

Monday, August 8, 2016
Minutes of the Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting

The Monday, August 8, 2016 meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was called to order by Chairperson Verl Duncan at 7:00 p.m. at Headquarters.

Board Members Attending: Chairperson Verl Duncan, Vice-Chair Sandy Trampe, Dennis Heetland, Allen Kadolph and Jessica Lara.

Board Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Attending: Director Wes Wiese, Office Assistant Becky Frerichs, Interpretive Park Ranger Luke Wagner, Conservation Technician Brandon Mayland and Interpretive Program Assistant Davis Horton.

Guests: Creative Solutions Unlimited, Inc. Designer Sohrab Daver and Steve Throssel.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Minutes: Sandy Trampe made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2016 Board Meeting. It was seconded by Allen Kadolph. All members voted aye, motion carried.

Approval of Claims: Allen Kadolph made the motion to approve the claims for August 8, 2016. It was seconded by Dennis Heetland. All members voted aye, motion carried.

Special Reports: All reports were given and read. Dennis Heetland made the motion to approve all special reports and it was seconded by Sandy Trampe. All members voted aye, motion carried. Director Wes Wiese introduced to the Board our two new staff members, Conservation Technician Brandon Mayland and Interpretive Program Assistant Davis Horton.

General Business

Creative Solutions Unlimited/Sohrab Daver: Sohrab Daver discussed with the Board the status on the Tower Rock Cabins rentals thru the website. Also discussed was search engine optimization for the website. All was information only and no motion was needed.

Staining Pintail Observation Deck: It was tabled until the September 12, 2016 board meeting.

Ackley Saddle Club: Ackley Saddle Club requested permission for a trail ride at Headquarters on Saturday or Sunday, September 10 or 11, 2016 with a rain date of Saturday or Sunday, September 17 or 18, 2016. Dennis Heetland made the motion to approve the trail ride. It was seconded by Allen Kadolph. All members voted aye, motion carried.

Storm Repairs/July 17, 2016: Discussion was held on all the damage that occurred during the July 17, 2016 storm. There was damage to the Oak Cabin at Tower Rock, the deer fence at Calkins and numerous tree clean-up at the various parks. Estimates on various repairs are being submitted to the insurance company. This was information only and no motion was needed.

61000 Fund: Director Wes Wiese brought to the Boards attention the need to address future funding of various projects with major construction well underway at Calkins Nature Area. All was information only and no motion was needed.

Other Items: Interpretive Park Ranger Luke Wagner was on hand to discuss with the Board the fence damage at Calkins and gave an up-date on the Hardin Hill Run scheduled for Saturday, September 24, 2016. He also discussed the maintenance issues with the geothermal system at Calkins. Dennis Heetland made the motion to purchase the propylene glycol from Chemworld to add to the geothermal loop fields. It was seconded by Sandy Trampe. All members voted aye and the motion carried.

Discussion by the Board on the termination of the Ruby lease was held with a motion by Allen Kadolph to terminate the lease. Jessica Lara seconded the motion. After more discussion, the vote was 1 Aye and 3 Nay, the motion did not carry. Sandy Trampe made a motion to leave the Ruby lease as is and not to terminate. It was seconded by Jessica Lara. The vote was 3-Aye and 1-Nay, the motion carried.

Director Wes Wiese received a letter from the State Preserves Advisory Board that the proposal for canoe access in the Hardin City Woodland State Preserve was denied. The site is not suitable because it would require a long passage through the woodland on steep slopes.

Steve Throssel was on hand to discuss with the Board the different issues he thought should be brought to the Boards attention concerning the Greenbelt Trust efforts. All was information only and no motion was needed.

Adjournment: Sandy Trampe made the motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Allen Kadolph. All members voted aye, meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.