

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD (WCCB)
March 10th, 2022**

Meeting to order: President Craig Capps called the meeting to order at 4:33 PM at the Washington County Conservation Center at Marr Park.

Roll call:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Barb Donkersloot, Bill Nickell, Craig Capps, Kim Prier
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Stan Stoops
STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Zach Rozmus, Naturalist Asst. Randi Brase
GUESTS PRESENT:

Approval of agenda: A motion was made to approve the agenda as provided by Kim Prier and seconded by Barb Donkersloot. Carried unanimously.

Review previous meeting minutes: A motion was made by Bill Nickell to approve the February 10th, 2022 regular meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Kim Prier and carried unanimously.

DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS:

a. **Kewash Nature Trail**

Rozmus advised that this agenda line item was requested by a member of the public, but it appears as though they would not be in attendance. Thus Rozmus, stated that he had recently purchased a new latrine for Brinton Timber that would be delivered in June/July of 2022. This pertained to the Kewash because Rozmus hoped to purchase a similar restroom facility that would ideally be placed within or near the City of Washington. Rozmus advised that the new latrine was from a new company and that the product was more aesthetically pleasing than previously purchased latrines, which he felt would be more suitable for the one that he hoped would eventually be placed near the City of Washington.

b. **IDNR Wildlife Habitat Stamp Grant**

Rozmus informed the board that he was in the process of completing a grant application that would fund the remaining balance of the English River Wildlife Area Bur Oak addition. Rozmus advised that he would have a resolution prepared for the board at the April, 2022 regular meeting that would endorse the grant application.

c. **2022 Burn Plan**

The 2022 burn plan was presented to the board. Rozmus complimented Fritz Engel on his work preparing the plan as Rozmus felt he did an excellent job doing so. Rozmus advised that burn season was something the staff always looked forward to and was a manage practice that he felt the staff was extremely proficient at, which has led to excellent stands of native prairie.

d. **Marr Park Shower House**

Rozmus announced to the board that he was formerly kicking off the planning process for the creation of a new shower house in Marr Park. Rozmus reminded the board that funds have been allocated by the board for 2022-23 fiscal year to invest in the planning and design. Thus Rozmus wanted to begin the brainstorming process of identifying the wants and needs for the new structure. Rozmus requested that the board think on this topic as this would a reoccurring agenda item for the foreseeable future.

Updates:

a. **Kewash Phase 2**

Rozmus advised that he was waiting for the final retainage for Phase 2 to be reimbursed, then the project would be considered "complete." Then things would transition to the auditing phase. Rozmus advised that he would consider the project an overwhelming success that has clearly spike trail usage.

b. **Seasonal Staff**

Ads pertaining to two seasonal positions as well as a contracted campground host have been submitted to local media outlets and applications are beginning to file in Rozmus advised. Rozmus stated that he hoped to have all the positions filled by the end of March.

c. **Hayes Timber Management**

Rozmus presented the board a forest management plan that was provided by Iowa DNR District Forester Cassidy Robinson pertaining to Hayes Timber. The plan included guidance from Robinson regarding a substantial infestation of invasive bush honeysuckle. Rozmus advised that in order to protect Hayes Timber's native tree and plant species action was required. Aggressive honeysuckle is consuming Hayes Timber and out competing native species. Rozmus stated that his plan was to first use Robinson as a peer review process, then proceed to attempting to make contact with the family, followed by educating the public, and last putting a management plan into action.

Rozmus advised that his goal was to really dive into the process of making contact with descendants of Carolyn Hayes in the coming weeks.

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 a summary of the bills totaling \$20,298.50 for the month of March, 2022 were presented to the board.

TO WHOM	FOR	AMOUNT
Ace-N-More	Cleaning supplies, woodduck box bedding, batteries, paint, fixit station, hose fitting	\$207.18
Agriland	Propane	\$1,255.70
Arnold Motor	Car wax, wiper blades	\$54.37
Berg Auto Corp	Trailer	\$3,530.00
Capper Automotive	Fuel filter	\$81.70
Copy Systems	Monthly print contract	\$73.20
DERO	Fixit stations, bike racks	\$5,805.00
Eastern Iowa Chiropractic	CDL drug testing	\$45.00
John Deere Financial	Gloves, wing nuts, windshield wash	\$30.80
Lackender Fabrications	Skid loader broom	\$5,350.00
MSA Professional Services	Kewash engineering	\$520.20
One Source	Center sub physical	\$19.00
Staples	Desk calendar, toiletries	\$89.67
State Hygienic Lab	Water testing	\$13.50
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics	Center sub physical	\$222.00
US Cellular	Monthly cell service	\$267.76
VanWall Equipment	Skid loader hose	\$125.88
VISA	Clothing - naturalists, turtle food, parking at winterfest, amazon membership	\$396.43
Washington Lumber	Lumber	\$23.45
Washington County Engineer	Kewash posts	\$956.55
Washington Discount Tire	Tire and mount	\$740.48
Wemiga Waste	Trash removal - January	\$300.00
Windstream	Monthly internet	\$190.63
TOTAL BILLS		\$20,298.50

Meeting Adjourned: A motion was made by Barb Donkersloot and seconded by Kim Prier to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 PM. Motion was carried unanimously.

SIGNATURE

DATE