

**Monday, May 8, 2023**  
**Minutes of the Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting**

The Monday, May 8, 2023, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was called to order by Chair, Trent Lambert, at 5:59 p.m. at Hardin County Conservation Headquarters.

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

**Board Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Members Attending:** Wes Wiese (Director), Kit Paper (Natural Resource Manager), and Laura Carr (Office Assistant)

**Guests:** Tyler and Sophie Prohaska,

**Approval of Agenda:** Brian Meints made a motion to approve the May 8, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Kirk Rice. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** Kirk Rice made a motion to approve the April 17, 2023 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Julie Jeske. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Approval of Claims:** Brian Meints made a motion to approve the May 8, 2023 monthly claims. The motion was seconded by Jo Baumann. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Monthly Special Reports:**

**Chair Report:** None.

**Board Member's Report:** Julie Jeske reported on the tree disbursement at Calkins and noted that the event sold out. Julie also shared that Delta Waterfowl acquired seed that they would like to donate to the Conservation Department for food plots.

**Special Committee's Report:**

**The Lodge Committee:** The Director, Wes, informed the Board that the local chapter of 100+ Women has selected the Conservation Department for a financial donation towards The Lodge. Wes also informed the Board of a gently used, industrial-size stove for The Lodge. Following a discussion, the Board made the decision to hold off on purchasing the appliance at this time.

**Fundraising Committee:** Bryan Meints presented a proposed route for a fundraising UTV ride. The Board discussed potential dates for the event. Kirk Rice made a motion to set the UTV ride for Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The motion was seconded by Bryan Meints. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Salary Committee:** None.

The Natural Resource Manager, Kit Paper, informed the board of an opportunity to place a bid with RES to convert Pintail vegetation from undesirable to desirable vegetation. Placing a bid would allow the County to offset the costs of the conversion of the area. Kirk Rice made a motion to allow the Conservation Department to place a bid for Pintail restoration on the northeast corner. The motion was seconded by Julie Jeske. All members voted aye, and the motion carried. All reports were given and discussed. Jo Baumann made a motion to approve all monthly reports as presented. The motion was seconded by Kirk Rice. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

### **Old Business:**

**Calkins Alcohol Policy:** The Board has not received further information regarding The Friends of Calkins events. Jo Baumann made the motion to table the decision. The motion was seconded by Julie Jeske. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Lower Eagle City Boat Ramp:** The Board was presented with a bid from Grass Masters for the repairs and updating of the boat ramp at Eagle City. The Board discussed plans for improvement and the concern with the location being in a flood plain. Trent Lambert is going to follow up with the Iowa DNR. Kirk Rice made the motion to approve the scope of work and move forward with plans pending the outcome of Trent Lambert's findings with the Iowa DNR. The motion was seconded by Bryan Meints. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

### **New Business:**

**Calkins Internet:** The Director informed the Board of new developments regarding Calkins's internet. Midland Power is willing to donate a pole to allow Calkins a direct line for CNS Internet. Julie Jeske made the motion to approve the donation of the pole for the purpose of receiving CNS Internet at \$240 for 6 months. The motion was seconded by Kirk Rice. All member voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Calkins AmeriCorps Position:** The Board was presented with an AmeriCorps agreement for an intern at Calkins for. Jo Baumann made the motion to approve the AmeriCorps position. The motion was seconded by Bryan Meints.

**Bessman-Kemp Electrical Services:** The Director presented the Board with a bid from Barnhart Electric to install lights and electrical outlets in the shelter house at Bessman-Kemp. He also provided the Board with a verbal quote from Swieter Electric for \$2,200. Kirk Rice made a motion to accept the Swieter electric bill for up to \$2,500. The motion was seconded by Bryan Meints. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Metal Detector Policy:** The Director presented the Board with the State and Polk County policy on metal detection as there have been individuals inquiring about metal detection on county properties. The Board requested more examples of other metal detector policies. Kirk Rice made a motion to table the decision until further information is obtained. The motion was seconded by Bryan Meints. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Informational Items:** None.

**Adjournment:** Next Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 6pm. The Monday, May 8, 2023, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was adjourned by Chair, Trent Lambert, at 7:32 p.m.

Calkins: Halloween October 28<sup>th</sup>.