

JONES COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes from the meeting of December 14, 2020 conducted as an electronic meeting due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Russ VonBehren.

Present were Board Members: Dean Zimmerman, Megan Manternach, Jeff Pitlik, Dave Tabor and Russ VonBehren. Staff present were Brad Mormann, John Klein, Jennifer Koopmann and Michele Olson arrived at 6:40pm.

Introduction of Guests: John Schroeder, Forest Manager, New Melleray Abbey

Approve the Agenda:

Dave made a motion to accept the December agenda. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review & Approval of the November Regular Meeting Minutes:

Dean made a motion to accept the November meeting minutes. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of Expenditures and Revenues:

Dave made a motion to approve the expenditures and revenues. Seconded by Dean. All ayes. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

Dean made a motion to accept the staff reports. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Business Item:

Review of Central Park Pine Derecho Damage and Possible Logging Opportunity: Dave made a motion to approve the New Melleray Abbey harvesting pines from Central Park. Seconded by Jeff. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of Nick Zirkelbach's Derecho Tree Trimming Work in Central Park: Megan made a motion to approve the payment of \$5,550 to Nick Zirkelbach for tree trimming at Central Park. Seconded by Jeff. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of Insurance Proceeds from the August 10, 2020 Derecho to be Placed in a County Ledger Account for Use on Repairs and Improvements on Conservation Department Properties: Dean made a motion to concur with the Jones County Auditor's recommendation to establish a separate fund to account for the insurance reimbursement from damages associated with the August 10, 2020 derecho and to account for the expenses for the associated repairs and re-establishment of timbered areas, as well as other Conservation area improvements that may take a period of years to accomplish, and ensure funds are not repurposed for general operations. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of Tree Trimming Bids for Grant Wood Trail – Olin: Dean made a motion to approve the Ehrisman Tree Service bid of \$10,000 for tree trimming at the Grant Wood Trail - Olin. Seconded by Dave. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of Tree Trimming Bids for Grant Wood Trail – Martelle: Dave made a motion to approve the Ehrisman Tree Service bid of \$5,000 for tree trimming at the Grant Wood Trail - Martelle. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of Law Enforcement Radio Replacement Bid: Megan made a motion to accept the law enforcement radio replacement bid of \$3108.75 for the P25 handheld and P25 Mobile radios. Seconded by Dean. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of 2021 Firewood Vendor at Central Park: Megan made a motion to approve Matt Lorenzen as the 2021 Firewood vendor at Central Park. Seconded by Dave. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of the Mon-Maq Dam Safety Signage Plan: Dave made a motion to accept the Mon-Maq Dam Safety Signage plan. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review and Acceptance of Grant Awards:

- i. Jones County Community Foundation \$10,000 to Central Park's Fremont Mill Bridge Phase I
- ii. Water Resource Access Grant \$120,810 to Eby's Mill River Access

Megan made a motion to accept the grant awards as presented. Seconded by Jeff. All ayes. Motion carried.

Fiscal Year 21 and 22 Preliminary Budget Discussion: The Board agreed to conduct the January Board meeting on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 in order to meet the County budget deadlines.

Additional Items:

Education Event Updates: Updates on the new Jones County website and educational programs were provided.

Conservation Area and Project Updates: Update on the Eby's Mill Wildlife Area TSI, the completed shrub and native plantings along the Grant Wood Trail – Olin Section, and continued grant submissions for future projects.

Adjournment: Dean moved to adjourn. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Russ adjourned the meeting at 8:29 pm.

The next meeting is planned for January 6, 2021 at 6:30 pm at Central Park.