

**BREMER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**Regular Meeting February 5, 2025**  
**Conservation Board Office**  
**1104 South Main Street Tripoli, IA 50676**

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

**Members Absent:** none

**Also Present:** Andrew Hockenson, Director

Meeting called to order at 5:30PM by Chairman Pavelec.

Sanderman moved to accept the minutes from the January 2, 2025 regular meeting. Seconded by Snyder and approved unanimously.

**Misc. Correspondence and Announcements:** Meeting time changed to 5:30PM because of potential ice accumulations. Ten Wasps Brewery will be featuring Bremer County Conservation as the Sumner Community Causes organization receiving a donation from sales and tours during the month of July. The artesian well in the C-33 road right of way was back in discussion. The conservation board feels this well is necessary to sustain the wetland complex and should not be considered abandoned.

**Area Reports and Updates:**

- **Parks:** The Board gave direction to purchase 5 limestone berm blocks and 3 concrete benches to be placed around the new fire ring at a portion of the former east open shelter site at Alcock Park. Any remaining benches or limestone block will be utilized at other locations.

- **Wildlife Areas:** Staff members have begun removing woody vegetation from 20 acres of Brase Access along the Wapsie River Greenbelt. Once at a good stopping point there, they will move to Brewer Access as time allows. Spring burns are planned for portions of Brase, Hay, and Buhr Accesses in preparation for an updated survey in those areas.

- **Other Areas:** Hockenson met with Gregg Pattison with US Fish & Wildlife Service and Jennifer Stoffel, Upper IA University Professor to discuss options for A.F. Miller Preserve. From the meeting, USFWS and/or DNR State Preserves may have funds available to assist with hiring a crew to work at clearing wooding encroachment on the preserve. FWS crew members may also be able to assist with work days.

**FY25/26 Budget Update:** Hockenson and Pavelec provided an update on the budget meeting with the Board of Supervisors.

**Stump Grinder:** Hockenson discussed the possibility of purchasing a stump grinder attachment for the skid loader. It was the consensus of the Board that this would be a beneficial purchase, and to move forward with seeking additional pricing.

**Naturalist Report:** The combined Naturalist report was reviewed. The report contained recent programs and participant numbers. While not conducting programs, Liz continues to familiarize herself with our programs and schools. She attended the Winterfest Conference and helped with the BCNA Winter Picnic. Angie will return to work full time on February 18. There was a motion by Korman to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Sanderman. All approved

**Open Discussion:** Spowart and Hockenson met in January to discuss her role as a new conservation board member. A tour of our parks/areas would also be beneficial to all who would like to attend at some point. She also provided a list of drone applicators for future consideration of aerial spraying.

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

Next meeting 7:00 PM March 5, 2025 at the Conservation Board Office in Tripoli.

With no other business, the meeting was declared adjourned by Chairman Pavelec at 6:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: Larry Pavelec, Chairman

Andrew Hockenson  
Director

---