

LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023, BOARD MEETING

The following is a true copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Linn County, Iowa, Conservation Board held on **February 27, 2023**, at Wickiup Hill Learning Center, 10260 Morris Hills Road, Toddville, IA 52341.

Board Members Present

Steve Emerson, Brent Oleson, George Kanz, Kendal Hausmann
Brent Oleson joined the meeting by phone.
Member Burke was appointed as acting Secretary.

Board Members Absent

Staff Present

Dennis Goemaat, Executive Director; Daniel Gibbins, Deputy Director; Randy Burke, Planner

Others Present

Dave Lamka, Jossua Pate

Call To Order

President Emerson called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM

Public Comment

None.

ITEM R1. Approve Consent Agenda

Motion by Burke, second by Kanz

To approve the consent agenda.

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

The consent agenda was approved and involved the following items:

ITEM C1. Approve minutes of the January 23, 2023 monthly meeting

ITEM C2. Approve claims list and expenditures – Claims List # 2023-8.

Claims and Transfer list #2023-8 involving claim #8-913 through #8-1058.

ITEM C3. Receive and place on file the January 2023 financial/budget report.

ITEM C4. Receive and place on file the January 2023 activity report.

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ITEM C5. Acceptance of gifts.

1. Gift #21-2023 – Monetary donation (\$1,000) from Linn County Trails Association for use on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail paving project.
2. Gift #22-2023 – Monetary donation (\$30) from Judith Langhurst for use at Abbe Creek School Museum.

Gifts #23 – 40-2023 were made in memory of Steve Golinvaux for support of the Cedar Valley Nature Trail.

3. Gift #23-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Michael & Vickie Herbst.
4. Gift #24-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Rex and Brenda Reeve.
5. Gift #25-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Kailee Petersen.
6. Gift #26-2023 – Monetary donation (\$25) from Frances Nathanson.
7. Gift #27-2023 – Monetary donation (\$50) from Elizabeth Gauger.
8. Gift #28-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Lauren Smith-MacGregor.
9. Gift #29-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Heidi Bernier, Laura Kamprath & Sarah Shamblin.
10. Gift #30-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Michele O'Connor.
11. Gift #31-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Deb Theisen.
12. Gift #32-2023 – Monetary donation (\$25) from Julie Lynch.
13. Gift #33-2023 – Monetary donation (\$75) from Kelly DeSousa.
14. Gift #34-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Maria Doce.
15. Gift #35-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Julie McGovern.
16. Gift #36-2023 – Monetary donation (\$50) from Cheryl Collins.
17. Gift #37-2023 – Monetary donation (\$50) from William Kvasnica.
18. Gift #38-2023 – Monetary donation (\$50) from Valerie Flagler.
19. Gift #39-2023 – Monetary donation (\$50) from Ed Lynch.
20. Gift #40-2023 – Monetary donation (\$25) from JoAnn Young.
21. Gift #41-2023 – Monetary donation (\$25) from Christine Day.
22. Gift #42-2023 – Monetary donation (\$25) from Kayleen Gardner.
23. Gift #43-2023 – Monetary donation (\$25) from Mary Gilroy.
24. Gift #44-2023 – Monetary donation (\$50) from Mercedes Hayes.
25. Gift #45-2023 – Monetary donation (\$25) from Pamela London.
26. Gift #46-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Shawn O'Neal Lynch.
27. Gift #47-2023 – Monetary donation (\$25) from Brian Meyer.
28. Gift #48-2023 – Monetary donation (\$50) from Marilyn Schaefer.
29. Gift #49-2023 – Monetary donation (\$50) from L.L Westpal.
30. Gift #50-2023 – Monetary donation (\$50) from Shane McGovern.
31. Gift #51-2023 – Monetary donation (\$65) from Leanne Golinvaux.
32. Gift #52-2023 – Monetary donation (\$100) from Tamara Multerer.

ITEM C6. Capital Improvement Program updates

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REGULAR AGENDA:

ITEM R2. Discuss and decide regarding awarding a construction contract for replacement of the Bear Creek Bridge on the Cedar Valley Trail, Project #5-21.

Randy Burke reviewed bids received for Project #5-21. The low bid received was \$606,494.77 from Jim Schroeder Construction Inc. Bids received were as follows:

Bidder	Bid Amount
Jim Schroeder Construction Inc.	\$606,494.77
Taylor Construction Inc.	\$646,254.90
Peterson Contractors Inc.	\$695,961.55

MOTION by Burke, second by Kanz

To approve the low bid from Jim Schroeder Construction for \$606,494.77 and authorize the Director to sign a contract.

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

ITEM R3. Public hearing regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for wetland construction at the Bird Preserve, Project #30-21.

The Conservation Board conducted a public hearing in accordance with Iowa law regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for wetland construction at the Bird Preserve, Project #30-21. Proof of publication was presented. No written or oral comments or objections were received.

