

LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2020, BOARD MEETING

The following is a true copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Linn County, Iowa, Conservation Board held on **January 27, 2020**, at the Wickiup Hill Learning Center, 10260 Morris Hills Rd, Toddville, IA 52341.

Board Members Present

Steve Emerson, John Hanson, Cindy Burke, and George Kanz

Board Members Absent

Hillary Hughes

Staff Present

Dennis Goemaat, Director; Daniel Gibbins, Deputy Director; Randy Burke, Planner; Ryan Schlader, Community Outreach; Dana Kellogg, Natural Resource Manager;

Others Present

Brent Oleson, Linn County Supervisor; Patrick Williams, Snyder and Associates; Isaac Hodgins, Shive-Hattery

Call To Order

Conservation Board President Emerson called the meeting to order at 12:01 PM. Cindy Burke was administered the oath of office by Emerson.

Public Comment

None

ITEM R1. Approve Consent Agenda

Motion by Hanson, second by Kanz

To approve the consent agenda.

Vote: aye; all present
 nay; none
 absent: Hughes

The consent agenda was approved and involved the following items:

ITEM C1. Approve the December 16, 2019 Monthly Meeting Minutes

ITEM C2. Approve claims list and expenditures – Claims List #2020-7.

Claims and Transfer list #2020-7 involving claim #7-431 through claim #7-519.

ITEM C3. Receive and place on file the December 2019 financial/budget report.

ITEM C4. Receive and place on file the December 2019 activity report.

ITEM C5. Acceptance of gifts:

1. Gift #33-2020 –Monetary contribution (\$1,000) from Lavern and Audrey Busse Foundation for the Morgan Creek Park redevelopment project.

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2. Gift #34-2020 –Monetary contribution (\$32,466) from The Nature Conservancy for the Morgan Creek Park redevelopment project.
3. Gift #35-2020 –Monetary contribution (\$11,400) from The Nature Conservancy for the Morgan Creek Park oxbow renovation project.
4. Gift #36-2020 –Monetary contribution (\$328) from Barry and Gilda Boyer Family Fund of the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation for Wings2Water.
5. Gift #37-2020 –Monetary contribution (\$9,672) from Barry and Gilda Boyer Family Fund of the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation for Wings2Water.
6. Gift #38-2020 –Monetary contribution (\$25) from Elisabeth Ross for Morgan Creek Park redevelopment.
7. Gift #39-2020 - Monetary contribution (\$100) from John and Patricia Lopata for Wickiup Hill Learning Center.
8. Gift #40-2020 - Monetary contribution (\$5,000) from Foth Infrastructure and Environment LLC for Wings2Water.

ITEM C6. Capital Improvement Program updates report.

ITEM C7. Approve change order for Pinicon Ridge Overlook Shelter, Project #4-19.

REGULAR AGENDA:

ITEM R2. Discuss and decide on the 2020 Conservation Board annual agenda.

Goemaat and the Conservation Board reviewed the annual agenda. Hanson commented on meeting location potential at the Linn-Mar High School in May.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke

To approve the annual agenda as presented amending the May meeting location to be held at the Linn-Mar High School at 9 a.m.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent: Hughes

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ITEM R3. Discuss and decide regarding bids received and awarding a contract for Morgan Creek Park redevelopment and authorizing the Director to sign the construction contract, Project #3-19.

Randy Burke and Isaac Hodgins of Shive Hattery reviewed the bids received for Morgan Creek Park redevelopment and the construction contract, Project #3-19. Hodgins discussed grading quantity estimate differences between the engineer and contractor that will be worked out with the contract. Emerson asked if unit prices were in line with engineer's estimates. Hodgins confirmed unit prices were in line. Goemaat discussed overall financing of the project including additional bond funding. Apparent low bid is Rathje Construction Company at \$1,683,145.45. Bids received include:

Company	Bid Amount
Rathje Construction Company	\$1,683,145.45
Midwest Concrete	\$2,132,410.70
Boomerang Corp.	\$2,267,568.57

Motion by Kanz, second by Burke

To approve the contract for construction of the Morgan Creek Park redevelopment, Project #3-19, and authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute the contract on behalf of the Board.

Vote: aye; all present
nay; none
absent: Hughes

ITEM R4. Discuss and decide regarding authorizing the Director or designated staff to sign all applications, permits and agreements related to the Morgan Creek development project including, but not limited to, agreement for private sanitary sewer, agreement for sewer and water connection fees, agreement for private water main facilities, and application for site development plan related to project #13-19.

Dennis Goemaat and Isaac Hodgins of Shive Hattery reviewed the Morgan Creek development project including private sanitary sewer, agreement for sewer and water connection fees, agreement for private water main facilities, and application for site development plan.

Motion by Burke, second by Hanson

To authorize the Executive Director and designated staff to sign all applications, permits, and agreements related to Project #13-19.

Vote: aye; all present
nay; none
absent: Hughes

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ITEM R5. Discuss and decide regarding bids received and awarding a contract for wetland projects at Squaw Creek Park and authorizing the Director to sign the contract, Project #26-19.

Dana Kellogg and Patrick Williams of Snyder and Associates reviewed the bids and a contract for wetland projects at Squaw Creek Park, Project #26-19. Apparent low bid is Rathje Construction Company with a bid of \$135,745.00. Bids received include:

Company	Bid Amount
Rathje Construction Company	\$135,745.00
Connolly Construction	\$188,138.00

Motion by Hanson, second by Burke

To approve the contract for wetland projects at Squaw Creek Park, Project #26-19, and authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute the contract on behalf of the Board.

