

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD (WCCB)**

**February 11th, 2021**

**\*\*\*Meeting was made available to the public via Zoom audio/video call**

**Meeting to order:** President Craig Capps called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM at the Washington County Conservation Center at Marr Park.

**Roll call:**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Barb Donkersloot, Bill Nickell, Craig Capps, Kim Prier and Stan Stoops

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** Executive Director Zach Rozmus, Brett Johnson, Randi Brase, Megan Jorgensen

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

**Approval of agenda:** A motion was made to approve the agenda as provided by Stan Stoops and seconded by Bill Nickell. Carried unanimously.

**Review previous meeting minutes:** A motion was made by Bill Nickell to approve the January 14th, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Kim Prier and carried unanimously

**DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS:**

**a. Environmental Education Update**

Naturalist Megan Jorgensen and Naturalist Assistant Randi Brase provided those present with a presentation of the digital programming they had been working on the past several months. The environmental education team showcased the hands on digital programming they have been utilizing with the assistance provided by Education Outfitters.

**b. Campground Electrical**

Rozmus informed the board that three bids were received before the deadline pertaining to upgrading the Marr Park Campground electrical to 50 amp service. The bids were as follows: Washington Electric Service \$26,947, Brookhart Electric Inc. \$51,000, and RJF Electric LLC \$59,500.

Rozmus advised that based on the bids received, all bids met the requirements that were requested and that his recommendation was that the board award the project to Washington Electric.

At this time a motion was made by Stan Stoops to award the campground electrical upgrade project to Washington Electric Service. Motion was seconded by Bill Nickell, and carried unanimously.

**c. Campground Improvements**

Rozmus advised that he was in the process of reaching out to a contractor regarding purchases to enhance the experience in Marr Park. Rozmus stated that Marr Park had experienced several strong camping seasons in a row in addition to increased general pedestrian traffic, thus it was important to him to use that momentum to continue to enhance the park experience. Therefore, Rozmus was getting a quote on new fire rings for the old campground, new picnic tables, and trash receptacles.

Rozmus noted that these items were budgeted to be purchased.

**d. Kewash Signage**

Rozmus stated that conservation staff was in the process of creating new signage regarding mile markers on the Kewash Trail. Rozmus explained that the new signage would be placed every

quarter mile along the trail to ensure trail users are aware of their location at all times, especially in the case of emergency.

**e. Clemons Creek Species Study**

Rozmus provided the results of a species study that was conducted by the Iowa DNR and Iowa State University at Clemons Creek. Rozmus highlighted that he was excited to hear that the Blanding's Turtle and the Green Snake were identified. Both of which are listed as threatened species.

**Updates:**

**i. Sockum Ridge Management**

Rozmus advised that he had spoken with the contractor and he expected their payment check in the mail any day. Once the payment was made Rozmus anticipated the shelterwood cut would begin right away.

**ii. Southdown Development**

Due to the amount of snow and frigid temperatures, work on the trails and invasive species had come to a halt. Rozmus hoped in the coming weeks work on the invasive species and the creek crossings could continue.

**iii. Kewash Phase 2**

All required environmental clearances had been achieved for the project and Rozmus anticipated that MSA would have formal plans for us to approve at the March, 2021 board meeting.

**Review of monthly reports**

Maintenance Technician Fritz Engel's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Ranger/Technician Cody Smith's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Ranger/Technician Brett Johnson's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Naturalist Assistant Randi Brase's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Naturalist Megan Jorgensen's monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Executive Director Zach Rozmus' monthly report was provided and reviewed.

**Bills**

During this time the bills totaling \$5,012.91 for the month of February, 2021 were presented to the board.

Ace-N-More	Tape, gloves, bedding, oil absorbent, trash bags, air filter	\$115.92
Agriland	LP gas, diesel fuel	\$651.34
Copy Systems	Monthly contract	\$55.86
Eastern Iowa Light & Power	Monthly electricity	\$868.74
Evans Welding	Torch fuel	\$59.06
Hinshaw Trailer Sales	Trailer markers	\$64.00
John Deere Financial	Exhaust fluid, Skid Loader parts	\$228.41
Juhl Plumbing	Plumbing maintenance at House	\$410.08
Iowa Dept. of Transportation	Garbage bags	\$497.50

US Cellular	Monthly cell service	\$272.89
VISA	Boots, SAM ID	\$593.95
Walmart	Planner, air fresheners	\$30.64
Washington Lumber	Lumber	\$39.98
Wellman Automotive	Bed liner	\$486.00
Wemiga Waste	Trash disposal (2 months)	\$600.00
Windstream	Monthly Internet	\$154.46
<b>TOTAL BILLS</b>		<b>\$5,012.91</b>

**Meeting Adjourned:** A motion was made by Kim Prier and seconded by Stan Stoops to adjourn the meeting at 5:42PM. Motion was carried unanimously.

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**SIGNATURE**

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**DATE**