

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held August 13, 2019 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Kathy Jordan.

Board members present included Kathy Jordan, Tom Johnson, Holly Martin and Bill Robertson.

Staff present included Rich Wallace, Charly Stevens and Terry Broyles.

Visitors included Rod Badertscher and John Schwab.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Martin to approve the agenda for August 13, 2019 as submitted, seconded by Johnson. All in favor and motion carried.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Robertson to approve the Minutes of July 9, July 23, July 25 and August 2, 2019, seconded by Martin. All in favor and motion carried.

CLAIMS: The month end claims of July were reviewed. The mid-month claims for August were presented for approval and payment. An explanation of expenditures was given by staff.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Martin to approve all claims as submitted, seconded by Johnson. All in favor and motion carried.

New Business included hiring of new Director, discussion on Essex school rodeo shooting sports club and insurance recommendations on the mammoth sculpture.

The position of Conservation Director was discussed briefly.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Martin to hire John Schwab as the Director, seconded by Robertson. All in favor and motion carried. John was then introduced to those in attendance.

Terry Broyles stated he and several others of the gun range committee had been approached by the Essex School Board about a new shooting sports program which would utilize the range at Pierce Creek (copy of shooting sports guide in the Minutes book), Broyles also indicated that he had visited with ICAP representative and Pete Stansbury with Nordland Insurance. In the discussion with insurance companies it was indicated that a county employee or board member should not be teaching the class, there is a need to find a sponsoring entity other than the county and an agreement would be written between county and Essex School Board. It was determined that Roger Martin would visit with Essex School, Terry Broyles will visit with 4-H leaders and other counties about the shooting sports program and visit with the Board of Supervisors at some point. This agenda item was then tabled.

The ongoing discussion on the placement of the mammoth sculpture at Rapp Park was reviewed. A Statement of Action letter has been received by ICAP regarding a site visit to look at the components of the mammoth sculpture. It was ICAP's recommendation to "help prevent potential injury, placement for the raw steel mammoth sculpture should be in an area in the park that is not easily accessed by the public or in a location where it can be secured to prevent kids from playing on or around it. Signs should be posted indicating that climbing is prohibited on this art work". This should be implemented to reduce potential liability exposure.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Martin to address these recommendations in a letter to Susan Woodford that with the insurance restrictions, cost and the liability are too high and that the Page County Conservation Board is declining the offer of the gift of the mammoth sculpture, seconded by Johnson. All in favor and motion carried.

In Old Business a short discussion on the flood damage and repair of the river access at Shambaugh. Rod Badertscher, a local air boat owner and frequent user of the river access, indicated what he thought needed to be done as in a longer approach, addition of more sand and a desire to see a concrete ramp developed. Charly had visited with FEMA and FEMA would only restore the access to pre-flood conditions. Wallace discussed why the river access was developed by the Engineer's office; which was to facilitate keeping the new bridge accessible to his crews to clean out debris that may collect underneath the bridge. Rod was instructed to check with JD on the repair or mitigation procedures that may be available thru FEMA. Charly indicated that there are DNR grants available to assist with boat ramp development.

An update on the Pioneer Park pond renovation was reviewed by Wallace. He has talked again with Chad Mascher about delaying work due to an upcoming wedding at Pioneer Park on October 5, 2019. Chad indicated that he cannot move later than after Labor Day weekend but also might not be able to do the work due to other jobs scheduled. Rich indicated that he would visit with Trent Tiemeyer about the draining of the pond and see if he would be willing to match Mascher's quote with a deadline after October 7th deadline or mid-November. Other park updates included normal work patterns and that the handicapped fishing pier at Rapp Park has been repositioned. The boat ramp also needs to be addressed by completing a 20% slope to allow better boating access. The pre-installation of the playground equipment to be installed at Rapp Park is approximately 80% completed. The water leak at Nodaway Valley Park has been found and fixed. The highway construction project on Highway 48 has given us the leftover recycled asphalt that can be used on park project.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Martin to adjourn, seconded by Robertson. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting then adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

APPROVED: 9/10/2019

Chair Kathleen Jordan

Board Secretary [Signature]