

**Monday, January 29, 2024**  
**Minutes of the Hardin County Conservation Special Board Meeting**

The Monday, January 29, 2024, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was called to order by Chair, Trent Lambert, at 4:30 p.m. at Headquarters Office.

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

**Board Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Members Attending:** Wes Wiese (Director), Laura Carr (Office Assistant)

**Guests:** Julie Winters (virtually)

**Approval of Agenda:** Kirk Rice made a motion to approve the January 29, 2024 agenda. The motion was seconded by Bryan Meints. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

**New Business:**

- A. **Resolution: Destination Iowa Grant:** Kirk Rice made a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing Hardin County Conservation Board to submit a Destination Iowa Grant application to the Iowa Economic Development Authority for Pine Ridge Park Redevelopment Project. The motion was seconded by Jo Baumann. Roll call vote: “Ayes” Kirk Rice, Jo Baumann, Julie Jeske, Trent Lambert, and Bryan Meints. “Nays” None. The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HARDIN COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD TO  
SUBMIT A DESTINATION IOWA GRANT APPLICATION TO THE IOWA ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR PINE RIDGE PARK REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the State of Iowa has created the Destination Iowa program, administered by the Iowa Economic Development Authority, to provide grants to projects which create or expand existing Primary Destinations to increase tourism to the state; and

WHEREAS, eligible projects can receive grant funds up to 25% of eligible project costs; and

WHEREAS, Pine Ridge County Park is a 132 acre park in Hardin County with planned public investment with county-owned projects in the overall area related to recreation and gathering; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources is removing the Steamboat Rock dam located adjacent to the Pine Ride Park in the Iowa River which will create water features and complement the county-owned projects; and

WHEREAS, Hardin County is investing in the development of the Iowa River’s Edge Trail, which is a 34-mile converted rail trail conversion stretching from Marshalltown to Steamboat Rock, and the trail will complement the county-owned projects; and

WHEREAS, the City of Steamboat Rock has a future parking area, river access, and trail planned on the adjacent riverbank of the Iowa River that will complement the county-owned projects; and

WHEREAS, the supporting projects proposed in the grant application meet the necessary funding requirements to be eligible for the Destination Iowa grant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HARDIN COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD:

Section 1. The Hardin County Conservation Board Destination Iowa grant application in the amount of \$650,000 for redevelopment of Pine Ridge County Park is hereby approved and the Board Chair and staff are authorized to sign and submit any required documents associated with the grant and the award. The total project budget is \$2,699,276.

Section 2. The Hardin County Conservation Board authorizes \$178,228 in local funding match to go towards the Destination Iowa scope of work.

**Informational Items:** None.

**Adjournment:** Next Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm. The Monday, January 29, 2024, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was adjourned by Chair, Trent Lambert, at 5:05 p.m.