

JONES COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes from the meeting of January 8, 2024, held at the Central Park Nature Center.

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Dave Tabor.

Present were Board Members: Dave Tabor, Dean Zimmerman, John Carlson, and Russ VonBehren. Megan Manternach attended via Zoom. Staff present were Brad Mormann and Jennifer Koopmann. Michele Olson attended via Zoom.

Introduction of Guests:

Approve the Agenda:

John made a motion to accept the January agenda. Seconded by Dean. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review & Approval of the December Meeting Minutes:

Russ made a motion to accept the December meeting minutes. Seconded by John. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of Expenditures and Revenues:

Dean made a motion to accept the Expenditures and Revenues as presented. Seconded by John. All ayes. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

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

Business Item:

Conservation Board Officer Rotation for 2024. Dean Zimmerman - Chair, Megan Manternach - Vice Chari, John Carlson - Secretary, and Members - Russ Von Behren and Dave Tabor.

Grant Wood Trail Dead Tree Removal Bid Review. Dave made a motion to approve the low bid of \$1700 from Tree Fellas. Seconded by John. All ayes. Motion carried.

Central Park Dead Tree Removal Bid Review. Russ made a motion to approve the low bid of \$750 from T&D Tree Service. Seconded by Dave. All ayes. Motion carried.

Eby's Mill Wildlife Area Agricultural Land Rental Bid Review. Dave made a motion to accept the low bid of \$200.55/acre from Stoll Farm Corp. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Central Park Master Plan Review. Dave made a motion to accept the Master Plan with an additional priority of Partnering for Park Growth. Seconded by John. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of Proposed Fiscal Year 24 and 25 Department Budget. Russ made a motion to accept the proposed Fiscal Year 24 and 25 Department Budget with current permanent employees receiving a 5% pay increase and the new Natural Resource Manager receiving a 2.5% pay increase July 1, 2024. Seconded by Dave. All ayes. Motion carried.

Additional Items:

Educational Event Updates: Educational event handouts were provided to the Board.

Conservation Area and Project Updates: Updates provided on the Natural Resource Manager position recruitment, the Hale Wildlife Area invasive tree removal project, the purchase of the Chevy 3500 truck and

dump bed installation, the assembly of the low-profile kayak trailer, and the reduced opportunity for ice fishing with open water still on Central Park Lake.

Adjournment: Dave moved to adjourn. Seconded by Russ. All ayes. Dean adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm. The next meeting is planned for February 12, 2024, at 6:30 pm at Central Park.