

BREMER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Regular Meeting

April 6, 2022

Conservation Board Office

1104 South Main Street Tripoli, IA 50676

Members Present: Mandie Sanderman, Chair; Larry Pavelec, Vice Chair; Richard Harms, Stacey Snyder, and Kevin Korman

Members Absent: none

Also Present: Andrew Hockenson, Director; Heather Gamm, Naturalist; Kip Ladage, David Rader

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Sanderman.

Pavelec moved to accept the minutes from the March 2, 2022 regular meeting as presented. Seconded by Harms and approved unanimously.

Misc. Correspondence and Announcements: Hockenson provided a legislative update. The BCNA banquet was held April 2 at the Denver Legion. Bremer County Conservation and the City of Tripoli plan to partner on a Sweet Water Trail event on April 27. The annual crane count is also scheduled for April 9th.

Area Reports and Updates:

-**Other Areas:** David Rader was in attendance to discuss the cattle grazing lease, and request early grazing on the Frahm property. After discussion, the board denied his request, and would like to see no grazing until the original May 15th date. This will allow time for the ground to firm up and grasses to establish. The terms of the lease were reviewed, and objectives reiterated, of what is trying to be accomplished through grazing; with hopes of both parties benefiting from grazing as a management practice. After further discussion, Mr. Rader signed the current lease agreement.

- **Parks:** Staff members have been working in the parks preparing for an April 29th opening to allow for a full first weekend of camping. A news release will be created to announce the early opening.

- **Wildlife Areas:** A controlled burn has been completed along the Wapsie River Greenbelt at Buhr/Hay Access. Additional burns are planned if weather and time permits.

Office Carpet replacement: Replacing the carpet flooring in the office was discussed. With only 1 quote provided, the board decided to table the discussion until additional quotes can be obtained.

FY 22/23 Budget Update: The Board of Supervisors have approved the Conservation Department budget as submitted. The purchase of a new tractor was also approved.

EE Coordinator/Naturalist Report: The EE coordinator/naturalist report was reviewed. Heather was in attendance to answer any questions. The report contained recent program numbers given. Preparations for the 5th grade field day have begun. The Mini Explorers programs have been finalized and advertised on Facebook and our website. Several other updates were made to the Facebook page. Kevin Korman built the Little Library for the North Woods playscape. Work was done on several BCNA related tasks including preparing for and attending a meeting, and planning for the April 2 banquet. Other meetings were attended online and in person. Heather also prepped for the annual crane count, took a CPR training, and watched her safety videos. There was a motion by Korman to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Harms and approved unanimously.

Recycling Educator/Naturalist Report: The recycling educator/naturalist report was then reviewed. The report contained recent programs given. The spring newsletter was assembled and mailed out. Angie wrote letters to Whitetails Unlimited and Pheasants Forever requesting donations for bows, targets, pellet guns, and gun racks. After attending an online National Associations of Naturalists meeting, Angie is working on creating Google interactive maps of the parks. Time was spent preparing for, scheduling, and conducting in person programs. Angie also took a CPR class and watched her required safety videos. Planning has begun for a Big Outdoor Day on June 4th, led by Jim's Sportshop. There was a motion by Pavelec to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Snyder and approved unanimously.

Open Discussion: A trail re-route has been marked at Ingawanis Woodland. The Ingawanis Woodland Trail Advisory Group has plans to work on the new route which will add around ½ mile to the Eagle Lodge Loop.

Bills/Purchases: Motion by Harms to approve the bills. The motion was seconded by Snyder and approved unanimously.

Next meeting 7:00 PM May 4, 2022 at the Conservation Board Office in Tripoli.

With no other business, the meeting was declared adjourned by Chairman Sanderman at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Hockenson
Director

Approved: Mandie Sanderman, Chairman
