

Minutes for the Lee County Conservation Board

Meeting March 10th 2015

6:00 pm for regular meeting

Heron Bend, 2652 Hwy 61, Montrose, IA 52639

1. Call to order @ 6:00 pm by Fullhart-Snyder

Roll Call: Whitaker Holland Fullhart-Snyder Sylvester Mullan

Staff Present: Buckley, Pawling, Johnson, Bulger, Oldfield, Clark-Hudson,

2. Approval of previous minutes as written

MOTION to approve minutes as written

Sylvester/Mullan

Ayes: Fullhart-Snyder, Whitaker, Mullan, Sylvester, Holland

3. Guests or Special Interests groups - none

4. Approval of Bills

MOTION to approve bills as written

Sylvester/Mullan

Ayes: Fullhart-Snyder, Whitaker, Mullan, Sylvester, Holland

5. Approval of Financials and Revenues

Sylvester/Mullan

Ayes Fullhart-Snyder, Mullan, Whitaker, Sylvester, Holland

6. Foundation Report: The Board appointed Mary Van Pelt, and Ernie Schiller to be Foundation Members. Buckley has sent letters to the educators in the area, and to some of the industry to seek donations. Rodger will be assisting in the contacting of industry. Buckley has tentative meeting with some educators. September 26 we are looking at having an annual banquet at Lake Cooper in Keokuk. We would use the proceeds from this banquet for the building. We would use the time of the banquet to recognize former board members and large donors. This will require all of the staff and board members to be involved with the planning.

7. Parks Report: Snow removal(hopefully for the last time) Prune trees, used old Christmas trees for habitat for fish in our lakes. Burks Run has been cleared of the fell wood that was there .We have received 19 camping reservations. At Turkey Run, we need to replace the road tube. We need to get the trails ready for the projected park opening date of April 1. Pawling has been getting quotes on some of the machinery we need to be current. Some trees will have to be removed from Burks Run for the bridge repair.

8. Education Report : Served over 1040 kids in the month of February. Have had some public programs, with more to come in the future. Bulger and Steele will be attending an educational workshop in Ames next week. They are currently working on summer schedule for programs and day camps etc.

9. Wildlife Report: Attended fundraiser meetings, Pheasants Forever Banquet was a good success. Dealing with Landowner calls, with 150-200 CRP to plant so far. Fed Swans over the winter, Writing burn plans for our properties as well as private owners. Since Mel Allison passed, this has caused us to not have all of the equipment we need to perform effective burns. Need to consider the purchase of a Mule or something like that to use for burns. Ordering seed for upcoming planting season. Food plot seed is given to the farmers at no cost. Pheasants Forever purchases the seed we use, and we sell it to the landowner at cost. N Heron Bend will be planted in sunflowers this season, to create a abundant habitat for the doves. We would like to partner with Quail Forever to sponsor a youth hunt on this plot. Goal is to get 25-50 kids for this outing. The DNR will also be involved in this endeavor. Each child would have a mentor with them for the hunt. Looking at doing a breakfast the morning of the hunt. We will try to keep all other hunters out of this area, since the season opens Sept 1 (Tuesday) so the kids can have a guided mentored hunt on the following Saturday.

10. Review/Discuss Personnel Policy Changes: The County has adopted a new meals policy. It reads as follows: The cost of meals must be reasonable and ordinary but shall in no event exceed more than \$28 per day.

Buckley explained to the board that some of our conferences require us to purchase three meals per day. The proposed county allotment would make it extremely difficult for the staff to purchase all three meals on \$28. He suggested that we adopt the following addendum: In the case of staff needing to purchase all three meals in one day, the allotted amount should be \$40. No single meal shall exceed \$25.

MOTION to follow the County's policy with the addendum proposed

Sylvester/Mullan

Ayes: Fullhart-Snyder, Sylvester, Mullan, Holland

Nays: Whitaker

Motion carried by majority rule.

11. Review/approve step increase for Administrative Assistant from Class V Step 2 at 16.74 to Class V Step 3 at 17.20 affective March 5, 2015

MOTION: to approve step increase for Administrative Assistant

Sylvester/Holland

Ayes: Fullhart-Snyder, Whitaker, Mullan, Sylvester, Holland

12. Review/approve concessionaire contractor

Ken and Tatum Reed are interested in being the concessionaire again this year.

MOTION to approve Reed's as concessionaire at Pollmiller

Holland/Whitaker

Ayes: Fullhart-Snyder, Holland, Mullan, Whitaker, Sylvester

13. Review/approve Campground Hosts

Randy Rippenkroger for Pollmiller

Randy Cook for Wilson Lake

Larry Parrish for Chatfield

MOTION to approve Rippenkroger, Cook and Parrish as campground hosts for the 2015 camping season

Sylvester/Whitaker

Ayes: Fullhart-Snyder, Holland, Mullan, Whitaker, Sylvester

14. Approve Wilson Lake Project Bid

We had three sealed bids for this project. But one of the bids could not be opened due to the bidder not attending the pre bid meeting. Cullen was the lowest and with a change order the total is \$63572.90. We had budgeted \$70,000.00 for this project.

MOTION to go with the bid from Cullen Construction for the Wilson Lake Project

Holland/Sylvester

Ayes: Fullhart-Snyder, Holland, Whitaker, Sylvester, Mullan

15. Update on preconstruction meetings with contractors

John Hansen Board members and Staff met two weeks ago with all of the General, electrical, plumbing and HVAC contractors. Changes were made to the general contract that will save \$12,700. Additional savings will be coming from the electrical contract. Pre cast should have been ordered and the end of last week.

16. Comments/ Committee reports from the board.

Fullhart-Snyder signed the contracts with SEIRP for the site plan. Zach James from SEIRP would like to meet with the staff and board on March 23 at 1:00 pm.

Buckley signed an affidavit with the attorney on the Ver Dught case. The attorney is seeking a summary judgment in this case. If this cannot be agreed upon, the pre trial hearing is April 6 with the trial date set for May 12.

A Bill has been put before Senate on the 3/8 cent tax. If this passes it will increase our REAP income at least \$16,000.00

17. Next meeting is set for Tuesday April 14th at 6:00 pm at Heron Bend.

18. Closed Session in accordance to Iowa Code 21.5j to discuss real estate

MOTION to enter closed session at 6:30 pm

Whitaker/Sylvester

Ayes: Fullhart-Snyder, Mullan, Holland, Whitaker, Sylvester

19. Returned from Closed session @ 7:00 pm

MOTION to return to open session

Sylvester/Mullan

Ayes; Fullhart-Snyder, Mullan, Sylvester, Holland, Whitaker

20. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn at 7:10 pm

Sylvester/Whitaker

Ayes; Fullhart-Snyder, Mullan, Sylvester, Holland, Whitaker

Sandra Fullhart-Snyder

LCCB President

William Mullan

LCCB Secretary