

Monday, September 12, 2022
Minutes of the Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting

The Monday, September 12, 2022, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was called to order by Chair, Kirk Rice, at 6:05 p.m. at Hardin County Conservation Headquarters.

Board Members Attending: Kirk Rice (Chair), Trent Lambert (Vice-Chair), and Jo Baumann.

Board Members Absent: Bryan Meints and Jessica Lara

Staff Members Attending: Wes Wiese (Director), Chris Barber (Interpretive Park Manager), Cooper Ingels (Interpretive Park Technician), Hunter Kruse (Natural Resource Technician) and Laura Carr (Office Assistant)

Guests: Tyler Prochaska, Julie Jeske, and Sophia Prochaska (DELTA Waterfowl), Crystal Doering (IFSB/Barlow Family Foundation)

Approval of Agenda: Jo Baumann made a motion to approve the September 12, 2022 agenda. The motion was seconded by Trent Lambert. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Minutes: Trent Lambert made a motion to approve the August 8, 2022 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Jo Baumann. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

Approval of Claims: Jo Baumann made a motion to approve the September 12, 2022, monthly claims. The motion was seconded by Trent Lambert. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

Monthly Special Reports:

Chair Report: Kirk Rice informed the Board that the Pheasants Forever Greenbelt Chapter will be hosting their Annual Banquet on October 1st at the Eldora Fair Grounds Community Building.

Board Member's Report: Trent Lambert informed the Board that a group has cleared the log jam on the river located south of Eagle City and it is now passable. Jo Baumann invited Board members and the public to attend Blooms and Brews hosted by the Southfork Watershed Alliance at Timbukbru in Iowa Falls on Friday, September 16. There will be a educational presentations, a raffle, food and drinks.

Special Committee's Report:

The Lodge Committee: Addressed in new business.

Salary Committee: None

All reports were given and discussed. Jo Baumann made a motion to approve all monthly reports as presented. The motion was seconded by Trent Lambert. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

Old Business:

Meier's Fishing Pond Jetty: Wes Wiese updated the Board on progress of the jetty approval by the Army Corps of Engineers.

New Business:

House Demolition: The Board reviewed a bid from Ross Excavating & Drainage for the demolition of the house and garage located at Pine Ridge Park for \$7,755.00. Jo Baumann made a motion to accept the bid from Ross Excavating & Drainage at \$7,755.00. The motion was seconded by Trent Lambert. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

Pine Ridge – Ash Trees: The Board reviewed two bids for the removal of ash trees at Pine Ridge Park in Steamboat Rock. Friest Tree Experts submitted a bid at \$5,000-\$6,250. Iowa River Rough Cut submitted a bid at \$1,500. Trent Lambert made a motion to accept the bid submitted by Iowa River Rough Cut at \$1,500 for the removal of the ash trees at Pine Ridge Park. The motion was seconded by Jo Baumann. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

Fall Festival & Barlow Challenge: Wes Wiese informed the Board that Hardin County Conservation was selected to participate in the Barlow Challenge. Wes discussed food, drinks, and activity ideas for the Fall Festival. Crystal Doering, with Iowa Falls State Bank and Barlow Family Foundation, provided the Board with guidelines for the Barlow Challenge. Wes presented a flyer that could be mass sent to residents of Hardin County by Ackley Publishing for the Barlow Challenge. The Board reviewed the material and quote provided by Ackley Publishing. Trent Lambert made the motion to accept the bid for mailers from Ackley Publishing at \$4,196.16. The motion was seconded by Jo Baumann. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

Informational Items: None.

Board Park Tour Date: Wes reminded the Board of the Fall Tour of Conservation properties scheduled for Saturday, November 19th at 8am. The Board decided to meet at The Lodge.

Ditch Spraying: Wes informed the Board of a Hardin County resident who has expressed concerns about the ditch spraying that is taking place, despite “no spray” signs, and the damage that it has done to the Greenbelt. The Board recognizes the damage but noted that the spraying is being done and monitored by another division within the County.

Pine Ridge Rifle Range Follow Up: Wes has followed up with Pine Ridge Rifle Range Club regarding a noise complaint submitted by a resident. Wes has spoken to the President of the Pine Ridge Rifle Range Club and a reminder of shooting hours has been sent to all members.

Adjournment: Next Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, October 10, 2022, at 6pm at Hardin County Conservation Headquarters. The Monday, September 12, 2022 meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was adjourned by Chair, Kirk Rice, at 7:33 p.m.