

BREMER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Regular Meeting

May 4, 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; Kip Ladage

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by Chairman Sanderman.

Harms moved to accept the minutes from the April 6, 2022 regular meeting as presented. Seconded by Pavelec and approved unanimously.

Misc. Correspondence and Announcements: 5th grade field day is scheduled for May 10th at Alcock Park. The Bremer County Pheasants Forever chapter has made a \$1,281.03 donation to purchase new pellet guns, cases, safety glasses, and gun racks to help support the E.E. program. Hockenson provided an update on Eagle Scout projects, and discussed the Sweat Water Trail event in Tripoli.

Area Reports and Updates:

- **Parks:** As of April 29th, all parks and shower buildings have been opened for the season.

Staff members have been working on the nature playscape at North Woods. Poles are being set for the net spiderweb climber, hammock, musical items, little library, and art area. A hollow log from a tree at the County Farm site will also be utilized. Other rocks and logs have also been placed on site.

The emerald ash borer has caused significant damage to the ash trees on the east and west sides of Alcock Park. Staff members will start by removing the trees with the poorest form in the camping area, followed by other trees in the camping area, then trees in the less utilized sections of the park. Seedlings will be planted this spring as nursery stock for replacing the dead ash. Other trees may also be tree spaded in.

- **Wildlife Areas:** A controlled burn has been completed at Winzenburg Prairie in Waverly. The post-harvest cut has been completed on stand 4a, 4b, & 4c at Island Access.

- **Other Areas:**

Office Carpet replacement: An additional bid estimate was received for replacing the carpet in the Tripoli office building. Two options were provided by Walvatne Floor Covering and B&J Flooring. After discussion and comparing carpet tile specifications, Pavelec moved to accept the low bid from B&J Flooring. The motion was seconded by Snyder and approved unanimously.

FY 2023 wages: After discussion, Korman made a motion to approve wages for full time employees as budgeted for in the new fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Harms and approved unanimously.

EE Coordinator/Naturalist Report: The EE coordinator/naturalist report was reviewed. The report contained recent program numbers given. Planning for 5th Grade Field Day continues. Heather prepared for and helped advertise the Sweet Water Trail event in Tripoli. Several updates were made to the Facebook page. Volunteers for the Crane Count were contacted and numbers of cranes were reported. Heather attended and helped emcee the BCNA banquet on April 2. A grant was received from the Prairie Rapids Audubon Society. Other meetings were attended in person. Heather is also preparing for summer field trips. There was a motion by Harms to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Pavelec and approved unanimously.

Recycling Educator/Naturalist Report: The recycling educator/naturalist report was then reviewed. The report contained recent programs given. Angie also attended the BCNA banquet and helped get the computer and projector set up for the presenter. Registrations are coming in for the upcoming summer programs, which includes a new Mini Explorers camp. The net hammock was ordered for the nature playscape. Angie helped collect crane count numbers and had a station at the Sweet Water Trail event. Time was spent preparing for, scheduling, and conducting in person programs. There was a motion by Korman to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Pavelec and approved unanimously.

Open Discussion: The board discussed management practices at Plum Creek Wildlife Area, Hockenson gave an update on the MOTUS tower, and Kip Ladage mentioned an upcoming Upper Wapsie Watershed Field Day.

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

Next meeting 7:00 PM June 1, 2022 at the Conservation Board Office in Tripoli.

With no other business, the meeting was declared adjourned by Chairman Sanderman at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Hockenson
Director

Approved: Mandie Sanderman, Chairman