Vote: aye; all present
nay; none
absent: Hughes

ITEM R6. Discuss and decide regarding bids received and awarding a contract for wetland projects at Buffalo Creek and Paris Bridge Natural Areas and authorizing the Director to sign the contract, Project #26-19A.

Dana Kellogg and Patrick Williams of Snyder and Associates reviewed the bids received and a contract for wetland projects at Buffalo Creek and Paris Bridge Natural Areas. Apparent low bid was from Dan Oberbreckling Concrete and Excavating in the amount of \$135,680.00. Bids received included:

Company	Bid Amount
Dan Oberbreckling Concrete and Excavating	\$135,680.00
Connolly Construction	\$172,575.00

Motion by Burke, second by Hanson

To approve the contract for wetland projects at Buffalo Creek and Paris Bridge Natural Areas, Project #26-19A, and authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute the contract on behalf of the Board.

Vote: aye; all present
nay; none
absent: Hughes

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ITEM R7. Discuss and decide regarding awarding a contract for engineering and design of the Dows-Maniti Trail from the Grant Wood Trail to the Sac and Fox Trail and authorizing the Director to sign the contract.

Randy Burke reviewed the proposal for professional services from Snyder & Associates to perform a trail alignment study for the Dows-Maniti Trail from the Grant Wood Trail south to Mt. Vernon Road.

Motion by Hanson, second by Kanz

To authorize staff to negotiate a contract in accordance with the parameters of the proposal and authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute the contract on behalf of the Board.

Vote: aye; all present
 nay; none
 absent: Hughes

ITEM R8. Discuss and decide regarding awarding a contract for engineering and design of the Highway 100 Trail from Morgan Creek Park to the Cedar River and authorizing the Director to sign the contract.

Randy Burke reviewed a proposal from Anderson-Bogert Engineering to perform a trail alignment study for segment 4, phases 2 and 3 of the Highway 100 Trail from Morgan Creek Park to the Cedar River.

Motion by Kanz, second by Burke

To authorize staff to negotiate a contract within the parameters of the proposal and authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute the contract on behalf of the Board.

Vote: aye; all present
 nay; none
 absent: Hughes

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ITEM R9. Discuss and decide regarding approving an agreement with the city of Marion to manage vegetation along a 250' segment of the Grant Wood Trail south of the Marion Airport.

Goemaat reviewed a proposed agreement with the city of Marion to manage vegetation along a 250' segment of the Grant Wood Trail south of the Marion Airport.

Motion by Kanz, second by Burke

To approve the agreement with the City of Marion and authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Vote: aye; all present
 nay; none
 absent: Hughes

ITEM R10. Discuss and decide regarding a Water Access Grant agreement with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for repairs to the North Cedar Boat Ramp and authorizing Randy Burke to sign the agreement.

Randy Burke reviewed a Water Access Grant agreement with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for repairs to the North Cedar Boat Ramp.

Motion by Burke, second by Kanz

To approve the Water Access Grant agreement with the IDNR for repairs to the North Cedar Boat Ramp and authorize Randy Burke to sign the agreement on the behalf of the Board.

Vote: aye; all present
 nay; none
 absent: Hughes

ITEM R11. Discuss and decide on the FY 2019 Annual Report and authorize publication.

Ryan Schlader reviewed the FY 2019 Annual Report.

Motion by Burke, second by Kanz

To approve the FY 2019 Annual Report and authorize staff to publish and distribute the report.

Vote: aye; all present
 nay; none
 absent: Hughes

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ITEM R12. Board member / staff reports – Board members and staff may report and/or discuss meetings or activities in which they have been involved.

- 1) Community Outreach/Marketing: Ryan Schlader reported on release of the winter recreation video and upcoming presentation to CR Drinks.
- 2) Updates:
 - a. IDOT Federal Recreation Trails grant award – Randy Burke reported on \$500,000 in new grant funding secured for the Cedar Valley Nature Trail between Center Point and Urbana.
 - b. Suggested name for new shelter at Pinicon Ridge Park- – Goemaat reviewed suggested permanent name of the new Pinicon Ridge Park pavilion as Wapsi Bluff Shelter, which will be submitted as a future Board resolution for consideration.
 - c. Squaw Creek – Goemaat reported on the recent renaming of Squaw Creek in Story County in relation to Linn County’s Squaw Creek and Squaw Creek Park.
 - d. FY21 Conservation Board Budget presentation to the Linn County Board of Supervisors – January 15 at 1:30 p.m. – Member Kanz reported on the FY21 budget presentation to the Board of Supervisors.
 - e. Supervisor Oleson appointed as Board of Supervisors Conservation Board liaison – Goemaat reported that Supervisor Oleson was re-appointed as Board of Supervisors Conservation Board liaison.

ITEM R13. Election of Officers for 2020

1. Board President
2. Board Vice-President
3. Board Secretary

The Board discussed the slate of officers for 2020. The Board discussed waving the current policy for automatic rotation of officers. Burke nominated member Emerson for President. Kanz concurred and nominated Hanson for Vice President and Burke for Secretary.

Motion by Kanz, second by Hanson

To waive current policy and elect a slate of officers including Emerson as President, Hanson as Vice-President and Burke as Secretary.

Vote: aye; all present
nay; none
absent: Hughes

ITEM R14. Public comment

None.

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ITEM R15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.


Catherine Kastens typed the above minutes.

SEAL





Recording Secretary



Board Secretary