

LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2025, BOARD MEETING

The following is a true copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Linn County, Iowa, Conservation Board held on **JUNE 23, 2025**, at Wickiup Hill Learning Center, 10260 Morris Hills Road, Toddville, IA 52341.

Board Members Present

Brent Oleson, George Kanz, Paul Morf
Oleson joined the meeting by phone.
Morf was appointed acting Secretary.

Board Members Absent

Whittlesey, Hausmann

Staff Present

Dennis Goemaat, Executive Director; Daniel Gibbins, Deputy Director; Ryan Schlader Communications; Randy Burke, Planner; Ted Doscher, Planner; Aaron Bachelder, District Park Manager

Others Present

I. Call To Order

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

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Consent Agenda

1. Approve minutes of the May 19, 2025, meeting.
2. Approve claims list and expenditures – Claims List # 2025-12.
Claims and Transfer list #2025-12 involving claim #12-1377 through #12-1518.
3. Receive and place on file the May 2025 financial/budget report.
4. Receive and place on file the May 2025 activity report.
5. Acceptance of Gifts
 1. Gift #43-2025 – Monetary donation (\$50) from Julie Harbets for Wickiup Hill Learning Center in memory of Donald Schott.
6. Capital Improvement Program updates.

IV. Regular Agenda

1. **Approve Consent Agenda**

Motion by Morf, second by Oleson

To approve the consent agenda.

Vote: aye: all present
 nay: none
 absent: Whittlesey, Hausmann

2. **Discuss and decide regarding change orders to the Pinicon Ridge Park campground expansion project and authorize the Director to sign the change orders.**

Burke reviewed change orders to the Pinicon Ridge Park campground expansion project. Morf commented on the playground grading change order.

Motion by Oleson, second by Morf

To approve and authorize the Director to sign the change orders.

Vote: aye: all present
 nay: none
 absent: Whittlesey, Hausmann

3. **Discuss the canoe shuttle operation at Pinicon Ridge Park and replacing equipment lost in the storage building fire.**

Goemaat and Batchelder reviewed the canoe shuttle operation at Pinicon Ridge Park and replacing equipment lost in the storage building fire. Morf commented on river level impacts to the operation. Kanz commented on potential impact on demand with a future river trail designation. Oleson commented on the value of the shuttle operation to new users and potential difficulty accessing private livery services. Kanz suggested continued educational programming for paddle sports and maintenance of boating access points. Oleson suggested researching how to communicate private livery options should the shuttle operation at Pinicon Ridge Park be discontinued. Consensus was to forward the item to a future meeting after more information could be gathered.

No Motion

4. **Discuss winter trail maintenance.**

Oleson and Goemaat discussed current winter trail operations on Linn County trails. Oleson noted potential partnership with municipalities for near urban segments of trail should commuting demand in the winter increase on Linn County trails. Goemaat noted conversations with local city park and recreation leadership would be beneficial.

No Motion was made.

5. Discuss and decide regarding change orders for Prairie Oak Lodge structural repairs, Project #13-24.

Burke reviewed change orders for Prairie Oak Lodge structural repairs, Project #13-24.

Motion by Oleson, second by Morf

To approve and authorize the Director to sign the change orders.

Vote: aye: all present
 nay: none
 absent: Whittlesey, Hausmann

6. Discuss and decide regarding approving the Cedar Rapids and Linn County Trails and Bikeways Plan.

Burke reviewed the Cedar Rapids and Linn County Trails and Bikeways Plan. Board consensus was to table the item until all Board members were in attendance.

No motion was made.

V. Board member / staff reports

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

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- a. Goemaat updated the Board concerning the Cedar Rapids Community Schools Summer Lunch program at Morgan Creek Park.
- b. Goemaat updated the Board concerning the new cabin and campground opening.
- c. Registration is now open for the ICCS Annual Conference, September 16-18, 2025, in Dickinson County

VI. Public comment

None.

VII. Closed Session

The Conservation Board went into closed session to discuss the acquisition of particular real estate in accordance with Section 21.5 (1)(j) of the Iowa Code.

MOTION by Morf, second by Oleson

To go into closed session at 12:57 PM for the purpose of discussing acquisition of particular real estate in accordance with section 21.5(l)(j) Code of Iowa.

VOTE: aye: Oleson
 aye: Kanz
 aye: Morf
 nay: none
 absent: Whittlesey, Hausmann

MOTION by , second by

To go out of closed session at 1:07 PM.

VOTE: aye: Oleson
 aye: Kanz
 aye: Morf
 nay: none
 absent: Whittlesey, Hausmann

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 PM.
Daniel Gibbins typed the above minutes.

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SEAL

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary