



DUBUQUE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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Brian Preston, Director

Board Members:

Stacy Conforti
George Davis
Jackie Kehr
Mark Wagner
Jim Pfeiler

JANUARY 18, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Dubuque County Conservation Board meeting was called to order by George Davis 4:02 P.M. In person meeting at the Swiss Valley Nature Center with a Zoom

link, <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83748307609?pwd=b5aTWUSgGsc4im4NMThbaiN6Bh88Sv.1>

Meeting ID: 837 4830 7609 Passcode: 316146

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present: George Davis, Jackie Kehr, Mark Wagner and Jim Pfeiler. Zoom: Stacy Conforti

Staff Members Present: Brian Preston, Nate Sisler, Jason Denlinger and Lisa Schroeder.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to approve the December 21, 2023, meeting minutes was made by Pfeiler and seconded by Kehr. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Motion to open the floor to Preston for election of officers was made by Pfeiler and seconded by Wagner. Motion carried.

Preston asked for nominations for the position of Chair. A motion was made by Kehr to nominate Davis for Chair and seconded by Pfeiler.

Preston asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. A motion was made by Kehr to nominate Wagner for Vice Chair and seconded by Davis.

Preston asked for nominations for the position of Secretary. A motion was made by Davis to nominate Pfeiler for Secretary and seconded by Kehr.

Motion to close officer election was made by Davis and seconded by Pfeiler. Motion carried.

Motion to unanimously approve the nominations was made by Pfeiler and seconded by Wagner. Motion carried.

SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS:

Former Great River Rumblers, July 31, 2024 camping at Massey Marina Campground. They will pay camping fees. Motion to approve special event application for the former Great River Rumblers was made by Pfeiler and seconded by Wagner. Motion carried.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT:

Grant Herr, 22357 Cottage Hill Rd., Holy Cross, IA 52053, Troop 94, restore large camping area at Bankston. There currently is a pit latrine style restroom already there. Keypad will be added to the gate for monitoring access. It will be carry in and carry out for trash. Very little cost, mostly manual labor. Picnic tables and fire ring will be provided by the County. Some of the brush will be left for habitat and the rest burned. Motion to approve Grant Herr's Eagle Scout Project for large camping area at Bankston was made by Kehr and seconded by Wagner. Motion carried.

AWARD BID FOR A NEW SMALL PICKUP TRUCK WITH EXTENDED CAB:

Four bids were received for a small pickup truck. Runde Chevrolet for a 2024 Chevy Colorado for \$33,875.00, Finnin Ford for a 2024 Ford Ranger crew cab for \$38,650.00, McGrath 2024 Chevy 1500 double cab for \$37,748.00 and Victory Ford for a 2024 Ford F150 XL for \$40,997.04. Motion to award the bid to Runde Chevrolet for a 2024 Chevy Colorado for \$33,875.00 was made Pfeiler and seconded by Kehr. Motion carried.

AWARD BID FOR A NEW REGULAR CAB AND CHASSIS TRUCK WITH SERVICE BODY:

Four bids were received for a service truck. Preston said we have \$52,000.00 budgeted. Runde Chevrolet for a Chevy K3500 for \$70,621.00, Finnin Ford for a Ford F350 for \$77,154.00, McGrath for a Chevy K3500 for \$66,450.00 and Victory Ford for a Ford F350 for \$73,278.12. Motion to award the bid to McGrath for a new regular cab and chassis truck with service body was made by Kehr and seconded by Pfeiler. Motion carried.

AWARD BID FOR A 4X4 UTILITY VEHICLE:

Five bids were received for a 4X4 utility vehicle. Preston said we have \$21,000.00 budgeted. Chaves Brothers out of Florida for a John Deere Gator XUV 865M for \$30,999.93, Roeders for a John Deere Gator XUV 865M for \$21,503.43, Dyersville Equipment for a John Deere Gator XUV 865M for \$23,269.00, Dyersville Implement for a John Deere Gator XUV 865M for \$22,998.00 and McGrath for a Kawasaki Mule Pro-DXT for \$28,778.95. Motion to award the bid to Roeder for a John Deere Gator XUV 865M for \$21,503.43 was made by Wagner and seconded by Pfeiler. Motion carried.

