

The Tama County Conservation Board met in regular session on Wednesday, March 6, 2013, in the library, Tama County Nature Center, Otter Creek Park.

Chairman Keenan called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.. Members present were: Adolphs, Atchison, Keenan, McCool and Wrage. Also present: Jim Allen, Bob Mullen, Etzel and Wise.

Minutes from the regular session of February 6, 2013, were read. It was moved by Adolphs, seconded Wrage to accept the minutes as read, carried. (All voting aye)

The following bills were presented:

TO BE PAID FROM GEN'L FUND			
		Amount of Bill	Category Total
0001-22-6100-000-26000 Office Supplies			
Staples Contract & Commercial	#7000497289 ink, mouse, paper- misc supplies	182.08	182.08
0001-22-6100-000-26100 Books, Mags			
Tama Toledo Newspapers	1 yr subscription- Tama-Toledo Newspapers	55.00	
USPS	300- \$0.46 stamps	138.00	
		193.00	193.00
0001-22-6100-000-41200 Postage			
Etzel, Robert	As per three (3) receipts	5.04	5.04
0001-22-6100-000-41400 Telephone			
Verizon	16Feb13, 484-2231 (office)	12.78	
	19Feb13, 484-4157 (payphone)	14.96	
	16Feb13, 484-5314 (shop)	14.35	
Windstream	18Feb13, 484-5314 (shop)	55.55	
	18Feb13, 484-2231 (office), 484-4157 (payphone)	128.09	
		225.73	225.73
0001-22-6100-000-42200 School of Instruction			
Etzel, Robert	CCPOA Training- Regis- Etzel, Wise @ \$20 ea x 2, Benton Co 8Mar13, Story- 13Mar13	40.00	
ISAC	#35107 Spring School of Instruction Etzel	130.00	
		170.00	170.00
0001-22-6100-000-48000 Dues, Membership			
CCDA	Dues for Spring 2013- 2014	40.00	40.00
0001-6110-101-22-223 Salary- Main Supervisor			
Wise, Craig	1-Feb-13	1,584.80	
	15-Feb-13	1,584.80	
		3,169.60	3,169.60
0001-6110-101-22-226 Salary- Conservation Tech.			

Dolash, Ron	3-Feb-12	1,456.80	
	17-Feb-12	1,460.80	
		2,917.60	2,917.60
0001-22-6110-000-25050 Mt Veh- fuel			
New Century FS, Inc.	#002304, 17Jan13, unleaded gasohol (222.8 gals) @ \$2.4794	552.41	
	FET (LUST)	0.22	
	State Motor Fuel Tax @ \$0.19 per gal	42.33	
	Hazmat handling fee	2.01	
		596.97	596.97
0001-22-6110-000-29252 Main & Supplies			
Dolezal Farm Supply	#0060098 gate wheel kit, etc., Fencing supplies	68.10	
IACCBE	Winterfest lodging- Etzel 21 & 22Jan13	129.82	
Menard's	#18481 locket- interior for main residence	11.99	
Poweshiek Water Assoc.	Water, OCP- West 19Feb13 meter read, Prev: 217K, Current: 226K, Used: 9K	82.50	
	Water, OCP- East 19Feb13 meter read, Prev: 201K, Current: 202K, Used: 1 K	38.50	
Premier Office Supply	#022999, Premier Platinum Plan Sarp AR-651 copier thru 30Mar13	48.00	
Tama County Highway Dept.	#38, 3.30T salt @ \$75.99 per T	250.77	
Tama County Solid Waste	28Feb13 Landfill fees- February	81.00	
		710.68	710.68
0001-22-6110-000-43000 LP Gas			
New Century FS	Pre-paid LP purchase, Ticket #16628, 7Feb13 825 gals LP @ \$1.459/gal = \$1,203.68, LPER = \$4.13, HAZ = \$7.43		
	Shop= 550 gals, Main residence = 275 gals		
	Begin Bal = \$3,340.76, Current bal = \$2,125.52		
0001-22-6110-000-43100 Electricity			
Grundy Co REC	OCP thru 1Feb13, 7,912 KWH- meter #1,	814.03	
	8,228 kwh- meter #2 (NC)	564.44	
	Security light charge	156.00	
		1534.47	1,534.47
Total Bills Submitted, General Fund			9,745.17
TO BE PAID FROM NATURE CTR TRUST			
0031-22-6120-000-29272 Rec Supplies			
Tama County Treasurer	Operation Releaf- bad checks	100.00	
0031-22-6120-000-61094 Perm Imp			

Museum Professionals	1Mar13 #799 second payment- diorama- #1 of 10 consecutive payments	25,051.60	
Total Bills Submitted, Nature Center Trust			25,151.60
Total All Bills Submitted			\$34,896.77

