

WINNEBAGO COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Regular Meeting, Monday, January 8, 2024 – 8:00 A.M.  
At the Hanson Nature Center, 41600 170<sup>th</sup> Ave., Hwy 69 N.  
Leland, IA 50453

Minutes

Board Members

Nancy Helm  
Tim Missal  
Julie Hagenson  
Jeff Schmidt

Staff Present

Robert Schwartz, Director  
Lisa Ralls, Naturalist  
Nicole Templeton  
Rick Lillie

Guest

Steve Anderson, Tri-County Recreation Association

Chairman Helm called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

The January 8, 2024 meeting agenda was approved with a motion from Hagenson, seconded by Schmidt. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Election of officers for 2024 was conducted. The following were nominated for officers: Chairman, Missal, Vice-Chairman, Hagenson, and Secretary, Schmidt, with a motion from Hagenson, seconded by Schmidt. Unanimous. Motion carried. Nominations ceased. The following: Chairman, Missal, Vice-Chairman, Hagenson, and Secretary, Schmidt, were elected officers to the Winnebago County Conservation Board for 2024 with a motion from Helm, seconded by Hagenson. Unanimous. Motion carried

The December 18, 2023 Board meeting minutes were approved with a motion from Helm, seconded by Hagenson. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Work and budget reports were reviewed.

Steve Anderson, Tri-County Recreation Association President, reviewed the 2024 proposed budget. They had a good year on the course and in the club house. The club house manager is Joyce Woodwick. Their property insurance premiums are seeing a large increase. They plan to raise green fees. The budget includes a plan to purchase a mower in 2024 and would like to use the Conservation Board as a pass through. After discussion, the Tri-County Recreation Association 2024 Annual budget and lease were approved with a motion by Helm, seconded by Schmidt. Unanimous. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Helm, seconded by Hagenson, to authorize the Executive Director of the Conservation Board to signs forms and agreements for county owned land enrolled in farm programs or serviced by the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency for the 2024 calendar year. Unanimous. Motion carried.

The Board authorized the Executive Director to approve expenditure claims bi-weekly for the 2024 calendar year, at his discretion, that may otherwise accrue a late fee if approved at the regular Conservation Board meetings, with a motion from Missal, seconded by Helm. Unanimous. Motion carried.

The Board discussed a designee that would serve on the Friends of Winnebago County Conservation Foundation, Inc. for 2024. After discussion, Schmidt agreed to represent the Conservation Board on the Friends of Winnebago County Conservation Foundation, Inc. for 2023 as per the By-laws.

Nature Center updates. The elevator final inspection has been scheduled for January 16<sup>th</sup>. Monson will be here tomorrow to paint the elevator drywall. Flooring will be corrected as needed this week. A grant is being worked on for furnishings. The direct mailing went out in December. Center user agreements and policies were discussed with no action taken. A motion was made by Helm, seconded by Hagenon, to expend up to \$1,500.00 purchasing floor mats, restrooms dispensers and cleaning equipment from Central Iowa Distributing. Unanimous. Motion carried.

The FY2024-2025 budgets were reviewed and discussed. A motion was then made by Missal, seconded by Hagenon to approve the FY2024-2025 Annual Conservation budgets as presented. Unanimous. Motion carried. The budget will be delivered to the Winnebago County Auditor's Office.

Payment of monthly bills was approved with a motion from Helm, seconded by Schmidt. Unanimous. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 A.M. with a motion from Hagenon, seconded by Helm. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Schwartz  
Executive Director

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Chairman

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Secretary