

## Clay County Conservation Board

### Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2022

The Clay County Conservation Board met on March 21, 2022 at 5:30 PM at the Oneota Lodge with a Zoom Meeting option. The following participants being present: Lee Schoenewe; Ron Creswell; Hope Bumgarner; Sheriffa Jones, Burlin Mathews, B.O.S.; Kevin Maassen, Chief Ranger, Will Horsley, Director, and one public guest.

**#1. Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM.

**#2. Approval of Agenda** – Motion to approve the March 21, 2022 meeting agenda by Ron, seconded by Sheriffa, all in favor. Motion carried.

**#3. Public Comments** – NA

**#4. Approval of Minutes** – Motion to approve the February 14, 2022 meeting minutes by Sheriffa, seconded by Hope, all in favor. Motion carried.

**#5. Director Report** – A report was provided on the FY budget, FEMA/IHSEM project #4421, ISAC conference, district III meetings/training, Lost Island Park maintenance contract, Nelson tract cropping contract, Stub Johnson excavation, Summit Wildlife Area, and IDALS recertifications. There was discussion on the Kindlespire Complex hiking trails and bridge structures. It was suggested to contact a local vendor and research bridge construction options.

**#6. Naturalist Report** – A report was provided on the hiring process for the 2022 Naturalist Assistant. There was discussion on the importance of environmental education and how the local professional educators support the CCCB's environmental education programs.

#### **Old Business:**

**#7. Oneota Environmental Learning Center** – A report/update was provided on the OELC project. The CMBA fee proposal for continued services of phases #3 and #4 was discussed. There was discussion on the importance and legal requirement of having a certified architect hired to manage the final development, public bidding, and construction of the OELC project. Motion by Sheriffa to approve the CMBA fee proposal for phase #3 and phase #4 in the total amount of \$115,500.00, seconded by Hope, all in favor. Motion carried. A report was provided on the current OELC public awareness campaign and local fundraising efforts.

**#8. CCCB/IDNR Fish & Game Laws** – There was discussion on current and new IDNR laws, regulations, and rules as they pertain to hunting and fishing on CCCB areas. A review of the Iowa 350 codes, which govern the Iowa County Conservation Boards, were discussed. A meeting was held with IDNR Officer, Joe Yarkosky, to discuss the IDNR laws on CCCB areas on Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was suggested to consult the Clay County Attorney's office in order to get an official legal opinion on these state codes, regulations, and laws.

**New Business:**

**#9. Scharnberg Park Campground Expansion** - A report was provided on the 2021 campground operations, increased campground usage, and future expectations for the 2022 camping season. There was discussion on extending the campground to the east and utilizing approximately five acres to construct more campsites. A fiscal report was provided estimating the volume of future fiscal revenue the new campsites may provide. There was discussion on the importance of trees in the campground and it was suggested to plant trees asap in order to support a future campground expansion project. There was discussion on the SP lake and the Ocheyedan River.

**#10. Audit and Approval of Bills** – The CCCB members reviewed current claims from vendors and any/all questions were answered. Motion by Hope to approve all presented claims, seconded by Ron, all in favor. Motion carried.

**#11. Adjournment** – adjournment of the meeting.

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CCCB, Secretary

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Date