



DUBUQUE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD
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Brian Preston, Director
Board Members:
George Davis
Mark Wagner
Jim Pfeiler
Stacy Conforti
Susan Miller

August 15, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Dubuque County Conservation Board meeting was called to order by George Davis at 4:01 P.M. In person meeting at the Swiss Valley Nature Center with a Zoom link, <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89377087920?pwd=fl4Ylg7hlzKsw0HglCa7woHShOcVHr.1>
Meeting ID: 893 7708 7920 Passcode: 230546

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present: George Davis, Mark Wagner, Jim Pfeiler and Susan Miller. Absent: Stacy Conforti

Staff Members Present: Brian Preston, Nate Sisler, Ray Martin, Addy Schober and Lisa Schroeder.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to approve the July 18, 2024, meeting minutes was made by Wagner and seconded by Pfeiler. Motion carried.

SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION:

Fall Bicycle Festival, Proving Grounds, October 5, 2024. TMBR membership and support, not mandatory. Will use the field for overflow parking. Motion to approve special event application for TMBR, Fall Bicycle Festival at the Proving on October 5, 2024 was made by Pfeiler and seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

AWARD BID FOR MASSEY MARINA BANK STABILIZATION UPPER HARBOR:

Preston opened 8 bids at 1:00 P.M. as follows; Top Grade Excavating Inc for \$96,653.90, B & J Hauling & Excavating for \$119,751.90, S2 Construction LLC for \$89,852.05, Eastern Iowa Excavating for \$95,345.25, Offset Construction for \$99,872.80, Gansen Excavating for \$96,064.32, Tschiggfrie Excavating for \$141,339.00 and Connolly Construction for \$96,401.43 for Slope protection/bank stabilization at Massey Marina, .2 miles in length, Project No. CON-148803-FY24. Motion to award the bid for Massey Marina Bank Stabilization Upper Harbor to S2 Construction LLC for \$89,852.05 was made by Pfeiler and seconded by Wagner. Motion carried.

SWISS VALLEY PARK, 2024 HMA PAVING PROJECT – FINAL PAYMENT:

Preston said Connolly Construction has completed the paving project and they did a nice job. Final payment is \$61,723.11. Preston recommends approval. Motion to sign and pay Connolly Construction for the Swiss Valley HMA paving project \$61,723.11 was made by Pfeiler and seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

AWARD BID FOR A 4X4 UTILITY VEHICLE:

Preston opened 4 bids. Chaves Brothers for a Polaris Pro XD, diesel, crew, \$22,899.99, Roeder Outdoor Power for a John Deere Gator XUV, diesel, \$21,644.64, Dyersville Equipment for a John Deere Gator XUV, diesel, \$22,398.00 and Rexco Equipment Inc., for a Bobcat UV34, diesel \$24,759.65. Apparent low bid is Roeder Outdoor Power. Sisler reviewed and called to verify all specifications were met. Motion to award the bid for a 4X4 utility vehicle to Roeder Outdoor Power for \$21,644.64 was made by Davis and seconded by Pfeiler. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None

STAFF REPORTS:

DIRECTOR REPORT: Preston reported he has applied for a Fish Habitat Grant for the Swiss Valley Nature Center. Trail crew finished up for the season. Julia Rodewald after 3 years of service through seasonal position and AmeriCorps position, will be pursuing new opportunities, we wish her well. Massey is open and up and running after flooding. AmeriCorps NCCC team of 8 will be starting after September 13th. Nate, Del and Nick will take the supervisor role for the NCCC for trail work, prairie upgrades and other projects. The Board of Supervisors approved the resolution number for FEMA reimbursement for FY23 flood event. Entrance signs and interpretive signs are being installed. New tables and chairs have been delivered and set up at the Fillmore clubhouse. Working on estimates for the New Wine upgrade for electrical and additional camping sites. Signed a contract with Endeavor Civil Engineering for stream bank work along Heritage Trail, East of Gun Club Road. The erosion is already into the trail surface, hoping to bid out in September. Prioritizing Bridge 11, this is not a budgeted item, the railing needs to be replaced this fall. Reaching out to RDg for a quote to update the long-range plan with completed projects and new projects. This will be helpful if we decide to pursue a bond referendum. Conservation Board meeting for September will need to be changed to accommodate the ICCS Fall conference and South Park tours. October will be the North Park tours. Plan to view the 100 acres outside of Cascade possibly through land acquisition. Auditor's office has a new policy now requiring each department to request W-9 for new and updated vendors. In the event of a refund that is over 180 days the Treasurer's Office will write camping refund checks. ISSC conference is next week for three days.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT: Sisler reported courtesy dock is back in place at Massey. All three River Campgrounds; Finley's, Mud Lake and Massey have been reseeded. Well house is complete at New Wine, playgrounds have been woodchipped, cut stumps at Fillmore in preparation for grinding, bird striking is on the windows at EB Lyons, watering prairie plants at Miller property, decals on the new truck, mowing and patrol.

GREENS SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Martin reported they will be down to one seasonal in two weeks, tee box renovations, added new prairies to cut down on mowing roughs, getting quotes for stump grinding. Looking into the possibility of upgrading the greens mower. One of the busiest years.

NATURALIST REPORT: Schober reported Environmental highlights for July; 58 programs, 1036 participants, summer AmeriCorps lead a Spanish speaking hike, natural watercolor making, hunter education and Foray with Prairie States Mushroom Club. Blue Crew finished up with 144 hours, 8 students from Senior and Hempstead. Upcoming programs include mycoblitz at the Arboretum, bat box workshop, 5th grade Outdoor Adventures, Whitewater Canyon Wild Harvest Dinner and Fall BOW (Becoming an Outdoor Women).

OLD BUSINESS:

None

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion to approve the August 2024 payables was made by Pfeiler and seconded by Wagner. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 8:00 A.M South Park Tour, 4:00 P.M. regular board meeting, Swiss Valley Nature Center.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn was made by Pfeiler and seconded by Davis. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:26 P.M.



DUBUQUE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD MEMBER



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