

Boone County Conservation Board regular meeting
Tuesday, July 15, 2025
Boone County Courthouse, 4th floor conference room

Members present: Jennifer Schieltz, Pat Hagan, Gary Nystrom, Lisa Kobernusz, Brian Bales

Members absent:

Employees present: Ex. Dir. Chelsie Wilson

Chair Nystrom officially called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.

Hagan made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Bales. Motion passed.

Hagan motioned to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Bales. Passed.

The board opened the floor for any public comments. There were none.

Executive director Wilson presented the monthly bills totaling \$46,190.72. Bills this month included the yearly fee for golf cart rentals, removal of the overhead powerline and trenching of a new line at the Don Williams golf course clubhouse, our September through March LP (propane) contract, and installation of a new ice maker in the clubhouse. Kobernusz made a motion to approve the monthly bills, seconded by Hagan. Passed.

Old Business:

Don Williams new clubhouse update: Ex Dir. Wilson reported that she and members Nystrom and Hagan met with the contractors this week to go over a tentative build schedule. They plan to start the week of August 4. Nystrom stressed to them that the current clubhouse will remain in operation during construction and we need to keep any impacts on it to a minimum. They were very receptive and accommodating to this. They stated that minimal employees will park at the site during construction, others will park at the park office shops to keep room open for golfer parking.

Disc golf course update: at the end of this week workers will pour the concrete pads. After that, we should be ready to go with opening the course. Hole sponsorship signs and a full map are not ready yet and will be added later in the season. For disc golf hole sponsorship, the county attorney is satisfied with the agreement we drew up. Sponsorship will be \$150 per hole for a 15-year period.

We will be getting some playground equipment from the city of Ames, but are still waiting on a date for it to be delivered and for volunteers from Midland to install it.

New Business:

Ex. Dir. Wilson discussed the idea of removing the DNR contracted plant plot near the office at Don Williams in order to expand a new parking lot in that area. We originally agreed to maintain this plot for 10 years and it has only been 4, so this would not put us in good standing with the DNR if removed. We would also lose access to the prairie seed mix we get from the DNR as part of this program. The board looked at a map and suggested other ideas for parking spots instead.

The board is generally in favor of keeping the plant plot and looking for alternative parking spots if possible.

The board reviewed quotes from three companies for new septic systems at both the Don Williams ranger residence and new clubhouse. Nystrom made a motion to approve the lowest bid, subject to full review of the quotes to make sure they adhere to the specifications provided. Seconded by Bales. Motion passed

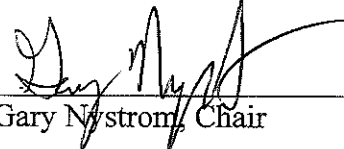
The city of Madrid had an excavating company working on a water line near the High Trestle Trail and this company did some damage to the connector trail from Grant's Woods that we maintain. Ex. Dir. Wilson showed photos of the damage and the caulking the excavator did to try to address this. The board felt that this was not sufficient and the damaged sections need to be replaced. Bales made a motion that we contact Keller excavating and tell them that they need to make full repairs to the damage done, seconded by Hagan.

There were three incidents since our last meeting that needed to be addressed through our insurance, ICAP: 1) a branch fell on a camper van during a storm, 2) one of our mowers threw a rock up on a car and chipped the windshield, 3) an employee injured himself while working (he popped part of his ribs while twisting and pulling something). He took one day off from work, but it seems to be minor.


Other Discussion: Member Hagan asked about progress toward the connector trail to Swede Point Park. Ex. Dir. Wilson reported that the Army Corps of Engineers EPA is about a week and a half away from signing off on the project. After that, there will be a few more weeks until final approval.

The board also discussed that the water line for the old clubhouse will be in the way of the septic system for the new Don Williams clubhouse, so we will need to re-route or create a new line to the old clubhouse in the future.

Hagan moved to adjourn, Kobernusz seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.



Gary Nystrom, Chair



Jennifer Schieltz, Secretary

Action Items

- Chelsie ask county engineer to look over the low bid for the septic systems, then Gary and Brian meet with Chelsie to finalize this.
- Chelsie look into what it would take to create parking spots on the south side of the drive to Don Williams office, instead of removing DNR plant plot.
- Contact Keller Excavating/ city of Madrid about fully repairing the HTT connector trail