

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held November 10, 2020 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Kathy Jordan.

Board members present included Kathy Jordan, Bill Robertson, Rebecca Meyer. Joining by telephone was Holly Martin (due to Covid isolation). Absent was Tom Johnson.

Staff present included John Schwab and Charly Stevens.

Visitors present was Joyce Kruse.

**MOTION:** A motion was entered by Robertson to approve the Agenda for November 10, 2020 as presented, second by Meyer. All in favor and motion carried.

**MOTION:** A motion was entered by Meyer to approve the Minutes of October 13, 2020, second by Robertson. All in favor and motion carried.

**CLAIMS:** Month end claims of October were reviewed. The mid-month claims for November were presented for review and approval. An explanation of large expenditures from both claim periods were given by staff. Large claims on month-end October included \$125.00 – yearly dues to IA Natural Heritage Foundation, \$592.10 to Card Services for mulch, soil conditioner, and 100 ft. of welded wire for the protection of the 25 newly planted trees at Rapp Park, \$212.62 to Vetter's for 6 mower blades, MidAmerican Energy costs were reviewed versus usage (appears that the high electric bill at the office has been fixed), \$143.22 to City of Shenandoah for water at Rapp Park (this may be higher due to the outbursts of water pressure), \$1,600 to PWWS; this included a breakdown of \$475 for the pumping of the latrine holding tank at Pierce Creek, \$495 for the septic pumping of holding tank at Nodaway Valley Park and the servicing of porta pot at Rapp and Pierce. Mid-month November expenses included an explanation of the copier claim – the claims for copies and the lease payment had previously been split between Conservation and Environmental Health and with that office moving out, we will be responsible for the complete lease payment. \$127.36 to Circle C Farms – new signage for office building (the current one has both departments listed), \$101.28 to JB Parts for 16 gallons of RV antifreeze that is used to winterize bathrooms prior to shutting down for the camping season, \$114.75 to Clarinda Heating for the purchase of 9 electrical breakers (fuses at the parks), \$450 to McConkey Rental for the mini excavator/trailer to work on the dock at Rapp and at Pioneer to help with the dredging, at the Pierce Creek gun range to Miller Bldg. Supply of \$151.94 for spray paint, bar ties and 40 bags of concrete and lumber towards installing a permanent shooting table at the (100 yard range) on a concrete pad, and SW Regional Water just usage versus costs for the meter readings of October prior to shutdown of the camping season so should resort to minimal usage cost.

**MOTION:** A motion was entered by Robertson to approve all claims as submitted, second by Meyer. All in favor and motion carried.

New Business included approval of a 5-year development/maintenance plan, revenue proposal to BOS, roadside park proposal, fish habitat grant application for Pioneer Park and a bid to finish the buried cargo container (storm shelter) at Rapp Park.

The 5-year plan was presented at the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting with improvements to each of county areas. The Board was advised to look it over for any additions to the plan and revisit it at the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. The only addition for consideration was to build a shelter house at the north campground at Pierce Creek. The Board was in favor of the plan.

John then discussed a proposal to ask the Board of Supervisors if the Conservation department could retain 25% of their revenue and deposit it in the Conservation Reserve account to build up that line item for large projects. He is scheduled to be on the BOS agenda for next week and may revisit it when it's budget discussion with the BOS.

John was approached by a phone call from Supervisor Chuck Morris on a suggestion to see about installing a roadside park at the Essie Davison farm south of town. John indicated that it might consist of some picnic tables and trash cans but is not in favor of accepting the proposal due to budget considerations of manpower and equipment. No action was taken by the Conservation Board.

A Fish Habitat grant application is being worked on for pond renovation and improvements at Pioneer Park. Bids have been sent out and are due back November 20<sup>th</sup>. The goal of the project is drain and renovate the pond, removal of 31,000 cubic feet of sediment and construction of a ¼ acre sediment collection pond in the NW portion of the current pond, construct a new dam, and construct a 2<sup>nd</sup> fishing jetty and provide fish habitat. In the meantime, draining is ongoing.

**MOTION:** A motion was entered by Robertson to approve the resolution that the Conservation Board is in favor of the project at Pioneer Park, second by Meyer. All in favor and motion carried.

John has received a written estimate from Jon Bix (Bix Fabrication & Welding) in the amount of \$3,400 to complete the buried cargo container with the intent of having that utilized as a storm shelter. The work to be completed includes heavy duty welding; 2 – w6x12 beam for stiffeners for the top, 2 channels for lower sides, 2 channels for upper sides, 2 dead man anchors, 2 – 6-inch vents, an interior latch and labor to install all the above. This bid amount does not include any painting of the welded components. If the bid is approved, it should be completed by next spring before camping season starts.

**MOTION:** A motion was entered by Robertson to approve the estimate from Bix Fabrication for work on the cargo container (storm shelter), second by Meyer. All in favor and motion carried.

Old Business included park updates. Only one camper utilizing a park, the two health care workers have left or will be leaving shortly. The camping is lowered to \$10 per day

during the off season due to lack of water and restroom facilities. Backflow preventer needed to shut down as the city's valve doesn't shut off the park water. We do not need a housing structure to cover the backflow preventer during the winter; if the water is shut off, remove some bolts, dry them out and replace them back on the preventer.


Joyce Kruse then presented her questions to the Board. She asked about the obstacle course in the equestrian campground and the placing of some dirt around the tires, so the horses don't step in them and get injured. Joyce also inquired if she can talk with John about working on small projects or does she need to come before the Board. The Board indicated that on small projects to work with John and if a project may become a major undertaking then John can bring it to the Board's attention., this is stating no new projects, just upkeep and have those approved thru John. Joyce mentioned that some steel posts had been removed and that has caused deer damage on some of the bigger trees. John said he will get the stakes put back in and purchase some tree shelters to counter act the potential for further deer damage.

John mentioned that December board meeting will be budget work. Chair Jordan indicated she may have a conflict on the regular meeting date so other meeting dates may be an alternative.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Chair called for adjournment.

**MOTION:** A motion was entered by Meyer to adjourn, second by Martin. All in favor and motion carried. The meeting then adjourned at 7 p.m.

APPROVED: 12/9/2020

Chair   
Board Secretary 