

**BREMER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**Regular Meeting November 1, 2023**  
**Conservation Board Office**  
**1104 South Main Street Tripoli, IA 50676**

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

**Members Absent:** none

**Also Present:** Andrew Hockenson, Director; Kip Ladage

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

Harms moved to accept the minutes from the October 4, 2023 regular meeting as presented. Seconded by Sanderman and approved unanimously.

**Misc. Correspondence and Announcements:** The region 7 REAP assembly was held October 24 at Hartman Reserve. Hockenson will be a delegate at the January 13, 2024 REAP Congress. Hockenson informed the Board of complaints amongst neighbors of Shell Rock Access. A letter was sent informing one neighbor to stop interfering with the other neighbor's volunteer trail maintenance work. Hockenson informed the Board of a seasonal employee injuring his foot with a chainsaw, which required stitches.

**Area Reports and Updates:**

- **Parks:** Final camping and firewood revenue numbers were presented. Camping revenues at Cedar Bend and North Cedar were down slightly from 2022, while Alcock and North Woods were both up. North Woods nearly doubled last year's highest revenue year. Firewood revenue showed a slight increase from the previous year.

The finalized cabin fundraising brochures have been printed and are available for distribution.

- **Wildlife Areas:** Staff members plan to utilize the skid steer tree puller, mower, and mulcher to continue working at clearing woody vegetation from the prairies.

Habitat Stamp Grant: Snyder moved and Sanderman seconded a resolution to apply for Wildlife Habitat Stamp Grant funds to construct a shallow water wetland at Ringneck Wildlife Area. All approved.

"WHEREAS, the Bremer County Conservation Board is interested in acquiring and/or developing wildlife habitat by means of the above-named project, AND Wildlife Habitat Stamp funds are required for the project, NOW THEREFORE, the Bremer County Conservation Board does hereby make application for assistance, AND further agrees to abide by all the covenants of Section 110.3, Code of Iowa 1981, and Chapter 23 (290), Iowa Administrative Code, AND further certifies this resolution was officially adopted

by the Bremer County Conservation Board at a legal meeting held on the 1st day of November in the year 2023.”

- **Other Areas:** The verbal offer on the 12-acre Noack property which partially adjoins Snyder Access was accepted by the landowners. A more formal offer will be sent to begin moving forward with the acquisition. After further discussion, Korman moved to offer \$1,250 per acre (\$15,000) plus title opinion, deed costs, and abstract update. Seller will be responsible for real estate stamps and any property taxes due. The motion was seconded by Harms and approved unanimously.

**EE Coordinator/Naturalist Report:** The EE coordinator/naturalist report was reviewed. The report contained recent programs and participant numbers. Heather did many BCNA related tasks. She also attended different meetings in-person and online. A lot of time was spent preparing for programs, writing her Halloween Hike script and presenting at Chickasaw and Bremer County’s hikes, and coordinating program schedules with Angie. Heather, Angie, and Andy met to discuss hosting a STEM Extern next summer. Heather is preparing and purchasing items for the wreath making classes. She also made several posts to our Facebook page. There was a motion by Sanderman to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Korman and approved unanimously.

**Recycling Educator/Naturalist Report:** The Recycling Educator/naturalist report was reviewed. The report contained recent programs and participant numbers. Angie attended the Recycling & Solid Waste Conference. She also finalized the Halloween hike registrations and her skit. The BCNA is funding a Charcuterie Board Class, which she is prepping for and filling up. A second class was added. The newsletter has been finalized and mailed. There was a motion by Harms to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Sanderman and approved unanimously.

**Open Discussion:** Kip Ladage provided an update on the watershed management authorities. The Shell Rock River Watershed Management Coalition will hold a public open house on November 15, 2023 to discuss the plan.

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

Next meeting 7:00 PM December 6, 2023 at the Conservation Board Office in Tripoli.

With no other business, the meeting was declared adjourned by Chairman Pavelec at 7:58PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Hockenson  
Director

Approved: Larry Pavelec, Chairman

---