March 2023

Call to Order

The Tama County Conservation Board met in regular session on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at the Tama County Nature Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chair, Wrage.

Board Members present: Adolphs, Keenan, Kenkel, Wacha, and Wrage.Staff Members present: Mayne, Horne, Bruck.Public present: Delania Halter & The Tama/Toledo Newspaper.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the February 2023 regular meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Keenan, seconded by Wacha, to approve the minutes as recorded, carried, all voting aye.

Minutes from the February 9th Emergency Meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Wacha, seconded by Keenan, to approve the minutes as recorded, carried, all voting aye.

Approval of Bills

Bills were presented to be paid from the month of March 2023. It was moved by Wacha, seconded by Keenan to approve bills, carried, all voting aye.

Reports & Updates

Public Comment: N/A

Environmental Education Report: Bruck's report included updates on public program preparation, classroom program planning, summer day camp planning and live animal care. Her report also included updates on programs performed this month with preschools, schools, and adult centers. She informed the board that she held another Knee-High Naturalist program at the Toledo Public Library. She also mentioned that she had been helping with the planning of the Fun Night Fundraiser planning.

Maintenance Report: Horne reported that he fixed the shooting mats at Ike's, had the cylinders on the 6040 Kubota resealed, serviced the 6040 Kabota, attended a County-wide safety meeting and completed the forest reserve application. Horne also burned brush piles, painted the basement bathroom of the N.C., worked on OSHA updates at the shop, snaked the N.C. bathroom, and picked up the RTV from Lowry's.

Director's Report: Mayne's report included that he attended a department head meeting, met with Project A.W.A.R.E.'s staff and worked out logistics for this upcoming summer's event. He also attended a website meeting with other county departments, attended a monthly safety meeting, and took flyers to local schools to help promote the Fun Night Fundraiser. He also picked up local donations.

Old Business

Lake Restoration Project Update: Mayne reported that Rachel Contracting are back in the park and working on silt pond on west side of the park. The DNR was also in the park and treated the lake and silt ponds with Rotenone to kill off the any fish left in the lake. Mayne also mentioned the trees located in the center of the lake will stay to provide fish habitat.

New Business

Seasonal Staff Shortage Master Plan: Mayne mentioned that we are having a hiring issue to find seasonal staff for the upcoming summer season. Wrage mentioned posting the position in the paper as a seasonal aide position to attract anyone who may be retired and may be looking for a summer position. Mayne mentioned that the job post has been uploaded online for a second month in a row to see if anyone in college is interested. Mayne also mentioned he would check with HR to see if insurance would allow youth between the ages of 16-17 the ability to be employed with limitations.

Ike's Shooting Range Gate Opener System: Mayne mentioned he hadn't received any quotes from the local contractor to provide the board and said it's best to table this conversation for next month.

Fun Night Fundraiser: Mayne informed the board that the Fun Night Fundraiser planning has continued through the past month. The Fun Night Fundraiser will be held April 1, 2023. Bruck mentioned that she has received a lot of silent auction items which includes tickets to the Iowa Cubs, Cardinals, Omaha Zoo, Blank Park Zoo, UNI Football Game, and much more. Mayne mentioned that Bruck received Kwik Star gift cards and could be used to purchase dessert items for the fundraiser. Halter mentioned that she has received donations from JBS, Ace, Iowa Premium, Central Iowa Farm Store, and more. Mayne mentioned that with the newly added carnival games, would send flyers to the local schools to help promote the event one week prior to the event. Halter received soda pop donations for the ring toss game in the carnival. Mayne mentioned that Troop 214 of Cedar Rapids will provide support in the basement with the carnival games.

Floor Discussion

Floor Discussion: No Floor Discussion.

<u>Adjourn</u>

With no further discussion items, it was motioned by Keenan, seconded by Wacha to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Board Chair Tama County Conservation Board