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

Reports and Correspondence. Staff Report Wise reported on work started or completed during February including snow removal, clean up in Parcel A- Hansen Addition- remove junk to landfill, on-line completion of S-110 and S-190 fire training, repair boat trailer, repair hydraulic lines of dump truck./ **IACCB Spring Workshop** Etzel reminded the board members of the event to be held on Saturday, March 9, at Reiman Gardens, Ames. Adolphs, Wrage & Etzel plan to attend./ **Phase 1- Nature Center Diorama** Etzel reported that work is ongoing on fabricating the land form for the diorama and shared photos on the progress./**Fun Nite for the Nature Center** The event date is Saturday evening, April 6./ **Environmental Education** Mike Havlik has agreed to provide two “main stage” presentations at the iExplore STEM activity at North Tama School on April 7. Also, Havlik and his Naturalists will provide instruction at the 4th grade field day on April 22./**Ike’s Tract** Twenty-one person signed up to use the facility at the February 23 meeting. He reported to the board regarding the problems with the keys issued at the 23Feb13 training. The problem has been resolved.

Ike’s Tract The Board considered a complaint filed by one of the key-holders at the facility. This person listed several reasons he felt he was not receiving the product he anticipated when becoming an authorized shooter at the facility. He had a lengthy list of complaints and indicated that he would not shoot at the facility during 2013 because he does all his shooting during the winter and couldn’t access the facility properly due to the heavy snowfall. After considerable discussion it was moved by Adolphs, seconded McCool to refund the shooter his fee for 2013, carried. (all voting aye)

Bob Mullen and Jim Allen addressed the Board regarding the facility. Discussion included possible developments that may be acceptable during 2013 if all materials and labor were donated. Discussion also centered awaiting the decision of the Izaak Walton League of America national office regarding the existing lease on the property.

OPDMD (Other power-driven mobility devices) The Board discussed a federal requirement regarding evaluating and determining what OPDMD’s are allowed and under what terms on trails under the Board’s management. Etzel updated the Board on the specifics of the requirement.

The Board reviewed the trails that were assessed by staff. The trails were as follows:

- Otter Creek Lake and Park (west side trail)
- Wolf Creek Trail
- Columbia Wildlife Area
- All trails not otherwise addressed in a separate assessment (these are mainly random trails that have appeared over time due to foot traffic, etc.)

After discussion it was moved by Wrage, seconded Adolphs that Resolution #13-01 regarding OPDMD’s be adopted as presented, carried. (Adolphs- aye, Atchison- aye, Keenan- aye, McCool- aye, Wrage- aye)

**RESOLUTION #13-01
TAMA COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD**

DESIGNATION OF TRAILS ON WHICH THE OPERATION OF OTHER POWER-DRIVEN MOBILITY DEVICES (OPDMD) ARE NOT ALLOWED OR ALLOWED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS AND/OR RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, effective March 15, 2011, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) has amended its regulation implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) regulations now require a public entity to make reasonable modifications in its policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of other power-driven mobility devices (OPDMDs) by individuals with mobility disabilities, unless the public entity can demonstrate that the class of other power-driven mobility devices cannot be operated with legitimate safety requirements necessary for safe operation of its trails; and

WHEREAS, a power-driven mobility device is defined as anything with a motor that can be driven, regardless of size or horsepower. This includes golf carts, ATVs, electronic personal assistance mobility devices (EPAMDs), such as the Segway, or any mobility device designed to operate in areas without defined pedestrian routes, and

WHEREAS, in determining whether a particular “other power-driven mobility device” (OPDMD) can be allowed on a specific trail, to meet the requirements of the DOJ rule, a public entity shall consider the following assessment factors:

- (i) The type, size, weight, dimensions, and speed of the device;
- (ii) The facility’s volume of pedestrian traffic (which may vary at different times of the day, week, month, or year);
- (iii) The facility’s design and operational characteristics (e.g. whether its service, program, or activity is conducted indoors, its square footage, the density and placement of stationary devices, and the availability of storage for the device, if requested by the user);
- (iv) Whether legitimate safety requirements can be established to permit the safe operation of the other power-driven mobility device in the specific facility; and
- (v) Whether the use of the other power-driven mobility device creates substantial risk of serious harm to the immediate environment or natural or cultural resources, or poses a conflict with Federal land management laws and regulations.

WHEREAS, the Tama County Conservation Board Director or his authorized representative has completed an assessment of all of the trails under the control and management of the Conservation Board and has determined which trails on which the operation of other power-driven mobility devices (OPDMDs) by individuals with disabilities are not allowed or allowed with conditions and/or restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this resolution is to comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 that require the Board to designate trails on which the operation of other power-driven mobility devices (OPDMDs) by individuals with disabilities are not allowed or allowed with conditions and/or restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Board, based on the trail assessments completed by its staff, hereby designates the following trails on which the operation of other power-driven mobility devices (OPDMDs) by individuals with disabilities are not allowed or allowed with conditions and/or restrictions:

- **Otter Creek Lake and Park (West Side Trail)**
- **Wolf Creek Trail (Gladbrook City limits west to the Comet Trail)**
- **Columbia Wildlife Area Trail system**
- **Other trails in the Tama County Conservation Board Park system**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tama County Conservation Board has hereby taken action to designate trails on which the operation of other power-driven mobility devices (OPDMDs) by individuals with disabilities are not allowed or allowed with conditions and/or restrictions.

