

The Tama County Conservation Board met in regular session on Wednesday, March 3, 2010, in the library, Tama County Nature Center, Otter Creek Park.

Chairman Wrage called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.. Members present were: Adolphs, Anderson, Benda, Keenan and Wrage. Also present: Etzel and Wise.

Minutes from the regular session of February 3, 2010, were read. It was moved by Anderson, seconded Benda to accept the minutes as presented, carried. (All voting aye)

The following bills were presented:

TO BE PAID FROM GEN'L FUND			
		Amount of Bill	Category Total
0001-22-6100-000-26100			
Books, Magazines			
Tama Toledo Newspapers	Subscription- News Herald & Chronicle- 1 yr	55.00	55.00
0001-22-6100-000-41200			
Postage			
Etzel, Robert	As per three (3) receipts	0.51	0.51
0001-22-6100-000-41400			
Telephone			
Iowa Telecom	17Feb10, 484-5314 (shop)	62.79	
	17Feb10, 484-2231 (office), 484-4157 (payphone)	126.14	
Verizon	16Feb10, 484-2231 (office)	11.78	
	19Feb10, 484-4157 (payphone)	11.94	
	16Feb10, 484-5314 (shop)	<u>10.75</u>	
		223.40	223.40
0001-22-6100-000-42200			
School of Instruction			
ISAC	Registration- Etzel- 24- 25Mar10 Spring Workshop	110.00	110.00
0001-6110-101-22-223			
Salary- Main Supervisor			
Wise, Craig	5-Feb-10	1,524.00	
	19-Feb-10	<u>1,524.00</u>	
		3,048.00	3,048.00
0001-6110-101-22-226			
Salary- Conservation Tech.			
Dolash, Ron	5-Feb-10	1,401.60	
	19-Feb-10	<u>1,401.60</u>	
		2,803.20	2,803.20
0001-22-6110-000-25350 Mt Veh- Tires			
Z Line Tire & Repair	#005403 4.10x4 tubes (2) @ \$5.55 ea	11.10	11.10
0001-22-6110-000-25450 Mt Veh- Minor Repair			
Carquest of Toledo	#14452-15441 Alternator; #14452--15493 Core Return	180.76	
J&V Auto Parts	#406440 oil absorb, hex key set, solvent	<u>13.47</u>	
		194.23	194.23
0001-22-6110-000-29252			
Main & Supplies			

Etzel, Robert	26Feb10 Lunch- Director's Retreat, Lodging	68.01	
	Winterfest- lunch	7.99	
	Dist 1 mtg- Hardin Co., 14Jan10 Etzel, Wise	16.00	
IACCBE	Lodging/meals- winterfest- Etzel 24-26Jan10	144.61	
Menard's	#25402 deck stain- signs (3 gals)	71.94	
RC Systems	#100201-43 Kenwood radio; #1349 batteries	636.36	
Scharnweber Water Cond.	4Feb10, 20 amp switch (1)	3.00	
Tama Timber & Lawn	#3181 bar adjust nut, bar adjust screw(2), shipping	19.73	
Ternus Electric	#28829 NC- electrical work- change breaker locations (kitchen)	1,630.60	
Triple T Enterprises	#103833 Compendium- Scheduled violations (2)	22.40	
Walsh Door & Hardware Co.	#20306 Repair NC entry door	404.44	
Wilkerson Hardware	#B78601 switch cover	9.49	
		2,942.57	2,942.57
0001-6110-430-22 LP Gas			
New Century FS, Inc.	Pre-paid LP purchase, Ticket #4290, 1Feb10		
	1,025 gals LP @ \$1.369/gal = \$1,403.23, LPER = \$6.15, HAZ = \$39.98		
0001-6110-431-22 Electricity			
Grundy Co REC	OCP thru 1Feb10, 6,625 KWH- meter #1,	579.29	
	6,5115 kwh- meter #2 (NC)	349.21	
	Security light charge	18.00	
	maintenance light charge	96.00	
		1042.50	1,042.50
Total Bills Submitted, General Fund			10,430.51
TO BE PAID FROM LAD account			
0027-22-0210-000-60000 Capital Projects			
Kenkel Trust Account	As per Option to Purchase, acquire 69.25 acres known as Parcel C- Hansen Addition	159,074.18	
	Pre-paid Option Fee	-2,500.00	
Kenkel Trust Account	Hansen Addition- payment to cover 2010 crop rental, 45 acres x \$145/acre	6,525.00	
		163,099.18	
Total Bills Submitted, LAD Account			163,099.18
TO BE PAID FROM Nature Center Trust Account			
0031-22-6120-000-29272 Rec Supplies			
WorkPlacePro.com	#960748 Earth day shirts, 29 @ \$6.95, 10 @ \$9.95	301.05	
Total Bills Submitted, NC Trust Account			301.05

		Total All Bills Submitted	\$ 173,830.74

Moved by Adolphs, seconded Keenan to approve bills, carried. (All voting aye).

