

BREMER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD
Regular Meeting May 7, 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 Patty Spowart

Members Absent: none

Also Present: Andrew Hockenson, Director; students from Wartburg College (6)

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

Korman moved to accept the minutes from the April 2, 2025 regular meeting. Seconded by Spowart and approved unanimously.

Saints Lake – Wartburg College Research Project: Six Wartburg College students were in attendance to discuss and seek permission to conduct a research project at Avenue of the Saints Lake. After discussing the scope of the research project, Snyder made a motion for the group to research and share their findings from Saints Lake. The motion was seconded by Sanderman, and approved unanimously. Staff and board members will be invited to attend the class presentation at the end of May.

Misc. Correspondence and Announcements: Hockenson met with the insurance adjuster to review hail damage at Cedar Bend Park. It is unknown whether any insurance money will be provided for repairs. 5th Grade Field Day is coming up May 13 at Alcock Park.

Area Reports and Updates:

- **Parks:** The disc golf course at North Woods Park is moving along. Local disc golf club members played rounds using portable baskets to help lay out the course. The group may also assist with framing for cement tee boxes and sign design.

The new concrete boat ramp project at North Cedar Park is also moving along. The bank has been shaped, a majority of the rip rap has been hauled and placed, and a section of ramp has been poured.

- **Wildlife Areas:** Snyder and Hockenson provided an update on the snake survey along the Wapsie River Greenbelt. Four have been transmitted and will be tracked throughout the summer, with hopes of finding one more large enough for the transmitter.

- **Other Areas:** The firewood agreement for vendor supplied wood at Cedar Bend was reviewed. Option 1: Bremer County Conservation Board purchase bundled firewood from SSPI Solutions for \$7/bundle, then sell and collect revenue from those sales. Option 2: Bremer County Conservation

Board purchase loose firewood in large plastic totes for \$55/tote delivered from SSPI Solutions, then sell and collect revenue from those sales of loose wood. After discussion, Snyder moved to approve the tote option agreement. The motion was seconded by Sanderman and approved unanimously.

FY 26 Wages: After discussion, Snyder made a motion to approve wages for full and part time employees as budgeted for in the new fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Korman and approved unanimously.

Naturalist Report: The combined Naturalist report was reviewed. The report contained recent programs and participant numbers. Angie and Liz attended a Bird Friendly Iowa workshop. Liz is working on new program/social media ideas, and is hosting a program at Ten Wasps Brewery in May. Angie is working on finalizing 5th Grade Field Day. She also hosted the crane count and reported numbers. There was a motion by Sanderman to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Snyder. All approved

Open Discussion: Potentially looking at June 6th for a tour of our county parks and areas for any board members that are able to attend.

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

Next meeting 7:00 PM June 4, 2025 at the Conservation Board Office in Tripoli.

With no other business, the meeting was declared adjourned by Chairman Pavelec at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: Larry Pavelec, Chairman

Andrew Hockenson
Director
