

LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2024, BOARD MEETING

The following is a true copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Linn County, Iowa, Conservation Board held on **November 25, 2024**, at Wickiup Hill Learning Center, 10260 Morris Hills Road, Toddville, IA 52341.

Board Members Present

Steve Emerson, George Kanz, Kendal Hausmann, Ashley Whittlesey, Brent Oleson
Oleson joined the meeting by phone.

Board Members Absent

None.

Staff Present

Dennis Goemaat, Executive Director; Daniel Gibbins, Deputy Director; Ryan Schlader
Communications; Randy Burke, Planner; Ted Doscher, Planner; Mitch Ahrendsen, Natural
Resources Manager

Others Present

Rob Peck, Design Dynamics.

I. Call To Order

Emerson called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Consent Agenda

1. Approve minutes of the October 28, 2024, meeting.
2. Approve claims list and expenditures – Claims List # 2025-5.
Claims and Transfer list #2025-4 involving claim #5-570 through
#5-694 .
3. Receive and place on file the October 2024 financial/budget report.
4. Receive and place on file the October 2024 activity report.
5. Acceptance of gifts.
 1. none
6. Capital Improvement Program updates.

IV. Regular Agenda

1. **Approve Consent Agenda**

Motion by Kanz, second by Hausmann

To approve the consent agenda.

Vote: aye: all present
 nay: none
 absent: none

2. **Discuss and decide regarding Resolution #2024-20 authorizing staff to submit a grant application to the Regional Planning Association for the Central City to Pinicon Ridge Park trail.**

Doscher reviewed Resolution #2024-20 authorizing staff to submit a grant application to the Regional Planning Association for the Central City to Pinicon Ridge Park trail.

Motion by Hausmann, second by Kanz

To approve the Resolution and authorize the staff to submit the grant.

Vote: aye: all present
 nay: none
 absent: none

3. **Discuss and decide on Resolution #2024-21, State Fish Habitat grant application for fish habitat improvement (phase 5) in the Riverside area in Pinicon Ridge Park.**

Gibbins reviewed Resolution #2024-21 regarding a State Fish Habitat grant application for fish habitat improvement (phase 5) in the Riverside area in Pinicon Ridge Park.

Motion by Hausmann, second by Whittlesey

To approve the Resolution and authorize staff to submit the grant.

Vote: aye: all present
 nay: none
 absent: none

4. **Discuss and decide regarding the proposed budget and funding for the Morgan Creek Park Lodge.**

Peck and Goemaat reviewed the proposed budget and funding for the Morgan Creek Park Lodge.

Motion by Kanz, second by Hausmann.

To approve the proposed budget and authorize staff to proceed with planning.

Vote: aye: all present
 nay: none
 absent: none

5. **Discuss and decide regarding authorizing staff to sign Contract #57-CO57-141-B with the Iowa Department of Transportation awarding the Morgan Creek Trail Xavier Section trail project to Peterson Contractors.**

Burke and Goemaat reviewed Contract #57-CO57-141-B with the Iowa Department of Transportation awarding the Morgan Creek Trail Xavier Section trail project to Peterson Contractors Inc.

Motion by Whittlesey, second by Hausmann

To approve and authorize staff to sign the contract with Peterson Contractors Inc. for \$1,228,915.28.

Vote: aye: all present
 nay: none
 absent: none

6. **Discuss and decide regarding the FY26 Conservation Board budget and authorizing staff to submit the budget to the county Finance and Budget team.**

Goemaat reviewed the FY26 Conservation Board budget.

Motion by Kanz, second by Whittlesey

To authorize staff to submit the budget to the Linn County Finance and Budget team.

Vote: aye: all present
 nay: none
 absent: none

V. Board member / staff reports

1. Schlader updated the Board on various outreach and marketing efforts.

VI. Public comment

Peck noted a potential timeline for the Morgan Creek Park lodge project public hearing and bid process. Goemaat noted discussions with Monarch Research regarding a new program partnership. Goemaat noted discussions regarding future funding potential for Linn County Watershed Management Authorities.

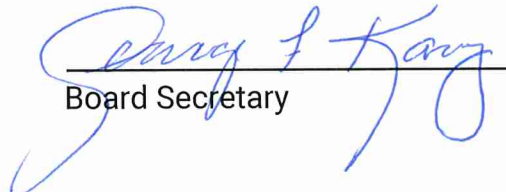
VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

Daniel Gibbins typed the above minutes.

SEAL



Recording Secretary

Board Secretary