Reports and Correspondence. Spring Board Member Conference This year's event will be held at the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, March 20. Any board members interested in attending should contact Etzel immediately to get registered./ **Fun Nite for the Nature Center** This year's event will occur on Saturday evening, March 27. Marv Boldt will be auctioneer. The program is entitled "Sloths in Our Backyard" by Holmes Semken, Jr. and David Brenzel, Tarkio Valley Sloth Project. A full buffet meal will be provided by "My Mother's Place" catering./ **Staff Report** Wise shared the work started or completed during February. Work included: snow and ice removal, sign repairs at McCoy Landing, TF Clark Park and Ike's Tract, installing new insulation in boat storage building./ **Cabin Survey** Etzel relayed information that was generated by a survey completed by the Buchanan CCB. The survey polled information from CCB's that currently have cabins in their system. The information was shared to aid future discussions regarding a possible cabin rental area at Otter Creek Park./ **IACCB Long Range Planning Committee** Etzel is serving on a state wide committee exploring the future role of IACCB (Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards) relative to services currently provided and additional services desired. Another important role of the committee is to prepare a transition strategy with the possible retirement of Don Brazelton, Executive Secretary, in the not too distant future. Etzel shared that the current financial standing of the organization is tenuous. The current dues structure has been in place for a very long time causing the Association to be nearing insolvency. The committee is looking at recommending a new fees structure to the IACCB Board of Directors to help finance the future role of the organization. Etzel shared that the Board should expect an increase in dues as early as the FY '12 budget./ **Sustainable Funding** The Board was provided with information regarding the upcoming iWill (Iowa's Water and Land Legacy) vote in November, 2010. Work of the Sustainable Funding Advisory Committee began in 2006 and recommended a constitutional amendment to the legislature to create a trust fund for additional funding for natural resources in the state. The need for a dedicated, sustainable and protected source of funds is sorely needed. Legislation was passed in 2008 and 2009 to bring the question of the constitutional amendment before voters in 2010. Interested persons can find out more on this effort by following this link: <http://www.creatinggreatplaces.org/page12023744.aspx>

Hansen Addition- Acquisition of Parcel C Etzel reported that acquisition of Parcel C- Hansen Addition was finalized in the past few days. The deed has been received by the attorney for the Conservation Board and has been filed. Parcel C is the last parcel of a four parcel acquisition project to protect Otter Creek Lake. Grant moneys are expected in the near future to reimburse the cost of the acquisition.

Etzel also reminded the board that a land survey will need to be performed in the NE corner of Parcel C to divide out some property that was not included in the acquisition. He indicated that the earliest it could be performed would be following removal of the crop on the parcel this fall.

Wolf Creek Nature Trail/Request for Use by Snowmobiles The Board discussed the request of two local snowmobile clubs, Central Iowa Snowmobile Club and Tri-County Snowmobile Club, to allow use of the Wolf Creek Nature Trail for snowmobiling. The original request was filed in May, 2009.

The Board discussed the concerns of the attorney for the Heartland Insurance Risk Pool regarding the legal, maintenance, and liability issues of converting the trail to allow use by snowmobiles. The Board discussed the points addressed in the e-mail relative to snowmobile use of the trail. Also of concern were the views of the Wolf Creek Nature Trail Committee members relative to possible inclusion of snowmobiles on the trail. The Committee members, who have donated hundreds of hours of manpower in negotiating the acquisition of property, writing of grants, assuring the work was completed on the project, etc, are instrumental for the future success of the trail.

Adolphs was concerned that by not allowing use by the snowmobiles will give the impression that the Board views snowmobilers as trouble makers and reckless. Benda and Keenan, who both have operated snowmobiles, indicated that was not the case but to ignore the concerns of the liability insurer for the county would not be wise. Keenan also shared how initially he was in favor of snowmobile use but after weighing the feelings of the trail committee and the opinions of the risk pool attorney he reluctantly concluded snowmobiles were not a good fit on the trail.

After considerable discussion it was moved by Anderson, seconded Keenan, that in light of the statement of the attorney for the county liability insurer and weighing other concerns on the trail, that use of the Wolf Creek Nature Trail by snowmobiles and ATV's should not be allowed, carried. (Anderson, Benda, Keenan, and Wrage- ayes, Adolphs-nay)

Hansen Addition- Parcel A The remaining junk on Parcel A- Hansen Addition was discussed. Etzel has been communicating with the Iowa Waste Exchange to try and locate someone who is interested in recycling the mobile homes that were stored on site at the time of acquisition. He explained there is also considerable junked items present ranging from bicycles to grain bins.

To move the mobile homes to the county landfill will require a lot of work to tear down the mobile homes and separate metal components from the building materials and appliances.

Etzel asked permission to further explore options and negotiate the disposal of the junk in as timely manner as possible. After short discussion it was moved by Benda, seconded Keenan to grant Etzel the freedom to dispose of the junk in Parcel A at his discretion, carried. (All voting aye)

Hansen Addition- Development Schedule A proposed habitat development schedule for the four parcels comprising the Hansen Addition were reviewed. Slated for 2010 is construction of a 3.5 acre fishing/silt pond in Parcel A, planting 15 acres in Parcel D to a savanna grass/forb mix, removal of interior fences, removal of junk and dilapidated structures, begin engineering for five small wetland sites scattered amongst the parcels.

Repair 1995 Chevrolet Pickup The cab corners of the 1995 Chevrolet pickup have rusted out and are in need of repair. Etzel shared the pickup is not slated to be sold or traded until FY '13. After discussion it was moved by Benda, seconded Adolphs to accept the quote of K & K Auto Body and Paint for the quoted price of \$540.78, carried. (All voting aye)

Water for Otter Creek Park Etzel met with a representative of Poweshiek Water (PWA) today regarding options of providing water to the park. More in depth information was provided to PWA. A variety of options was discussed as to the best way to get water into the park feeding both the current west and east well distribution systems. It is anticipated that feed back from the engineer for PWA will be available next week. After the information is received the options available will become more defined. Etzel hopes to meet with Tom Scharnweber, Scharnweber Water Conditioning, early next week to discuss possible private contractor role in the project.

After discussion of assorted conservation topics it was moved by Benda, seconded Keenan to adjourn, carried, Adjourned 9:00 p.m..

CHAIR

VICE-CHAIR