

BREMER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD
Regular Meeting
November 2, 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: Also Present: Andrew Hockenson, Director; Heather Gamm, Naturalist; Kip Ladage, Brian & Joey Schmidt

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

Korman moved to accept the minutes from the October 5, 2022 regular meeting as presented. Seconded by Pavelec and approved unanimously.

Area Reports and Updates:

- **Parks:** Joey Schmidt has finished up his Eagle Scout project at Ingawanis Woodland. He was on hand to explain the orienteering course and how the project went for him. He had raised around \$1,300 for the project. He plans to donate the roughly \$400 surplus to the Bremer County Nature Alliance. Harms moved to approve his final project. The motion was seconded by Snyder and approved unanimously.

Misc. Correspondence and Announcements: Hockenson reported the two large sycamore trees donated by Pavelec have been planted at Alcock Park. The Halloween Hike had to be canceled this year due to rainy weather. The hand pump well on the east side of Alcock Park has been plugged.

Area Reports and Updates:

- **Parks (continued):** Final camping and firewood revenue numbers were presented. Camping revenue at Cedar Bend, North Cedar, and North Woods Parks were at their highest levels. Alcock Park was down a bit from 2021, partially due to the tree removal that took place. Firewood numbers were also down some, which led to a discussion on future options for supplying it in the parks.

Over half the lumber decking has been placed on the walk bridge at Alcock Park. Staff members will continue working on the bridge as weather allows. Gathering pricing for metal steps on each side is planned next.

Anna Buckardt Thomas, DNR Avian Ecologist, is planning on coming up November 7 to assist with installing the MOTUS tower. With her help, the tower should be up and running by the end of that day.

- **Wildlife Areas:** Firebreaks are being worked on at Brase Access. Several loads of rock have been used to fill pot holes on the lane through 7-Bridges Wildlife Area.

- **Other Areas:** Three estimates were obtained for placing steel over the shingle roofs on the east and west shelters and shower building at Alcock Park. Bids were received from Yoder Construction, Matt Construction, and Becker Roofing. After discussion, Korman moved to accept the low bid from Yoder Construction for the west shelter and shower building. The motion was seconded by Pavelec and approved unanimously. The east shelter was then discussed, making note of the very limited use, additional needed repairs, and higher costs of roof replacement. Other options for utilizing the area were also discussed. After reviewing options for the site, Harms made a motion to remove the shelter. The motion was seconded by Pavelec and approved unanimously.

One estimate was received for repairs to the concrete bridge pillars on the Grump Trail Crane Creek Bridge. Because of the size and scope of the project, additional bids will need to be acquired before taking action.

Bremer County's Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Ordinance Support: A draft ordinance was provided by the Bremer County Building & Zoning Dept. for the purpose of regulating and restricting the use of land for the transport of hazardous liquid through a hazardous liquid pipeline. The Building & Zoning Board is looking for letters of support to go along with the ordinance, which has added language that addresses environmentally sensitive areas. After discussion, Snyder moved to write a letter of support to the Bremer County Board of Supervisors, and an additional letter to the Iowa Utilities Board addressing endangered species and the need for horizontal boring through river and stream corridors. The motion was seconded by Pavelec and approved unanimously.

EE Coordinator/Naturalist Report: The EE coordinator/naturalist report was reviewed. The report contained recent program numbers given. A survival program took place at the Cedar Bend west shelter. The Halloween Hikes took place in Chickasaw and Butler Counties. Heather attended a WAPHL and Colorado Wilderness Trip meeting. Supplies were gathered for the wreath making class in Dec. Several updates were made to the Facebook page. Heather also did many BCNA related tasks. There was a motion by Harms to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Korman and approved unanimously.

Recycling Educator/Naturalist Report: The recycling educator/naturalist report was then reviewed. The report contained recent program numbers given. Angie attended the E-Commerce MyCountyParks.com meeting about online reservations. Waverly Shell Rock 5th grade enjoyed a day of team building activities. Angie continues taking care of the composting worms. There was a motion by Korman to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Pavelec and approved unanimously.

Open Discussion: Ladage commented the Shell Rock River Watershed Management Coalition has lined up a firm to write the watershed management plan.

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

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

With no other business, the meeting was declared adjourned by Chairman Sanderman at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: Mandie Sanderman, Chairman

Andrew Hockenson

Director
