

Clay County Conservation Board

Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2020

The Clay County Conservation Board met at the Oneota Lodge, with a zoom meeting option, on November 9, 2020 at 5:30 PM. The following being present: Lee Schoenewe; Hope Bumgarner; Ron Creswell; Sheriffa Jones; Bree Blom, Naturalist; Burlin Mathews, B.O.S.; Kevin Maassen, Chief Ranger; and Will Horsley, Director.

#1. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 PM.

#2. Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the November 9, 2020 meeting agenda by Ron, seconded by Sheriffa, all in favor. Motion carried.

#3. Public Comments – NA

#4. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the October 12, 2020 meeting minutes by Sheriffa, seconded by Hope, all in favor. Motion carried.

#5. Director Report – The current FY revenue and expenditure reports were provided to the CCCB members. Updates were provided pertaining to current grant opportunities, park maintenance, wildlife habitat projects, wetland mitigation/tree planting efforts, wildlife food plots, FEMA, and upcoming community / district meetings.

#6. Naturalist Report – A verbal and written report was provided on current and upcoming educational classes, programs, and courses. There was discussion on the AmeriCorps program and the benefit of having a second Naturalist. Bree provided a report on her upcoming public programs and No School Camps.

Old Business:

#7. Oneota Environmental Learning Center – The monthly progress report was provided pertaining to this project. There was discussion on the OELC soil testing that was completed on November 5th. These services were provided by CTS Engineering and the test results will be available for the December meeting. There was discussion on the Oneota Playscape and current progress. A grant was secured through the CARES Act from Northwest Iowa Care Connections to support the next phase of the Playscape development. This playscape work should be finished by January 1st.

#8. Riverton Wildlife Area Addition – A report was provided on the donations/grants that are available to support the addition of these 35 acres. The Iowa Wildlife Habitat Stamp Grant will be submitted in November in the amount of \$51,000.00. If successful, the CCCB will be able to complete this 35-acre acquisition with additional support from the Clay County and Iowa State Pheasants Forever Chapters.

New Business:

#9. 2021 – 2022 FY Budget – A report was provided on the budgeting process for the upcoming fiscal year. There was discussion on employees, field/park operations, education, and administrative components to the FY budget. A tentative budget report will be composed and evaluated during the December CCCB meeting.

#10. Audit and Approval of Bills – The CCCB members reviewed current claims from 34 vendors. All questions regarding the current CCCB bills/claims were explained and discussed. Motion by Sheriffa to approve all presented claims, seconded by Ron, all in favor. Motion carried.

#11. Adjournment - Chairman Lee Schoenewe adjourned the meeting.

CCCB, Secretary

Date