

April 3, 2024

Call to Order

The Tama County Conservation Board met in regular session on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at the Tama County Nature Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Chair, Keenan.

Board Members present: Adolphs, Kenkel, Wacha, Allen, and Keenan.

Staff Members present: Conrad, Horne, Behrens.

Public present: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the March 2024 meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Allen, seconded by Adolphs, to approve the minutes as recorded, carried, all voting aye.

Approval of Bills

Bills were presented for March 2024 totaling \$6,702.05. Deposits were made totaling \$13,222.69.

It was moved by Kenkel, seconded by Wacha, to approve all bills, all voting aye.

Public Comment

No one from public

Reports & Updates

Environmental Education Report: Update

Carried out 21 programs in March with a total attendance of 315.

- Visited Sunny Hill care center, all the kindergarten classes at South Tama Elementary to teach about animal adaptations, special ed class at South Tama Elementary to teach about animal adaptations and recycling, Chelsea Library, Miss Lacy's Preschool, and girl scouts
- Assisted 4-H with two terrarium workshops
- Assisted with South Tama's end-of-season archery banquet as a coach
- Met with teachers from G-R Elementary to plan their School of the Wild field trip.
- Led three meetings for the Wildlife Habitat Education Program with 4-H.
- Talked with a teacher from North Tama to plan a 3rd grade field trip at Otter Creek.
- Led Homeschool Adventures program, where we learned about ovivaporous animals, dissected eggs, and built nests.
- Toured a one-room schoolhouse in Haven in preparation for a day camp with 4-H and the county museum.
- Met with Jenny and Haley from 4-H to plan out Haven schoolhouse day camp

- Gave talk for OWLS series on animal myths
- Assisted with USDA landowner conservation meeting at Nature Center
- Sent out monthly newsletter
- Secured some speakers for IAN conference that will be in Tama County in November
- Organized more programs for the coming months
- Will be attending NAI conference April 3-5

Park Officer's Report:

- Gather donations for Fun Night
- Take and spread rock on campers hill
 - Finish pads, place fire rings, picnic tables
- Meet with Garrison about safety requirements for deck
- Get car towed at Clarks
- Take snow blower and cab off of mower and tractor
- Mow burn breaks at parcel B and at Reining
- Fix broken mower blade bolt on Kubota
- Cut up downed tree at Clarks
- Get burn equipment ready for the season
- Burn
 - Between beach and south loop
 - Below campers hill
 - Below NC
 - On new jetty
 - Timber burn on picnic point
- Remove tree tubes
- Brush mow along lake shore by new jetty and on the hill side
- Get replacement draft bar for 4030 and fix
- Check all outparks for trash/damage
- CCPOA spring workshop
 - High risk stops
 - Vehicle searches
 - Common traffic stops
- Finish up cutting thorny locus out of tree planting and pile in parking lot
- Release bluegill into the main lake
- Go to sheriffs office for Permit to carry
- Brush blade areas on new jetty I couldn't get to with a tractor
 - Pile it up In burn pile
- Take dually to auction in gladbrook
- Put Kubota tire back on the bead
- Pull deer antler out of 4030 tire
- Open campground
- Clean the shop
- Show seasonal Austin Hills around our properties
- Clean NC basement for fun night
- Cut and move brush along park roads

Maintenance report:

- Ordered handrail for N.C.
- Grass seed campers hill, far shelter trail entrance N/S loop shoreline
- Picked up donations in Tama/Toledo and Marshalltown
- Rear tire on 4030 repaired
- Burned- below shower house, by the spill way, hill side south of beach, between beach and campground, around new jetty, picnic point
- Bluegills stock OCLAP
- Dually to Spankys Auction
- Turned Electric on in campground
- Installed fire rings camper's hill
- Picked up new box blade
- Bladed campground roads and loops
- Received all the playground equipment
- Scharnwebers potholed utilities
- Cleaned N.C. basement for fun nite

Director's Report: Update

Old Business:

Culvert Repair Scheduled for Mid May

Fun Night Planning Wrap Up discussed amongst staff for food and silent auction. Discussed thank you options for Donors

New Planting updates for hillsides

Playground Delivered ready for assembly next month

New Business

FY24-25 Adjustments: Reviewed updates from Board to Full time staff positions and small effects on overall budget.

Equipment Purchases: Looking at new fire and spray equipment, discussed new native seed drill.

Future beach monitoring for water quality: Signed up with DNR to be on water quality monitoring in 2025

Discussed upcoming 5th grade Outdoor Classroom date

Floor Discussion

None

Adjourn

With no further discussion items, it was motioned by Kenkel, seconded by Adolphs, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Board Chair

Tama County Conservation Board