

Wapello County Conservation Board
Regular Meeting Notice
Monday, March 10th, 2025
5:00 PM Meeting
Pioneer Ridge Nature Center (1339 HWY 63, Bloomfield)
Minutes

Call to Order:

Jeff called the meeting to order at 5:04PM

Roll Call:

John Henscheid, Beth Doggett, and Jeff Layton

Staff Present:

Rick Tebbs, Paul Totten, Amanda Jones, Sara Runyan, and John Scott

Approval of Agenda:

John moved to approve the agenda, Beth seconded, approved.

Approval of Previous Monthly Meeting Minutes:

John moved to approve the previous monthly meeting minutes, Beth seconded, approved.

Recognition of Guests:

Darren Batterson

Claims:

- WCCB claims for the month of February were submitted for approval.

John moved to approve the claims for the month of February, Beth seconded, approved.

- The American Gothic House Center (AGHC) claims and revenue for the month of February were submitted for approval.

John moved to approve the AGHC claims for the month of February, Beth seconded, approved.

Old Business:

- **2025 Annual Conference- Okoboji September 16th-18th (Who's going)**

The Director requested to know who can go to the annual conference because he will be booking rooms tomorrow. Beth informed him that she will be going.

New Business:

- **Displays**

Sara reviewed the updated nature center display plans with the board. The designer made changes to the room that the board had requested. She may have it edited one more time to remove a display and create more seating for classes. Staff discussed having a subcommittee of board members to oversee the display process to allow it to move along quicker. Jeff and John volunteered to be a part of the subcommittee. John moved to form a subcommittee for the displays consisting of Jeff and John, Beth seconded, approved.

Rick informed the board that the current swan display cannot be removed through the door and will likely need to be removed in pieces.

- **2027 Annual Conference Dates**

The board discussed possible dates for the 2027 annual conference. Because the month starts on Wednesday, they can either host the conference the 14th, 15th, and 16th or the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. The board recommended hosting the conference the 14th, 15th, and 16th.

- **Transfer of REAP Funds**

The Wapello County Conservation Board still has \$29,710.36 left to contribute of their committed funds to the campground project. John moved to transfer the \$29,710.36 of REAP funds to the campground fund, Beth seconded, approved.

- **Campground Update**

Discussion was had with Darren, the WCCB, and staff about the current state of the campground project. Emily with Bolton and Menk would like the board to begin thinking about what they would like for signage on the shower house. Discussed the remaining budget for the campground and amount of committed money left to spend from the various entities.

Discussion followed over the departments credit cards. They reviewed their current system of usage with Darren.

American Gothic Board Updates

Cari was not able to attend the meeting, but gave the board a letter with the board packet detailing what is currently happening at the AGHC. The big concern right now is that security system will need replaced soon.

Staff Reports and Comments:

Rick spoke with the board and Darren about waiting on updating a camping cabin and replacing the shop's air compressor until budget amendments were approved.

Interviewing for Paul's replacement has begun, Rick asked Darren if they hire from within, are they okay to go ahead and replace the position that was vacated, Darren informed the board that they were okay to fill any positions.

Conservation Board Comments:

None

Adjournment:

John moved to adjourn the meeting, Beth seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:58PM.