

Clay County Conservation Board

Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2019

The Clay County Conservation Board met on April 8, 2019 at 5:30 PM. The following being present: Lee Schoenewe; Hope Bumgarner; Darrell Frerichs; Bree Blom, Naturalist; Kevin Maassen, Chief Park Ranger; and Will Horsley, Director.

#1. Chairman Lee Schoenewe called the meeting to order.

#2. Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the April 8, 2019 meeting agenda by Hope, seconded by Darrell, all in favor. Motion carried.

#3. Public Comments – None

#4. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the March 11, 2019 meeting minutes by Hope, seconded by Darrell, all in favor. Motion carried.

#5. Director Report – A current FY revenue and annual expenditure report was provided to the CCCB members. Will gave an overview on current projects, seasonal employees, park conditions, upcoming construction, training, and meetings attended.

#6. Naturalist Report – A verbal report was provided to the CCCB members on Bree's recent and upcoming work activities, educational courses, youth camps, and training. Bree has recently hired a seasonal Naturalist to assist her with summer educational programs and camps. This seasonal employee will start May 13th.

Old Business:

#7. Ocheyedon Shooting Range – A project update was provided to the board members. There was discussion on upcoming improvements that need to be made to the range area to ensure shooter safety. Will met with several IDNR representatives in February and discussed safety concerns, management agreements, legal documentation, and required range improvements. Will is currently working with Lucus Straw, IDNR, on a long-term management agreement that allows the CCCB to address the range improvements and construction. The IDNR/CCCB Ocheyedon WMA Shooting Range Management Agreement document was presented. There was discussion on the document and future liability concerns. Motion by Hope, seconded by Darrell, to approve and sign the presented document. It was estimated the document would be approved by the IDNR in the upcoming months.

#8. Oneota Environmental Learning Center – A project update was reported to the board members. Will gave an update regarding grants and possible funding sources. There was discussion on upcoming public awareness campaigns and fundraisers. The Oneota Conservation Foundation will be offering a public event on Aug 7th. Will has been visiting with Ted Kourousis, NWIPDC. Mr. Kourousis was interested in the project and would like to assist with the OELC fundraising efforts. There was discussion on upcoming construction plans and specifications regarding local utilities such as water, power, and sewer.

#9. 4386DR-IA FEMA – A progress report was provided regarding current park repairs and upcoming construction efforts. The CCCB staff has prioritized which repairs need to be addressed first in order to move forward with the current FEMA project. Will presented a FEMA expense report. There was discussion on new park damage due to the March/April high water event. Will reported that the roadway at Wanata Park has washed out and will require large scale excavation and construction. There

was discussion on a new FEMA disaster declaration being in place to address new damages. Will is working with the Engineers office on current repair specifications and estimates to go out to building contractors.

New Business: NA

#10. Audit and Approval of Bills – The CCCB members reviewed claims from 33 vendors. Any questions regarding the current CCCB bills/claims were explained and discussed. Motion by Hope to approve all presented claims, seconded by Darrell, all in favor. Motion carried.

#11. Adjournment

Darrell Frerichs, Secretary

Date