

**Harrison County Conservation Board
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 7, 2022
Willow Lake Headquarters**

The Harrison County Conservation Board (HCCB) held its regular March meeting on Monday, March 7, 2022 at the Willow Lake Headquarters. President Kris Pauley called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Those members present were Nate Epperson and Danelle Myer. Also present was Director Scott Nelson.

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Bills, and Minutes, along with the February 7th Special Meeting Minutes, was made by Myer, second by Epperson. Motion carried.

There were no Public Comments.

Nelson gave the following Updates:

1. Nelson has been working on different salary variations of the budget as directed by the Supervisors.
2. The Supervisors did agree to the protection of the Trust Fund and signed the Resolution with a sunset of 2030.
3. Forest Reserved inspections were completed for the Assessors Department.
4. All HCCB staff participated in the recertification of CPR and First Aid at the Welcome Center.
5. Upcoming Events:
 - a. Nelson will be attending ISAC
 - b. Boyer Valley Pheasants Forever banquet is on March 19th in Woodbine
 - c. Department Park Rangers will be attending the Spring Workshop later in March
 - d. Staff will be participating in the Cooperative Burn Week in early April
 - e. Parks open on April 1st
 - f. Willow Lake Outdoor Days is on Saturday, April 2nd

The Board reviewed Pay Application #6, in the amount of \$150,581.00, for the Willow Lake Nature Center construction project. The majority of this is for steel, labor, foundation/footings, and stored materials. A motion to accept Pay Application #6 was made by Myer, second by Epperson. Motion carried.

Nelson informed the Board that progress is moving forward, but weather is still a factor. The remaining foundation walls have been formed along with the west wall footings. Vertical structural steel is beginning to be erected. The parking lot is being used for laying out the 3 shipments of steel. Naturalist Betts has been working with McCullough Creative on the design and layout of the exhibits and displays.

The Board reviewed Resolution 2022-4 for consideration. Woodbine Main Street and the HCCB would like to co-write an Iowa Great Places grant application, which is due on May 2nd, and notification on June 30th. If successful, this designation would then allow for the project to apply for specific grant opportunities. After discussion, a motion to accept Resolution 2022-4 was made by Epperson, second by Myer. Motion carried.

Summer Intern applications were solicited and reviewed by Ranger Weis, Technician Quick, and Natural Resource Manager Pothast. A total of 6 application were received and 4 were interviewed.

Recommendations for hire:

- Jarrett Armstrong. Freshman at SDSU and studying for Conservation Officer. From LoMa.
- Mallory Sobkowich. Freshman at Central in Pella. Studying for the Conservation Field. From Illinois.
- Brock Leaders. Sophomore at University of Iowa. Studying for the Conservation Field. From Woodbine.

Jarrett and Mallory will be started at \$11.50/hour with a one-month probation period. If successful, then bump to \$12/hour.

Brock is returning from last year, so his wage will be \$12.50/hour with one-month probation period. If successful, then bump to \$13/hour.

A motion to approve the hiring of the above individuals for the 2022 seasonal intern positions was made by Myer, second by Epperson. Motion carried.

Department Reports were reviewed.

In Other/Future Business: the next meeting will be on Monday, April 4. Nelson also inquired on the possibility of a Board Field Trip this summer. Myer also shared information about Strategic Planning.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm was made by Myer.

Kris Pauley, President

Danelle Myer, Vice-President

Kimberly Nunez, Secretary