



LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2024, BOARD MEETING

The following is a true copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Linn County, Iowa, Conservation Board held on **December 16, 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

Board Members Absent

None.

Staff Present

Dennis Goemaat, Executive Director; Daniel Gibbins, Deputy Director; Ryan Schlader Communications; Randy Burke, Planner; Ted Doscher, Planner; Aaron Batchelder, District Ranger; Nick Haight, Assistant Park Ranger

Others Present

None.

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 November 25, 2024, meeting.
2. Approve claims list and expenditures – Claims List # 2025-6.
Claims and Transfer list #2025-6 involving claim #6-695 through #6-781 .
3. Receive and place on file the November 2024 financial/budget report.
4. Receive and place on file the November 2024 activity report.
5. Acceptance of gifts.
 1. Gift #19-2025 – Monetary donation (\$7,000) from Janice Hikiji to support the conservation program.
 2. Gift #20-2025 – Monetary donation (\$50) from Sandy Merritt to support the conservation education program at Wickiup Hill.
6. Capital Improvement Program updates.

IV. Regular Agenda

1. **Approve Consent Agenda**

Motion by Hausmann, second by Whittlesey

To approve the consent agenda.

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

2. **Discuss and decide regarding approving a letter of agreement with the city of Robins to connect the Cedar Valley Nature Trail to the Robins Landing development and authorizing the Board President and Secretary to sign the agreement.**

Goemaat reviewed a letter of agreement with the City of Robins to connect the Cedar Valley Nature Trail to the Robins Landing development.

Motion by Oleson, second by Kanz

To approve the agreement and authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the agreement.

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

3. **Discuss and decide regarding a reimbursement agreement with Nicholas Haight for expenses occurred during law enforcement training at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy.**

Goemaat reviewed a reimbursement agreement with Nicholas Haight for expenses incurred during law enforcement training at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy.

Motion by Hausmann, second by Kanz

To approve the agreement and authorize the Director to sign the agreement.

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

4. **Discuss and decide on Resolution #2024-22 appointing Nicholas Haight as a law enforcement officer as provided in Chapter 350.5 of the Code of Iowa.**

Goemaat reviewed Resolution #2024-22 appointing Nicholas Haight as a law enforcement officer as provided in Chapter 350.5 of the Code of Iowa.

Motion by Kanz, second by Hausmann.

To approve Resolution #2024-22 appointing Nicholas Haight as a law enforcement officer.

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

5. **Discuss and decide regarding updating Board policy 4-7 Peace Officers – Designation and Certification.**

Goemaat reviewed a proposed update to Board policy 4-7 Peace Officers – Designation and Certification.

Motion by Hausmann, second by Kanz

To approve the update to Board policy 4-7 Peace Officers – Designation and Certification as proposed for immediate implementation with readings waived.

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

6. **Discuss and decide regarding updating Board policy 4-8 Law Enforcement Command Structure.**

Goemaat reviewed a proposed update to Board policy 4-8 Law Enforcement Command Structure.

Motion by Kanz, second by Oleson

To approve the update to Board policy 4-8 Law Enforcement Command Structure as proposed for immediate implementation with readings waived.

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

7. **Discuss and decide regarding authorizing staff to dispose of grain bins located at Wanatee Park and Wickiup Hill Natural Area.**

Goemaat reviewed a proposal to dispose of unused grain bins at Wanatee Park and Wickiup Natural Area Shepherd addition.

Motion by Kanz, second by Oleson

To approve and authorize staff to dispose of the grain bins.

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

8. **Discuss and decide regarding financial support for a cooperative Linn County Native Oasis pilot program with Monarch Research.**

Goemaat and Gibbins reviewed a proposed partnership and financial support for a cooperative Linn County Native Oasis pilot program with Monarch Research.

Motion by Kanz, second by Whittlesey

To approve initial funding for the Oasis pilot program using Water and Land Legacy bond funding.

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

9. **Discuss and decide on Resolution 2024-23 committing matching funds for the Central City to Pinicon Ridge Park Trail grant application.**

Doscher reviewed Resolution 2024-23 committing matching funds for the Central City to Pinicon Ridge Park Trail grant application.

Motion by Kanz, second by Whittlesey

To approve Resolution 2024-23 and authorize staff to submit the grant application.

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

V. Board member / staff reports

1. Schlader updated the Board on various outreach and marketing efforts.
2. Updates:
 - a. Gibbins updated the Board on the Stark family land donation closing.
 - b. Goemaat noted the Board of Supervisors budget presentation calendar.
 - c. The Board presented Steve Emerson with a service award for his years of service.

VI. Public comment

None.

VII. Adjourn

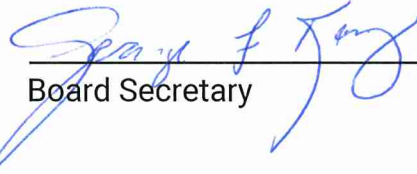
The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Daniel Gibbins typed the above minutes.

SEAL



Recording Secretary



Board Secretary