The Monday, March 13, 2023, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was called to order by Vice-Chair, Kirk Rice, at 6:03 p.m. at Hardin County Conservation Headquarters.

**Board Members Attending:** Kirk Rice (Vice-Chair), Jo Baumann, and Julie Jeske,

**Board Members Absent:** Trent Lambert (Chair) and Bryan Meints

**Staff Members Attending:** Wes Wiese (Director), Chris Barber (Interpretive Park Manager) and Laura Carr (Office Assistant)

**Guests:** Tyler and Sophie Prohaska

**Approval of Agenda:** Jo Baumann made a motion to approve the March 13, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Julie Jeske. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** Julie Jeske made a motion to approve the February 13, 2023 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 March 13, 2023 monthly claims. The motion was seconded by Julie Jeske. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Monthly Special Reports:**

**Chair Report**: None.

**Board Member’s Report**: Jo Baumann provided an overview of the Friends of Calkins meeting and upcoming planned events.

**Special Committee’s Report**:

**The Lodge Committee**: The Director, Wes Wiese, presented the Board with quotes for cabins. The Board briefly discussed fundraising and plans to have a fundraising meeting to follow the strategic planning meeting on Saturday, March 25th.

**Salary Committee:** None.

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

**Old Business:**

**The Lodge: HVAC System:** The Director stated that he submitted a grant and is waiting to hear back before moving forward. Information only, no motion required.

**New Business:**

**Wildcat Management Agreement:** The Board reviewed the new management agreement from the Iowa DNR for Wild Cat Cave. Jo Baumann made a motion to table the decision for next month. The motion was seconded by Julie Jeske. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Equipment Purchase: Mower:** The Board reviewed a quote provided by Wilcox Equipment for a Bush Hog Mower at $9,017.00. Julie Jeske made a motion to approve the purchase of a new Bush Hog mower at the price of $9,017.00. The motion was seconded by Jo Baumann. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Calkins Alcohol Policy:** The Calkins Friends Board is requesting a one-time exemption to their alcohol policy for a Calkins Friends event. Calkins currently has a no alcohol policy. After discussion, the Board decided that they need more information on how the Calkins Board intends on serving the alcohol and the Director would need to contact the county insurance. The Board is not opposed to alcohol being served but is opposed to “bring your own beer.”

**Boyer Artifact Gift Agreement:** The Board reviewed an artifact collection agreement between Calkins Nature Area and Larry and Kristine Boyer. Jo Baumann made a motion to accept the agreement regarding the artifact collection. The motion was seconded by Julie Jeske. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Pine Lake Wildlife Club: Cabin Stay Donation**: Julie Jeske made a motion to donate a two-night cabin stay to the Pine Lake Wildlife event. The motion was seconded by Jo Baumann. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Informational Items:**  None.

**Adjournment:** Next Hardin County Conservation Board Strategic Meeting is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 9am. The Monday, March 13, 2023, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was adjourned by Vice-Chair, Kirk Rice, at 7:35 p.m.