MOTION by Burke, second by Hausmann

To close the public hearing.

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

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ITEM R4. Discuss and decide on Resolution #2023-4, approving the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for wetland development at the Bird Preserve, Project #30-21.

Randy Burke reviewed the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for wetland development at the Bird Preserve, Project #30-21.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke

To approve Resolution #2023-4, approving the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for wetland development at the Bird Preserve, Project #30-21

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

ITEM R5. Discuss and decide regarding awarding a construction contract for wetland construction at the Bird Preserve, Project 30-21.

Randy Burke reviewed bids received for a construction contract for wetland construction at the Bird Preserve, Project 30-21. Low bid received was \$141,999.55 from Veracity Excavating.

Bidder	Bids Received
Veracity Excavating	\$141,999.55
Rathje Construction	\$169,854.81
Rock N Load	\$174,924.95
Connolly Construction Inc.	\$201,018.25
Boomerang	\$237,465.00
Kloubec Earthworks	\$275,138.46

MOTION by Burke, second by Kanz

To approve the low bid of \$141,999.55 from Veracity Excavating and authorize the Director to sign the contract.

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

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ITEM R6. Public hearing regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for repairs to the single track, mountain bike trails at Wanatee Park, Project #3-22.

The Conservation Board conducted a public hearing in accordance with Iowa law regarding the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for repairs to the single track, mountain bike trails at Wanatee Park, Project #3-22. Proof of publication was presented. No written or oral comments or objections were received.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke

To close the public hearing.

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

ITEM R7. Discuss and decide on Resolution #2023-5, approving the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for repairs to the single-track trails at Wanatee Park, Project #3-22.

Randy Burke reviewed Resolution #2023-5 approving the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for repairs to the single-track trails at Wanatee Park, Project #3-22. Burke asked about FEMA involvement. Randy Burke confirmed FEMA participation due to derecho damage to the trails.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke

To approve Resolution #2023-5 approving the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for repairs to the single-track trails at Wanatee Park, Project #3-22.

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

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ITEM R8. Discuss and decide regarding awarding a construction contract for repairs to the single-track trails at Wanatee Park, Project #3-22.

Randy Burke reviewed a sole source contract for repairs to the single-track trails at Wanatee Park, Project #3-22.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Hausmann

To approve and authorize the Director to sign a contract with Backyard Trails for repairs to project #3-22.

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

ITEM R9. Presentation/overview of bond projects completed to date.

Gibbins presented an update of bond projects completed to date. Kanz discussed leveraging bond dollars with other sources. Burke commented on public education of bond projects. Kanz discussed the benefits of illustrating bond spending and leveraging other funding sources through a pictorial method on the website.

No motion was made.

ITEM R10. Discuss and decide on adopting Resolution #2023-6, requesting the Linn County Board of Supervisors sell bonds to fund specific Linn County Water & Land Legacy Bond projects.

Goemaat reviewed Resolution #2023-6, requesting the Linn County Board of Supervisors sell bonds to fund specific Linn County Water & Land Legacy Bond projects.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke

To approve Resolution #2023-6, requesting the Linn County Board of Supervisors sell bonds to fund specific Linn County Water & Land Legacy Bond projects.

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

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ITEM R11. Discuss and decide on adopting Resolution #2023-7, amendment #40 to the fees and charges, establishing fees for the 2023 recreation season.

Goemaat reviewed Resolution #2023-7, amendment #40 to the fees and charges, establishing fees for the 2023 recreation season.

MOTION by Burke, second by Hausmann

To approve Resolution #2023-7 amendment #40 to the fees and charges, establishing fees for the 2023 recreation season.

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

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

1. Community Outreach and Marketing - Gibbins updated the Board on various outreach and marketing efforts.
2. Updates:
 - a. FY2024 Budget - Goemaat reviewed budget impacts from State legislation. Oleson discussed communication strategy by the Conservation Board to the Board of Supervisors (BOS). Kanz discussed the importance of upcoming bond sales. Oleson discussed the bond vote percentage from 2016. Goemaat noted future communication efforts by staff to the BOS would communicate importance of upcoming projects.
 - b. Recent IDOT trail bids- Randy Burke reviewed recent IDOT Trail bid results. Kanz asked about trail surface material type. Randy Burke confirmed asphalt was the primary surface material for these projects.

ITEM R13. Public comment

Jossua Pate asked about Conservation restoration goals and whether they supported various United Nations environmental goals. Dave Lamka asked about for an update for the Grant Wood Trail development.

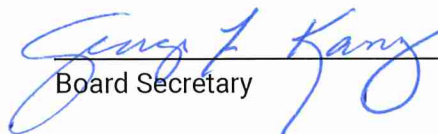
ITEM R14. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM. Daniel Gibbins typed the above minutes.

SEAL



Recording Secretary



Board Secretary