

O'Brien County Conservation Board  
July 22, 2021

The O'Brien County Conservation Board met in special session at the Prairie Heritage Center at 7:01 p.m. In attendance were: Kathy Luedke, Tom Konz, and Greg Burmakow.

Visitors from the community included Mary Hicks, Molly Hicks, Denise Steffen, Mari Radtke, Terry Feekes, Lynn Burmakow, Carolyn Bootsma, Dan Verrips and Patty Vollink.

Moved by Luedke, seconded by Burmakow to appoint Tom Konz as the chairperson pro tem. Motion carried, unanimous.

Moved by Burmakow, seconded by Luedke to approve the payment of claims for second quarter excise taxes. Motion carried, unanimous.

Moved by Burmakow, seconded by Luedke to hire Travis Scott as Conservation Board Director at a starting salary of \$65,000/year with a six-month review and the potential to be bumped to \$67,000/year. Motion carried, unanimous. Scott will begin his employment with the O'Brien County Conservation Board on August 9, 2021.

Moved by Luedke, seconded by Burmakow to hire Chris Van Beek as Conservation Technician at a starting salary of \$38,000/year with a six-month review and the potential to be bumped to \$40,000/year. Motion carried, unanimous. Van Beek began his employment with the O'Brien County Conservation Board on July 20, 2021.

Moved by Burmakow, seconded by Luedke to hire Joe Feekes as Conservation Technician at a starting salary of \$38,000/year with a six-month review and the potential to be bumped to \$40,000/year. Motion carried, unanimous. Feekes will begin his employment with the O'Brien County Conservation Board on August 2, 2021.

Moved by Luedke, seconded by Burmakow to allow the park ranger position to be filled at the discretion of the director with the approval of the board. Motion carried, unanimous.

Moved by Burmakow, seconded by Luedke to authorize the Chairman Pro Tem to sign an amended independent contractor agreement with Garrett Hunt which compensates Hunt at a rate of \$28.00/hour effective July 14, 2021. Motion carried, unanimous.

A discussion was held regarding the salary increases granted to Abbie Parker and Amber Wetherell at the regular session meeting held July 14, 2021. The \$1000.00/year raise granted to Abbie Parker on July 14, 2021 is to be in addition to the fiscal year 2022 raise of 3% that Parker was to receive on July 1, 2021. The \$1000.00/year raise granted to Amber Wetherell on July 14, 2021 is to be in addition to the fiscal year 2022 raise of 3% that Wetherell was to receive on July 1, 2021.

Moved by Burmakow, seconded by Luedke to approve the salary schedule effective July 1, 2021 as presented.

Moved by Luedke, seconded by Burmakow to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at the Prairie Heritage Center.

  
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