

O'BRIEN COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD
MINUTES

The O'Brien County Conservation Board met in regular session at the Prairie Heritage Center July 13, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. In attendance were: Tom Konz, Dan Verrips, Greg Burmakow, Jack Wallinga and Kathy Luedke.

17 visitors from the community were present.

The minutes from the June 8, 2022 7:00 pm meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Verrips, seconded by Luedke. Motion carried, unanimous.

The minutes from the June 27, 2022 7:00 pm meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Burmakow, seconded by Verrips. Motion carried, unanimous.

Monthly expenditures were approved on a motion by Wallinga, seconded by Burmakow. Motion carried, unanimous.

Short term/long term plan was discussed with a tri-fold handout being drafted showing information about conservation projects and land areas that can be presented to the public.

Douma Park property lines and land acquisition was discussed about the 38 acres that the Douma family is wanting to sell at a price of \$450,000. Outside funding will be needed to be obtained to purchase this land. Discussion of moving forward with the property purchase was held. Motion by Verrips, to move forward with a meeting with the O'Brien County Board of Supervisors to discuss the purchase of the Douma Property 38 acres, seconded by Wallinga. Motion carried, unanimous.

Recreational Rental Contract Mill Creek has been signed by Paullina Hardware Store-Eric Brown. Payment has been made for a \$50 rental fee and a \$20 per month electricity.

Comp time for employees discussed. Motion by Verrips to keep the policy the same with no changes and revisit in a few months, seconded by Burmakow. Motion carried, unanimous.

O'Brien County Conservation Logo Design presented three options from Kramer Design. Discussion was held about when the logo is printed that it have reflective properties to be seen better at night when on the vehicles. New materials will be ordered including uniforms, signs and business cards. Motion by Wallinga, to use option A3 revised as the new conservation logo, seconded by Burmakow. Motion carried, unanimous.

Approve quarterly report as presented motion by Luedke, seconded by Burmakow. Motion carried, unanimous.

Employee raises discussed and presented a motion by Luedke, that Travis Scott, Mark Wilson, Sarah Fiddelke, Joe Feekes and Chris Van Beek all receive 3% raise effective July 1, seconded by Verrips. Motion carried, unanimous.

Discussion of UTV rule changes that have gone into effect for the State of Iowa. Increased signs at county parks and strict enforcement of the rules by rangers. A motion to adopt the same policy as the

county to allow registered ATV/UTVs operated by licensed adult, on park roads was made by, Burmakow, seconded by Verrips. Motion carried, unanimous.

Motion by Luedke, seconded by Wallinga that the Paullina Library Storybook Walk will stay with the initial plan of signs posted from Dollar General in Paullina along the paved pathway to just inside the park grounds by the lodge. Motion carried, unanimous.

NWTF Grant will be applied for a 50% match of funds that will be used to purchase a brush trimmer or grapple attachment. Motion by Verrips to apply for the grant, seconded by Burmakow. Motion carried, unanimous.

Discussion of horse trails at McCormack Natural Resource Area. McCormack is part of a remnant prairie that's value should be ranked higher and needs more protection. Motion by Verrips to restrict use on the McCormack Natural Resource area to foot traffic only, seconded by Luedke. Motion carried, unanimous.

Adjourn at 8:48pm on a motion by Wallinga, second by Verrips.