

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held November 14, 2017 at the Board's office. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Tom Johnson.

Board Members present:

Tom Johnson
Kathy Jordan
Katy King
Holly Martin

Staff present:

Rich Wallace
Charly Stevens
Terry Broyles

Also present were Dennis Tillman and Roger Sebeniecher.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Jordan to accept and approve the agenda for November 14, 2017, second by Martin. Motion passed.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Martin to approve the Minutes of October 10, 2017, second by Jordan. Motion passed.

CLAIMS: The pre-approved claims for month end October was presented for review. Claims for mid-month November were presented for approval and payment. Explanations of expenditures were given by staff.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Martin to approve all claims as submitted, second by Jordan. Motion passed.

New Business included update on gun range, ICAP inspection, summary of STEM Ag-Festival, NWTF monies and comprehensive trails meeting scheduled.

Dennis Tillman, Range committee officer, presented a quarterly report (7/1/2017 thru 11/14/2017) of range related activities. Range usage for this quarter was 346. Upgrades to the range included shelter house, re-routing of the range road with a berm installed, four loads of gravel, re-built the berm and added 5 lanes for the 25 yard pistol shooting area and expanded the parking area to allow four more vehicles. Monetary report to date has an account balance of \$1,085.00; there are no outstanding claims and donations to date include \$750.00. Equipment donations include 2-300 board ft. of 2x6 lumber from Tom Johnson and 2 cases of bowling pins from Douglas Tillman. Volunteer hours were not available but would amount to several hundred hours. The range committee appreciates the use of tools and the building and thanks to Roger Martin for computer and photographic skills.

Mr. Tillman also indicated some work that still needs to be accomplished. #1 – to fence a low spot on the divider berm. #2 – to apply corrugated iron siding on the storage shed and #2 – to install a roof on the 100 yard line. The current schedule of operations has worked out well. The condition of the range is improving. He also distributed some photos as they relate to the pistol range, safety berm to the 100 yard range and the poles that will be roofed to allow shooting during inclement weather. Mr. Tillman donated \$350 towards purchase of rock for the range.

Staff had contacted ICAP loss control representative in regard to inspection of the range; she performed an on-site inspection of the pistol range and the 100 yard range. She was able to observe the overall set up of both ranges and all safety procedures that have been implemented. These procedures included having two range safety officers on site at all times when the range is open, establishing a membership that requires all individuals to wear their ID badge and signing in/out of the range, the posting and enforcing rules at the range and securing the range from the general public when the range is active and when the range is closed. The only recommendation she stressed would be the addition of a fence on top of the berm located between the two ranges to prevent individuals cutting through from range to range and to provide adequate signage indicating that cross over between ranges is prohibited. She also included photos with her written report. She verbally indicated that Pierce Creek is one of the better range set up in Iowa.

Questions arose as to why the range has been expanded. The reason to build a pistol range was due to usage. There would be many pistol users waiting to use the range during high usage time for rifles/shotgun users. The building of the pistol range was not new development it was more due to maintenance of the range.

Stevens set up a station at the STEM Ag-Festival on November 4th at the Clarinda High School gym. A brief summary of those activities were provided.

National Wild Turkey Federation approached staff members inquiring as to whether PCCB had any projects that would benefit from NWTF monies if they were donated. Rich will provide a short list of potential projects.

A meeting has been scheduled in regard to Page County Comprehensive Trail planning. This comes in part as a technical assistance grant was awarded to Page, Fremont and Montgomery Counties from the National Park Service to assist in building recreational trails; this was not a monetary grant. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lied Library.

Old Business included trail work at Pierce Creek, park updates, minor budget discussion and appointment of new board member to fill vacancy left by Ron Bitting's resignation.

The Back Country Horseman Group had a trail workday at Pierce Creek on November 4 from 11-4. The trail was previously flagged. They indicated they had completed lap 1.

Discussion then centered on skid steer/shredder, chainsaw and debris pickup from trail clearance. Board Member King inquired as to additional directional signage on B Ave for those park users coming from the north/east. Rich will follow up with the sign placement with the County Engineer.

Park updates included that all water has now been shut off for the winter months; approximately 40 stumps have been removed due to storm damaged trees.

Budget work will begin in December/January. Discussion on road conditions in the park in particular at NVP, PC and Rapp. Wallace indicated he would visit with Trent Tiemeyer and obtain preliminary cost estimates. The tornado shelter/bathroom at Rapp Park is being researched, grant opportunities and REAP monies.

The Board of Supervisors appointed Kevin Christensen on Tuesday, November 14. Kevin will fill the Vice-Chair position recently vacated by the resignation of Ron Bitting.

There being no additional business, a motion to adjourn was entered.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn was entered by King, second by Jordan. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

APPROVED: 12/12/2017

Chair



Board Secretary


