

O'Brien County Conservation Board
February 9, 2022

The O'Brien County Conservation Board met in regular session at the Prairie Heritage Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were: Jack Wallinga, Tom Konz, Dan Verrips, Greg Burmakow and Kathy Luedke.

57 Visitors were present

The Chairman read a prepared statement in regards to the management of the Hannibal Waterman Property.

The minutes from the January 12, 2022 meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Burmakow second by Wallinga. Motion carried, unanimous.

The Minutes from the January 20, 2022 meeting minutes were approved as presented on a motion by Luedke second by Burmakow. Motion carried, Unanimous.

Monthly expenditures were approved on a motion by Burmakow second by Verrips. Motion Carried, Unanimous

Visitors concerns with campground improvements were discussed

The short term/ Long term plan was briefly discussed.

The Management of the Hannibal Waterman Wildlife Area was discussed. Action was tabled to gain more information on a motion by Burmakow second by Verrips. Motion carried, Unanimous.

The potential for an increase in camping and cabin rates was discussed. Action was tabled until after the camping season on a motion by Verrips second by Burmakow. Motion carried, unanimous.

Adding tent sites to Dog Creek and Douma was approved, a \$10 rate was set on a motion by Verrips second by Luedke. Motion carried, unanimous.

A discussion was had about extending the camping season from April 15- Oct. 31 on a motion by Burmakow second by Verrips. Motion carried, Unanimous

A discussion was held about rules change regarding camping mats and dog tie outs. Motion to table by Verrips second by Burmakow. Motion carried, Unanimous

A discussion was had about approving comp time carry over for conservation. Motion to table by Burmakow second by Verrips. Motion carried, unanimous

\$2000/ year pay increase was approved for Chris Van Beek and Joe Feekes on a motion by Verrips second by Luedke. Motion carried, unanimous.

Approval of purchase of a security camera system for the Prairie Heritage Center for \$19,048 plus a microphone for the board room for \$762 on a motion by Luedke second by Wallinga. Motion carried, unanimous.

Approval of quote for basement wall repair at the Prairie Heritage Center for \$10,934 on a motion by Verrips second by Wallinga. Motion carried, unanimous.

Approval to purchase playground equipment for Dog Creek Park was approved. Piece 1 will be a Miracle brand playground from Boland Recreation for \$18, 478, the second piece will be a Burke Brand playground from ABcreation for \$16,306 on a motion by Luedke second by Wallinga. Motion carried, unanimous.

Motion to approve application for the Audubon Society \$1000 grant for habitat improvement around the Prairie Heritage center by Bermakow second by Wallinga. Motion carried, Unanimous.

Approve Expenditures to Retain Heidman Law Firm to Represent O'Brien County Conservation Board at the Rate of \$225.00 per Hour for Issues Relating to Employment Law on a motion by Luedke second by Burmakow. Motion carried, unanimous.

Moved by Burmokow, seconded by Verrips, to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. The next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at the Prairie Heritage Center.
