

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD (WCCB)  
October 13th, 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, Randi Brase

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Kevin Kiene, Cyrus Andrews

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

**Review previous meeting minutes:** A motion was made by Barb Donkersloot to approve the September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 regular meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Stan Stoops and carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS:**

a. **English River Water Trail**

Kevin Kiene, who is a city council member from Riverside, presented information to the board with the assistance of Director Zach Rozmus regarding the creation of a water trail on the English River. The trail would incorporate the communities of a Wellman, Kalona, and Riverside. The creation of the trail would lead to the availability of grant funding for all the aforementioned communities. The designation requires an endorsement from the county conservation board. Rozmus endorsed great support toward the potential designation and hoped that it could one day lead to enhanced river access points near Southtown and for all the communities listed. Rozmus believed the designation would help support local and regional river recreation activities. Rozmus asked Kiene to supply the WCCB with a resolution and he would have it on the November agenda.

**Before moving to the next agenda item Rozmus asked Board President Craig Capps to allow a member of the audience the opportunity to speak. During this time Cyrus Andrews expressed concern regarding Brinton Timber trails.**

b. **Iowa State Recreational Trails Grant**

Rozmus happily announced that the grant application for Phase 3 of Kewash Paving and Enhancement had been submitted to the Iowa DOT for an additional 1.5 miles of trail enhancement.

c. **Marr Park Shower House**

A design and management proposal from Carl A. Nelson & CO. was presented to the board regarding future planning and design for a new shower house to be located in Marr Park. Following a discussion Stan Stoops made a motion to provide Director Rozmus the authority to continue to work with Carl A. Nelson regarding the new shower house, with the understanding that a proposed contract would be presented to the board from Carl A. Nelson at a later date. Motion was seconded by Barb Donkersloot and carried unanimously.

d. **Conservation Center Displays**

Barb Donkersloot made a motion to approve a contract with McCullough Creative for phase 2 of the conservation center displays. Stan Stoops seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

e. **Bur Oak Addition to the ERWA**

Rozmus announced that the second and final payment for the Bur Oak addition to the English River Wildlife Area had been made. Thus meaning that the 103-acre addition was now WCCB property. Rozmus advised that in recent days staff had worked to install public land signage on the south 64 acres. In addition, Rozmus had met with secondary roads to discuss potential ways to improve public access to the property.

**Updates:**

a. **Marr Park Eagle Scout Project**

Rozmus stated that the two picnic tables had been dropped off and placed at their new homes. Rozmus expressed gratification towards Ayden Holden for his hard work and creativity. Rozmus believed the two tables were a great addition to Marr Park and said that several compliments had already been received.

b. **Hayes Timber**

Staff continues to work on honeysuckle removal at Hayes Timber. Rozmus hoped staff would be able to conduct a fall burn as a way of combining management methods. Rozmus said that fire was a great tool for the management of woody vegetation but the window to complete the burn was small, so it would be completely weather dependent.

c. **Willow Pond Tree Planting Project**

Rozmus announced that the Willow Pond Tree Planting Project was now 100% complete. Rozmus advised that drought conditions forced WCCB staff to split the project into two phases. One spring phase and a fall phase. Rozmus said the project was a great example of local organizations pooling resources to reach a common goal that benefited the community and its natural resources. Organizations involved were Trees Forever, Washington Tree Committee, Washington FFA, and the WCCB.

**Review of monthly reports**

Maintenance Supervisor 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.

Maintenance Technician Jacob Adrian’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 \$134,621.19 for the month of September, 2022 were presented to the board.

TO WHOM	FOR	AMOUNT
Ace-N-More	Sprayer, bow case, worms, spray paint, gloves, hand tools, custodial supplies, lodge keypad, insect repellent	\$684.49

Agriland FS	LP gas, maintenance, residence tank relocation	\$1,606.00
Arnold Motor	Oil and Filters	\$84.06
Bur Oak	English River Land Acquisition	\$120,000.00
Copy Systems	Print contract	\$60.69
Douds Stone LLC	Kewash railing prep and rock	\$268.08
Eastern Iowa Light & Power	Monthly electricity	\$1,786.64
Evans Welding	Grill at shelter 3	\$88.85
Ideal Ready Mix	Hayes timber barriers, Kewash concrete	\$922.35
Leichty & Sons Construction	Demo old latrine at Brinton Timber	\$2,350.00
Printers Workshop	Fall Earthtones	\$869.49
Ron Hemm	Campground hosts -September	\$300.00
Staples	Toiletries, cleaner, laminating sheets	\$232.02
US Cellular	Monthly cell service	\$581.37
USFirst Portable Toilets	Kewash Marathon Latrine	\$420.00
VISA	Trail mirror, calendars, mice, business cards, ammo, targets, Crooked Creek Bridge railings, clothing, adobe, cabin filter	\$3,331.74
Walmart	Fish tank supplies, worms	\$24.64
Washington Discount Tire	Tire repair and rotation	\$48.51
Wemiga Waste	Trash Removal - August	\$573.00
Windstream	Monthly internet	\$389.26
<b>TOTAL BILLS</b>		<b>\$134,621.19</b>

**\*The aforementioned minutes are to be considered a synopsis of each agenda item dialogue and not an entire recollection of all the events that transpired.**

**Meeting Adjourned:** A motion was made by Barb Donkersloot and seconded by Stan Stoops to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 PM. Motion was carried unanimously.

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**SIGNATURE**

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**DATE**