

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD (WCCB)  
April 14th, 2022**

**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, Stan Stoops

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** Executive Director Zach Rozmus

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

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

**Review previous meeting minutes:** A motion was made by Stan Stoops to approve the March 10th, 2022 regular meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Bill Nickell and carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS:**

a. **REAP Grant**

Rozmus presented a resolution to the board that would endorse a REAP grant application that requested \$100,000 in funding to be designated to the Bur Oak Addition to the English River Wildlife Area. Barb Donkersloot made a motion to approve resolution no. 04-04-2022-01. Motion was seconded by Bill Nickell. Roll call votes are listed below:

NAME	AYE	NAYE	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
President Craig Capps	X			
V. President Barb Donkersloot	X			
Member Stan Stoops	X			
Member Bill Nickell	X			
Member Kim Prier	X			

Resolution passed 5-0.

b. **IDNR Wildlife Habitat Stamp Grant**

Rozmus presented a resolution to the board that would endorse a IDNR Wildlife Habitat Stamp Grant application that requested \$100,000 in funding to be designated to the Bur Oak Addition to the English River Wildlife Area. Kim Prier made a motion to approve resolution no. 04-04-2022-02. Motion was seconded by Stan Stoops. Roll call votes are listed below:

NAME	AYE	NAYE	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
President Craig Capps	X			
V. President Barb Donkersloot	X			
Member Stan Stoops	X			
Member Bill Nickell	X			
Member Kim Prier	X			

Resolution passed 5-0.

c. **Hayes Timber Management**

Rozmus informed the board that he had spent a great deal of time tracking down descendants of Carolyn Hayes who originally deeded Hayes Timber to Washington County. Rozmus happily announced that every family he spoke with gave him their blessing to manage Hayes Timber and

the current honeysuckle infestation as the conservation board saw fit. Although every family member provided their support, many asked to remain anonymous which was something Rozmus advised he understood and intended to fully support.

Rozmus advised that in the coming weeks/months it would be his goal to begin implementing a management plan to remove invasive species present in Hayes Timber. Rozmus stated that although the age structure of the timber could benefit from a harvest, he had no intention in pursuing that.

At this time Bill Nickell made a motion to provide the director of Washington County Conservation the authority to implement a management plan at Hayes Timber located in Washington Iowa, with assistance provided by an IDNR District Forester. Motion was seconded by Stan Stoops and carried unanimously.

**d. Marr Park Shower House**

Rozmus presented ideas to the board regarding the potential design for a new shower house. Rozmus advised that he and his staff are still working through the brainstorming phase, and his intention is to begin the process of seeking out assistance with the design phase of the project. Board members provided input that they believed a new play area should be considered as a portion of this project. In addition, that consideration should be taken so that the direction in which the new shower house is located would allow for clear line of site to the playground equipment from the campground.

**e. Southtown Planning**

Rozmus notified the board that he and Kalona City Administrator were in discussions with MSA to continue planning and engineering associated with future recreational opportunities at Southtown. Rozmus anticipated that a steering committee would be meeting in the near future to discuss funding opportunities, planning, and development associated with the property.

**f. Summer Transition**

Rozmus informed the board that in the coming weeks the conservation center would be transitioning to summer hours. During that time the center will be open from 8:00AM-4:00PM Tuesday through Thursday and 9:00AM-5:00PM Friday and Saturday. Center will be closed on Sunday and Monday. Rozmus stated that he would keep the board posted on the schedule switchover.

**g. SRT 28E Agreement**

Rozmus informed the board that he was working with the Sheriff's Office to develop an agreement/MOU that would create a paper trail for conservation officers participating on the county swat team.

**Updates:**

**a. Kewash Phase 2**

Rozmus advised that he was still 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.

**b. Seasonal Staff**

Rozmus announced that all the seasonal staff for the 2022 summer have been hired and are expected to start 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 \$7,954.50 for the month of April, 2022 were presented to the board.

TO WHOM	FOR	AMOUNT
Ace-N-More	Digger, cleaning supplies, seed	\$83.13
AgriLand	Propane	\$124.29
Arnold Motor	Oil	\$61.33
Cobb Oil	Fuel	\$2,173.70
Copy Systems	Monthly contract	\$60.69
Douds Stone	Clean Stone	\$107.92
Eastern Iowa Light & Power	Monthly electricity - February & March	\$2,020.71
Evans Welding	Mower bumper	\$77.63
Fritz Engel	District Meeting Lunch - Brett, Fritz, & Randi	\$30.00
G & R Miller Construction	Fern Cliff signage	\$33.00
Ideal Ready Mix	Sockum Ridge concrete blocks	\$178.00
Iowa Dept. of Public Safety	ORI Number	\$300.00
John Deere Financial	Oil, skidloader hydraulics, kewash signs	\$282.86
Staples	Paper towels	\$61.98
US Cellular	Monthly cell service - February & March	\$557.23
VISA	Sight, ammo, program materials, fire equipment	\$835.88
Walmart	Program supplies, cleaning supplies, coffee	\$175.52
Wemiga Waste	Trash disposal - February & March	\$600.00
Windstream	Monthly internet	\$190.63
<b>TOTAL BILLS</b>		<b>\$7,954.50</b>

**Meeting Adjourned:** A motion was made by Kim Prier and seconded by Barb Donkersloot to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 PM. Motion was carried unanimously.

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**SIGNATURE**

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**DATE**