

WINNEBAGO COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Re-scheduled Meeting, Monday, April 15, 2024 – 8:00 A.M.  
At the Hanson Nature Center, 41600 170<sup>th</sup> Ave., Hwy 69 N.  
Leland, IA 50453

Minutes

Board Members

Tim Missal  
Jeff Schmidt  
Nancy Helm  
Jeff Schmidt

Absent

Julie Hagenson

Staff Present

Robert Schwartz, Director  
Nicole Templeton, Nat. Res. Tech  
Rick Lillie, Nat. Res. Mgr.

Guests

Mike Korth  
Steve Anderson, President, Tri-County Recreation Association

Chairman Missal called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

The April 15, 2024 meeting agenda was approved with a motion from Helm, seconded by Schmidt. Unanimous. Motion carried.

The March 11, 2024 Board meeting minutes were approved with a motion from Flatrud, seconded by Helm. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Work and budget reports were reviewed.

Nature Center updates: Punch list items that have been completed include: lighting repairs, restroom flooring, trim molding, door, and window seals replaced. Other items to be completed this week include: Mechanical room door, caulking and plumbing. (4) park benches have been donated and are on order. Donor wall and entrance signage was discussed and examples reviewed. A grant application to a local Community Foundation will be submitted today. Helm discussed a family is considering loaning or donating a large Native American artifact collection. Furnishing quotes were reviewed. A motion was made by Helm, seconded by Missal, to accept the \$43,830.00 low quote of Spencer Office Supplies for nature center furnishings contingent upon securing a grant. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Several encroachments on county land were discussed.

A Winnebago County Health Department request to consider a “Tobacco-Free/Nicotine-Free Policy was reviewed. This is an update to the 2008 State of Iowa policy. A motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Flatrud, to approve the updated Tobacco-Free/Nicotine-Free Policy for all Winnebago County Conservation Board

managed buildings, shelters, facilities and vehicles as listed. Unanimous. Motion carried. Signage is being provided by the Winnebago County Public Health Department

Steve Anderson, President, Tri-County Recreation Association (TCRA), discussed property insurance coverage at the Gruis Recreation Area. The TCRA is requesting that the Conservation Board consider providing property insurance coverage for the Gruis Recreation Area buildings through the Iowa Community Insurance Pool (ICAP). This would save the TCRA a significant amount in annual premiums. The TCRA would reimburse the county for the premiums and would continue to provide all other insurance coverage as required. Missal suggested he would in favor of making this switch and that it may require an addendum and a hold harmless clause to the current Agreement and Lease which is approved annually by the Board. After discussion, the Board directed Schwartz to discuss this proposal with the county attorney and county auditor, and report back at the May meeting.

Payment of monthly bills was approved with a motion from Missal, seconded by Helm. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Mike Korth was presented a plaque and appreciation for his 18 years of service on the Conservation Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 A.M. with a motion from Helm, seconded by Flatrud. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Schwartz  
Executive Director

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Chairman

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Secretary