Dated at Toledo, Tama County, Iowa, on this **6th** day of **March, 2013**.

The Board reviewed the proposed Trail Assessment Worksheets for the above mentioned trails. Following assessment the following trails were designated as such:

- Otter Creek Lake and Park (West Side Trail)- OPDMD’s allowed under certain restrictions, permit required
- Wolf Creek Trail (Gladbrook City limits west to the Comet Trail)- OPDMD’s allowed under certain restrictions, permit required
- Columbia Wildlife Area Trail system- OPDMD’s not allowed
- Other trails in the Tama County Conservation Board Park system- OPDMD’s not allowed

It was moved by Atchison, seconded Wrage that the recommendations for the trail systems as presented be accepted, carried. (all voting aye)

Note: Use of OPDMD’s on approved trails requires a permit to be obtained prior to using the trail. Interested persons should contact the office of the Tama County Conservation Board for further information.

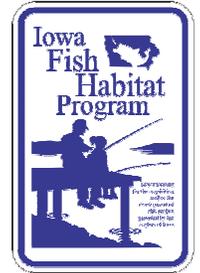


Wildlife Habitat Stamp Grant/Salt Creek Mitigation Etzel updated the Board on the project. Salt Creek Mitigation LLC has agreed to donate more of the project cost to help make it happen.

The Board reviewed the Cooperative Grant Agreement for funding through the Wildlife Habitat Stamp Fund (Habitat Stamp Project #13-09W). The agreement is between the Tama County Conservation Board and the Iowa DNR. After discussion it was moved by Wrage, seconded Adolphs to enter into the agreement for Project #13-09W in the amount of \$38,830.00 and that Etzel will serve as agent for the Board in signing all documents for the project, carried. (all voting aye)

Relative to the Wildlife Habitat Stamp grant requirements an appraisal, acceptable to the Iowa DNR, needs to be done for the property. After short discussion it was moved by Adolphs, seconded McCool to hire Jammie Howard to perform the appraisal on the property, carried. (all voting aye)

Fish Habitat Stamp Grant Etzel presented a cooperative grant agreement for Fish Habitat Grant Project #13-06F which is to place rip-rap at five different locations along the shoreline of Otter Creek Lake. The agreement is between the Tama County Conservation Board and the Iowa DNR. After discussion it was moved by Atchison, seconded Adolphs to enter into the agreement for Project #13-06F in the amount of \$10,527.00 and that Etzel will serve as agent for the Board in signing all documents for the project, carried. (all voting aye)



Environmental Education/Naturalist The Board discussed staffing needs of the program. The need to add one staff person has been critical for a number of years. The Board feels now is the time to do something about it. Etzel shared information from Benton County regarding their environmental education program. Benton County's environmental education effort has been so popular they are exploring ways to add a second naturalist on staff. For an example the Board reviewed the report filed by Benton County's Naturalist for the month of February. During that month she had given programs to 1,208 students.

The Board also looked at staffing levels of some comparable sized counties. Those were Benton, Buena Vista, Cedar, Cherokee, Hamilton, Iowa, Jasper, Madison, Monona, Poweshiek. Of the ten counties eight have at least one Naturalist, another is in the process of hiring a Natural Resource Mgr/Naturalist position. Two of the eight counties having Naturalists have two on staff.

The Board discussed the grave importance of adding this staff person to fully utilize the Nature Center's main goal to reach children and adults in the county.

The Board was in agreement that they need to begin discussions with the Supervisors to explore ways to address this need.

Crop Rental- Parcel C, Hansen Addition Etzel reported that Kam Koester and Clint Wobeter are interested in farming the 20 acre crop field for another one year lease for 2013 for the same rate as last year (\$450 per acre). He will draft the crop lease and get it signed in the near future.

Tama County Tourism Brochure The Board discussed putting a half page ad for Otter Creek Lake and Park in the Tama County Tourism Brochure. The ad costs \$200 and will be distributed for a two year period. After discussion it was moved by Wrage, seconded Adolphs to secure a half page ad in the new Tama County Tourism brochure, carried. (all voting aye)

Refrigerator- Main Shop The refrigerator at the main shop has gone belly up. The refrigerator is used by maintenance and patrol staff to store food items while at work. In year's past the Board has purchased used refrigerators. Wise indicated that in the thirteen years he has worked for Tama County four refrigerators have been used. The Board considered a simple 17.6 cu ft Amana freezer/refrigerator that is on sale at Menard's for \$449.00. A comparable refrigerator can be bought locally for \$120 more. After discussion it was moved by Adolphs, seconded Wrage to purchase the 17.6 cu ft Amana Refrigerator from Menard's for \$449, carried. (all voting aye)

After discussion of assorted conservation topics it was moved by Atchison, seconded Wrage to adjourn, carried, Adjourned 9:05 p.m..

CHAIR

VICE-CHAIR