biggest change being adding a part time position at the AGHC. Jeff moved to approve the budget, John seconded, the budget was approved.

New Business:

- **Sponsorship for Pheasants Forever**

Rick explained we have a good working relationship with Pheasants Forever and typically sponsor them for \$300. Jeff moved to sponsor Pheasants Forever at \$300, John seconded. The sponsorship was approved.

- **Approval of Applicant for Conservation Board**

Jeff Layton submitted a request to be reappointed to the Conservation Board. Marsha moved to reappoint Jeff Layton to the Conservation Board, Beth seconded, Jeff Layton's request was approved. The Board signed a letter of request for Jeff Layton to be reappointed to the Conservation Board.

- **PRNC closed December 22nd**

Rick requested due to conservation employee's working a long day for the board meeting and the poor weather forecasted for this week that the Pioneer Ridge Nature Center be closed December 22nd. The staff would use comp time for any remaining hours. Jeff moved to close the Pioneer Ridge Nature Center December 22nd, Beth seconded, the motion to close the PRNC December 22nd was approved.

American Gothic Board Updates

Cari gave an update status on the status of the computer at the American Gothic House Center. The prior issues have been resolved.

Staff Reports and Comments:

An update on the My County Park week events, the MOTUS system, and trash clean up at Pearson Park.

Conservation Board Comments:

Aaron Ruff requested to meet with the County Supervisors after the first of the year to discuss Conservation staff's salaries and a fund for the Conservation Department.

Rick passed out pictures of deer mounts that a gentleman offered to donate the conservation board.

Adjournment:

Jeff moved to adjourn the meeting, Beth seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 PM.