



LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2022, BOARD MEETING

The following is a true copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Linn County, Iowa, Conservation Board held on **March 28, 2022**, at Wickiup Hill Learning Center, 10260 Morris Hills Road, Toddville, IA 52341.

Board Members Present

Hillary Hughes, Steve Emerson, Cindy Burke, Brent Oleson, George Kanz
Member Kanz joined the meeting by phone.
Member Hughes joined the meeting at 12:01 PM
Member Oleson joined the meeting by phone at 12:11 PM

Board Members Absent

Staff Present

Dennis Goemaat, Director; Daniel Gibbins, Deputy Director; Randy Burke, Planner; Ted Doscher, Planner; Ryan Schlader, Community Outreach Specialist;

Others Present

Call To Order

Board President Hughes 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: Oleson, Hughes

The consent agenda was approved and involved the following items:

ITEM C1. Approve minutes of the February 28, 2022 monthly meeting

ITEM C2. Approve claims list and expenditures – Claims List #2022-9.
Claims and Transfer list #2022-9 involving claim #9-1006 through #9-1123.

ITEM C3. Receive and place on file the February 2022 financial/budget report.

ITEM C4. Receive and place on file the February 2022 activity report.

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ITEM C5. Acceptance of gifts.

1. Gift #23-2022 - Monetary donation (\$250) from Karen Gamble for unrestricted support of the conservation program.
2. Gift #24-2022 – Donation of four children’s picnic tables from Bob Handley for use at the playscape at Wickiup Hill.
3. Gift #25-2022 – Monetary donation (\$50) from James Phelps for unrestricted support of the Wickiup Hill education program.
4. Gift #26-2022 – Monetary donation (\$20) from Natalie McDonald for unrestricted support of the Wickiup Hill education program.

ITEM C6. Approve change order with Shive Hattery adding detailed survey to the Pinicon Ridge Park campground expansion, Project #29-21.

ITEM C7. Capital Improvement Program updates

REGULAR AGENDA:

ITEM R2. Public hearing regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for the Fishel Road overpass replacement on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Project #1-22.

Member Hughes joined the meeting at 12:01.

The Conservation Board conducted a public hearing in accordance with Iowa law regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated costs for the Fishel Road overpass replacement on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Project #1-22. The published notice of the public hearing was presented. No written or oral comments or objections were received.

MOTION by Burke, second by Hughes

To close the public hearing.

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

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ITEM R3. Discuss and decide on Resolution #2022-6, approving the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for the Fishel Road overpass replacement on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Project #1-22.

Randy Burke reviewed the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for the Fishel Road overpass replacement on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Project #1-22.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke

To adopt Resolution #2022-6 indicating that a public hearing was held and approving the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated costs for the Fishel Road overpass replacement on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Project #1-22.

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

ITEM R4. Discuss and decide regarding bids received for the Fishel Road overpass on the Cedar Valley Trail and authorizing the Director to sign the contract, Project #1-22.

Randy Burke reviewed bids received for the Fishel Road overpass on the Cedar Valley Trail, Project #1-22. Low bid was from Jim Schroeder Construction with a total bid of \$119,550.00 including alternates. Bids received are as follows:

Company	Bid – Base bid + Alternates
Jim Schroeder	\$119,550.00
PCI	\$151,451
Taylor	\$231,000
CLC	\$261,250

MOTION by Emerson, second by Burke

To accept the low bid of \$119,550.00 from Jim Schroeder Construction for project #1-22 and authorizing the Director to sign and execute a contract on behalf of the Board.

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

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ITEM R5. Public hearing regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for the Morgan Creek Park pedestrian bridge, Project #2-20.

The Conservation Board conducted a public hearing in accordance with Iowa law regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated costs for the Morgan Creek Park pedestrian bridge, Project #2-20. The published notice of the public hearing was presented. No written or oral comments or objections were received.

MOTION by Emerson, second by Burke

To close the public hearing.

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

ITEM R6. Discuss and decide on Resolution #2022-7, approving the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for the Morgan Creek Park pedestrian bridge, Project #2-20.

Doscher reviewed the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for the Morgan Creek Park pedestrian bridge, Project #2-20.

MOTION by Burke, second by Emerson

To adopt Resolution #2022-7 indicating that a public hearing was held and approving the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated costs for the Morgan Creek Park pedestrian bridge, Project #2-20.

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

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ITEM R7. Public hearing regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for the nature appreciation structure at Wickiup Hill Learning Area, Project #10-19.

The Conservation Board conducted a public hearing in accordance with Iowa law regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated costs for the nature appreciation structure at Wickiup Hill Learning Area, Project #10-19. The published notice of the public hearing was presented. No written or oral comments or objections were received.

MOTION by Emerson, second by Burke

To close the public hearing.

