

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD**

January 9th, 2020

Meeting to order: President Craig Capps called the meeting to order at 4:29 PM at the Washington County Conservation Center at Marr Park.

Roll call:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Prier, Stan Stoops, Craig Capps, Bill Nickell

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Barb Donkersloot

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Zach Rozmus, Ranger Tech Cody Smith, Ranger Tech Brett Johnson, Naturalist Assistant Randi Brase, Naturalist Megan Jorgensen

GUESTS PRESENT: KCII

Approval of agenda: A motion was made to approve the agenda as provided by Stan Stoops and seconded by Bill Nickell. Carried unanimously.

Oath of Office: Board member Kim Prier read her oath of office. Signifying the beginning of her 5 year board term.

Review previous meeting minutes: A motion was made by Bill Nickell to approve the December 12, 2019 regular meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Stan Stoops and carried unanimously.

Election of Officers:

2020 WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD MEMBER INFORMATION:

NAME & ADDRESS	APPOINTED	TERM EXPIRES	2019 OFFICER ELECTION POSITION
Craig Capps Kalona, IA	Jan. 1st, 2019	Dec. 31 2024	President
Barb Donkersloot Washington, IA	Feb. 8th, 2012	Dec 31, 2021	Vice President
Kim Prier Ainsworth, IA	Jan. 1st, 2020	Dec. 31, 2025	Secretary/Treasurer
Bill Nickell Wellman, IA	Jan. 1st, 2011	Dec. 31, 2020	Board Member
Stan Stoops Washington, IA	Jan. 1st, 2018	Dec. 31, 2022	Board Member

DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS:

2020-2021 Budget Discussion

- a. Rozmus provided the budget proposal for the 2020-2021 Fiscal year. Rozmus explained that the proposed conservation budget was in line with the Board of Supervisors directives. Directive: 0% operating increase, \$0.75 hourly raise for all non-elected officials.

Clemons Creek CRP Contract

- b. Rozmus explained that he was working with the NRCS to reenroll approximately 40 acres of property at Clemons Creek, back into CRP. Rozmus anticipated the contract would be signed in the coming weeks. Current offer was roughly a \$50 per acre increase. Exact offer was \$187.07 per acre for 10 or 15 years.

Rozmus said that the input from staff members Fritz Engel and Megan Jorgensen has been instrumental in the reenrollment process.

Shiloh Annexation

- c. Rozmus explained to all those present that on Monday, January 6th, 2020 the Kalona City Council agreed to proceed with the annexation process. Rozmus stated that approximately 600 acres have been presented to be annexed into city limits south of Kalona. As part of the annexation certain areas will be deeded to the city for recreation use. Rozmus advised that he believed it was trending in a very positive direction for the community of Kalona and the citizens of Washington County.

Updates:

I. Izaak Walton Property

- a. Rozmus advised that there was little to update regarding the Izaak Walton property. Rozmus was waiting to hear from the Bordwell Law Office regarding a potential closing date.

II. Fern Cliff Improvements

- a. Rozmus provided a budgetary breakdown of the enhancements at Fern Cliff. Rozmus happily announced that the project came in significantly under budget. Rozmus advised that a huge reasoning for that was the ability of the conservation staff to handle nearly all of the work in house.

III. Office Remodel

- a. Rozmus announced that the office remodel was now complete. Rozmus said that the entire staff was ready to settle into the new offices. Several board members commented on the quality of the work and conveyed optimism with how the remodel could help conservation for years to come.

Review of monthly reports

Maintenance Technician Fritz Engel’s monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Ranger/Technician Cody Smith’s monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Ranger/Technician Brett Johnson’s monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Naturalist Assistant Randi Brase’s monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Naturalist Megan Jorgensen’s monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Executive Director Zach Rozmus’ monthly report was provided and reviewed.

Bills Approved For Payment

Following discussion, a motion was made by Stan Stoops and seconded by Kim Prier to approve the following bills totaling \$16,439.54 for payment, and to authorize the President to sign each claim. Motion was carried unanimously.

TO WHOM	FOR	AMOUNT
Ace-N-More	Hand tools, paint, worms, lubricants, cleaning supplies	\$518.33
Agriland	Propane, fuel	\$2,078.26
Arnold Motor	Socket	\$11.39
Bordwell Law	Izaak Walton property	\$250.00
Bruty's Carpet Corner	Office flooring	\$2,703.65
Capper	Windshield washer pump	\$40.60
Copy Systems	Monthly contract	\$59.94
Eastern Iowa Light & Power	Monthly electricity	\$891.69

Fritz Engel	Worms	\$13.23
Iowa Conservation Education Coalition	Winter workshop - naturalist	\$50.00
John Deere	Wood pellets, windshield wash, gloves, chain, skid loader parts	\$194.75
JR Construction	Office remodel	\$4,500.00
Lackender	Stump bucket	\$875.00
State Hygienic Laboratory	Water testing	\$13.00
The Lock Dr.	Door handle	\$194.00
UI Community Medical	Physical - naturalist	\$197.00
US Cellular	Monthly cell service	\$266.45
VISA	Memberships, winterfest, recycle bins, outlets	\$1,332.54
Walmart	Program materials, paint, brushes, banner	\$151.68
Washington County GIS	GIS mapping software	\$300.00
Washington Rental	Chainsaw, chains	\$972.03
Washington Tital & Guaranty	Izaak Walton property	\$225.00
Wemiga Waste	Monthly trash service	\$300.00
Windstream	Monthly internet service	\$301.00
TOTAL BILLS		\$16,439.54

Meeting Adjourned: A motion was made by Kim Prier and seconded by Bill Nickell to adjourn the meeting at 5:47PM. Motion was carried unanimously.

SIGNATURE

DATE