

**Monday, October 9, 2023**  
**Minutes of the Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting**

The Monday, October 9, 2023, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was called to order by Chair, Trent Lambert, at 6:02 p.m. at Headquarters Office.

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

**Board Members Absent:** None.

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

**Guests:** None.

**Approval of Agenda:** Julie Jeske made a motion to approve the October 9, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Jo Baumann. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** Kirk Rice made a motion to approve the September 11, 2023 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Bryan Meints. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Approval of Claims:** Brian Meints made a motion to approve the October 9, 2023, monthly claims with the correction to Craig Boomgarden's cell phone reimbursement, \$80 instead of \$800. 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:** Bryan Meints reported that there were about 60 people who participated in the ride. All the reports were positive and impressed with our areas and amenities. The Board discussed areas that can be improved for next year and went well.

**Special Committee's Report:**

**The Lodge Committee:**

**Fundraising Committee:** Jo Baumann commented on the Fall Festival and noted that it's not an event that is profitable. The Board discussed whether the Board would host a Fall Festival in the coming years.

**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 Kirk Rice. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

- a. **The Lodge Architect:** The Board reviewed and discussed the request for qualifications submitted by Santec and RMH for architect services for the development of The Lodge. Julie Jeske made a motion to accept RMH Architects as the architect firm for the Pine Ridge Lodge. The motion was seconded by Kirk Rice. Three members voted aye, and one member voted against, and the motion carried.

- b. Winter Meetings: Call-In Option:** The Board discussed the option to allow board members to call in for winter meetings due to weather and road conditions. It was the consensus of the Board that the option would be permitted.

**Informational Items:** None.

**Adjournment:** Next Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 6 pm. The Monday, October 9, 2023, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was adjourned by Chair, Trent Lambert, at 7:24 p.m.