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

ITEM R8. Discuss and decide on Resolution #2022-8, approval of the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for the nature appreciation structure at Wickiup Hill Learning Area, Project #10-19.

Randy Burke reviewed the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimated construction costs for the nature appreciation structure at Wickiup Hill Learning Area, Project #10-19.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Emerson

To adopt Resolution #2022-8 indicating that a public hearing was held and approving the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated costs for the nature appreciation structure at Wickiup Hill Learning Area, Project #10-19.

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

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ITEM R9. Discuss and decide regarding bids received for the nature appreciation structure at Wickiup Hill Learning Area and authorizing the Director to sign the contract, Project #10-19.

Member Oleson joined the meeting at 12:11 PM

Randy Burke reviewed bids received for the nature appreciation structure at Wickiup Hill Learning Area, Project #10-19. Apparent low bid was from Garling Construction Inc. with a total bid of \$89,950 including alternates. Bids received are as follows:

Company	Bid – Base bid + Alternates
Garling Construction Inc.	\$89,950
Henley Construction Group	\$97,500
Tricon Construction Inc.	\$141,000

MOTION by Emerson, second by Burke

To accept the low bid of \$89,950 from Garling Construction Inc. for project #10-19 and authorizing the Director to sign and execute a contract on behalf of the Board.

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

ITEM R10. Discuss and decide regarding an agreement with Ritland Kuiper Landscape Architects to develop construction and bidding documents for improvements to Buffalo Creek Park, Project #26-21.

Doscher reviewed an agreement with Ritland Kuiper Landscape Architects to develop construction and bidding documents for improvements to Buffalo Creek Park, Project #26-21

MOTION by Emerson, second by Burke

To approve the agreement with Ritland Kuiper Landscape Architects to develop construction and bidding documents and authorize the Director to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board.

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

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ITEM R11. Discuss and decide regarding accepting ownership of The Nature Conservancy properties in Linn County known as Behrens Pond and Hanging Bog State Preserves and authorizing the Director to work with The Nature Conservancy to complete the property transfer.

Goemaat reviewed the offer to transfer ownership of The Nature Conservancy properties in Linn County known as Behrens Pond and Hanging Bog State Preserves to Linn County.

MOTION by Burke, second by Emerson

To approve the acceptance of ownership transfer of The Nature Conservancy properties in Linn County known as Behrens Pond and Hanging Bog State Preserves and authorize the Director to work with The Nature Conservancy to complete the property transfer.

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

ITEM R12. Discuss and decide regarding authorizing the President to sign a letter of support for Cedar Rapids 8th Avenue Bridge project.

Gibbins reviewed a letter of support for Cedar Rapids 8th Avenue Bridge project and RAISE grant application by the City of Cedar Rapids.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Emerson

To approve a letter of support for Cedar Rapids 8th Avenue Bridge project and authorize the Board President to sign the letter on behalf of the Board.

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

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ITEM R13. Discuss and decide on Resolution #2022-9 setting date and time for the public hearing regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for the solar installations on county conservation areas, Project #20-21.

Goemaat reviewed resolution #2022-9 setting date and time for the public hearing regarding the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for the solar installations on county conservation areas, Project #20-21.

MOTION by Burke, second by Emerson

To approve Resolution #2022-9 setting the public hearing and authorizing staff to receive and open bids.

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

ITEM R14. Discuss and decide regarding bids received for concrete work at Pinicon Ridge Park and authorizing the director to sign the contract.

Doscher reviewed bids received for concrete work at Pinicon Ridge Park and authorizing the director to sign the contract. Low bid was \$72,632.00 from Kelly Concrete. Bids received were as follows:

Company	Bid with Alternate
D&D Superior Concrete	\$96,632.80
Midwest Concrete	\$108,638.00
Kelly Concrete	\$72,632.00

MOTION by Emerson, second by Burke

To approve the low bid of \$72,632.00 from Kelly Concrete and authorize the Director sign the contract.

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

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ITEM R15. 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 recent marketing and communications efforts.
- 2) Updates:
 - a. Target opening date for Linn County campgrounds - Goemaat reported on a target date in April for the opening of the Linn County campgrounds.
 - b. Excess IDOT right-of-way near Lisbon – Goemaat reported on an excess right-of-way offer by the IDOT to LCCB. Board consensus was to move forward with the acceptance process.
 - c. Buffalo Creek Park draft redevelopment plan. – Doscher updated the Board on the design process for the expansion and renovation of Buffalo Creek Park amenities. Hughes commented on the design layout.
 - d. Member Burke noted positive feedback received about Pinicon Ridge Park.

ITEM R16. Public comment

None.

ITEM R17. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM
Daniel Gibbins typed the above minutes.

SEAL



Recording Secretary



Board Secretary