

# Quarterly Report



**April 1 2023-  
July 1, 2023**

## ***Environmental Education***

- OCCB received a Siouxland Community Foundation Grant for \$7000 that is benefiting the beach rental shack at Mill Creek Park. This face-lift will include new concrete, windows, door, roof, and siding and add a foot wash station.
- Homeschool nature programs were held monthly and covered various topics. They will resume in September with a 9:30am and 1:30pm times offered for each session.
- Library programs were held at Paulina, Sutherland, Sheldon, Primghar and Sanborn Libraries.
- Community Memorial Health Center in Hartley and Prairie view in Sanborn hosted programs.
- Several evening programs were held in the parks and at the Prairie Heritage Center. These programs included egg hunt, birds, earth day and building better birders program.
- School visits included topics such as reptiles, amphibians, wildflowers, birds, critters and science.
- Staff has been working to refresh the basement exhibits. Currently featuring Prairie flowers and plants, life in the prairie and what settlers wore and used.
- Naturalist Lindsey Kleinhesselink started on March 27, 2023.
- Multiple field trips were hosted at Mill Creek that included paddling, fishing, hiking, and pond/wetland study topics.
- Program attendance was 1,852

## ***Parks & Recreation***

- Douma, Dog Creek and Mill Campgrounds were opened in mid - April.
- Tjossem opened in late June after significant renovations including; addition of four camping sites and making all 10 sites full hook up sites with water, septic, and electricity. Work continues to improve the functionality of the park.
- Staff is working to develop management plans for every conservation managed area.
- Two new memorial picnic tables have been installed in front of Mill Creek Concessions. There is one more on order scheduled for pick up in July.
- Around 100 dead or dying ash trees were removed from Mill Creek Park and campground.
- Staff planted about 25 trees around Mill Creek Park with Sheldon and South O'Brien FFA groups.
- Staff has been mowing brush and cutting trees to manage invasive species in OCCB managed wildlife areas and parks.
- Staff continues to clean up behind the Mill Creek shop, creating more usable space.
- Staff have repaired stretches of boundary fence at Dog Creek Park.
- Additional gravel was added to the park roads at Dog Creek, Mill Creek and Tjossem. More is needed.
- Gravel was added to the Dog Creek – South Campground pads. More is needed.
- A new playground was installed at Mill Creek
- A new playground is under construction at Dog Creek
- Leo Sells and Hudson Oolman started on May 22
- Travis Scott's last day was May 24
- Luke Davison started on May 30
- Routine park maintenance and repairs has kept all staff busy; mowing, string trimming, trash cleanup, cabin cleaning, and spraying weeds.
- Revenue from this quarter was: \$103,087.81

## ***Law Enforcement***

- Wilson conducted a ride – a – long with a DNR Conservation Officer in early spring
- Met with Sheriff and Chief Deputy to discuss law enforcement topics and best practices moving forward to ensure law enforcement coverage in the County Conservation system.
- Login and credentials were created for the online – e-filing system for citations and reports
- Communicates daily with O’Brien County Communications Center to relay service status
- Communicates weekly with O’Brien County Communications Center to relay OCCB on-call rotation status
- Issued verbal warnings for: speeding, parking, UTV’s, fireworks, and quiet hours.
- Responded to multiple fish and game calls: injured turtle, injured deer, injured goose; issued warning and forced release of undersize fish; checked fishing licenses requirement on multiple parties
- Responded to call for service and conducted a child abuse investigation – reported to DHS
- Responded to call for service for disorderly conduct and public intoxication investigation – situation de-escalated and resolved
- Responded to call for service for minors harassing wildlife – minors released to parents
- Resolved multiple camping registration issues
- Conducted traffic control with assistance from Paullina PD and O’Brien County SO after fireworks at Mill Creek