AWARD BID FOR MOWER:

Three bids were received. Roeders for a John Deere 1570 for \$30,578.16, Roeders for a Kubota F3710 for \$24,105.03 and Dyersville Equipment for a John Deere 1570 for \$24,994.00. There is no confirmed delivery date for the Kubota. John Deere delivery date is 10-12 weeks from order date. Motion to award the bid to Roeders for a Kubota F3710 for \$24,105.03 was made by Kehr and seconded by Pfeiler. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE DNR FOR PRAIRIE SEED PARTNERSHIP:

Iowa Department of Natural Resources contract number 21CRDWWJOHN-0001. Purpose in entering into this Cooperative Agreement is to produce local ecotype native grass, sedge, and forb seed for high quality wildlife habitat for DCCB property. The term of this Cooperative Agreement shall be May 1, 2024 through May 1, 2034. We will provide labor/manpower and the DNR will provide mulch and plugs. Miller McGrath Property has a stream nearby if we need water. Possible volunteer opportunities with this project. 35 species and will be expanded, 50% of the value of each species by weight of cleaned and processed seed to DNR and 50% of the value of each species by weight of cleaned and processed seed to DCCB. Motion to approve the cooperative agreement with the DNR for prairie seed partnership was made by Kehr and seconded by Pfeiler. Motion carried.

TRAINING REQUEST FOR STAFF:

NAI Conference in Council Bluffs, IA. Jason Denlinger and Kaytlan Moeller have both been asked to be speakers at the conference. It's a three day conference and we're checking into the registration being waived since they're both speaking. Motion to approve Denlinger and Moeller to attend the NAI Conference was made by Wagner and seconded by Kehr. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None

STAFF REPORTS:

DIRECTOR REPORT: Preston said we continue to work with FEMA on mitigation for the restroom partition walls at Mud Lake and Massey. Working with the roads department to open the road to Whitewater Canyon after all the snow and drifting. Looking at bids for asphalt overlay at Swiss Valley Park. Working on getting bids out for Bankston. Talking with the Army Corps about kayak rental and internet.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT: Sisler said working on grooming trails, trimming areas with chainsaws and chipper, law enforcement training, shoveling and snow removal, removal of dead trees along Heritage Trail with the heavy snow. Pickup and delivery of the traveling wolf display at EB Lyons. Groomed trails for cross-country skiing.

NATURALIST REPORT: Denlinger reported 12 programs and 211 participants so far in January. Seven programs were canceled due to weather/school. Prescott Elementary Green Team, Wahlert J-Terms, Forest School, preschool programs, take CAARE – high school group, New Year bird count, seed starting. Upcoming events: Forest school – winter tree ID, Winter ecology hike, everything comes from Planet Earth, virtual program on wolves, lunch and learn – Where does our trash go?, Friends of Mines of Spain winter series.

OLD BUSINESS:

Over 160 dead ash trees at Fillmore. Trying to remove them off the golf course while the ground is frozen. Kehr recognized the Dubuque County Conservation Friends group and their contribution of snowshoes and cross-country skis that the public is able to use for free. Conservation Board recognizing everything the Friends Group is able to provide and the support to the Conservation. January 22nd is the capital project presentation for the Supervisors.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

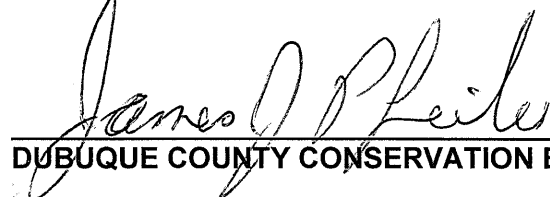
Motion to approve the January 2024 payables was made by Wagner and seconded by Kehr. Motion carried.

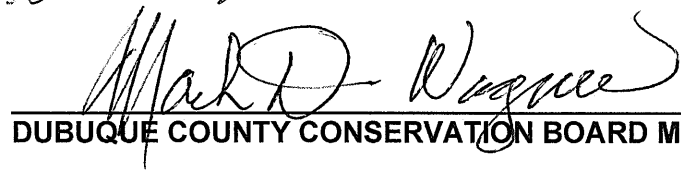
NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 4:00 P.M., Swiss Valley Nature Center.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn was made by Kehr and seconded by Pfeiler. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:07 P.M.


DUBUQUE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD MEMBER


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