

**Dallas County Conservation Board
Regular Monthly Meeting
May 10, 2016**

Call to Order

The Dallas County Conservation Board meeting was called to order on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Forest Park Museum Administration Building in Perry, Iowa by board chair Mark Powell.

Roll Call

Present were board members Mark Powell, and Jim Miller. Board member Nancy DeLong joined via teleconference. Director Mike Wallace and administrative assistant Sherry James were also in attendance.

Guests

Todd Reynolds was present.

Agenda

Action: Jim Miller moved and Nancy DeLong seconded to approve the agenda as presented. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

Open Forum

There was nothing presented.

Consent Agenda

Action: Jim Miller moved and Nancy DeLong seconded to approve the consent agenda items including the April income/expenditure report and the monthly staff reports. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

April 12, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Action: A motion was made by Nancy DeLong and seconded by Jim Miller to approve the amended April 12, 2016 board meeting minutes as written. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

Request to Change Farm Rental Agreement Date for Use of Pasture – Director Wallace reported that one of the farm tenants had requested to change dates on the agreement to allow longer grazing season for the pasture. Todd Reynolds presented to the board and explained that the pasture was mostly fescue grass and needed earlier grazing. He requested to move the May 23 date to May 1 and the September 1st date to September 15th.

Action: Jim Miller moved and Nancy DeLong seconded to amend Todd Reynolds’ farm agreement to change the dates to May 1st to September 15th. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

Movie at Forest Park Museum – Director Wallace reported that David Whitney is filming a Star Trek movie and has requested to film part of the movie in the Forest Park Museum near the Henry Nelson Dynamo Generator.

Action: Mark Powell moved and Nancy DeLong seconded to deny the request to Mr. Whitney to film at the Forest Park Museum. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

USDA Grant Support Resolution – Director Wallace reiterated a request from Butch Niebuhr for a Resolution letter of support for the City of Perry to apply for a small USDA Grant for planning purposes.

Action: Jim Miller moved and Nancy DeLong seconded to approve the USDA Grant Support Resolution as written. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

FEMA Bids Process and Documents – Director Wallace reported FEMA bids would be accepted for removing debris from last summer’s storm on the bridge west of Perry and the Panther Creek Bridge west of Adel. The deadline for bids is May 26th at 9:00 A.M.

It was the consensus of the board to schedule a special board meeting on Thursday, May 26 at 10:00 A.M. to review/award the bid.

Street Light at 18th Street Trailhead Parking Lot in Adel – Director Wallace reported a concerned citizen in Adel contacted him reporting inappropriate behavior at the parking lot location on the west side of Adel near the trail. She requested to have a security light installed. Director Wallace contacted the Adel Chief of Police and he did not know of this issue. It was the consensus of the board to wait for further information from the City of Adel.

ISU Trail Study – Director Wallace reported that the study committee had reviewed the draft questions from the ISU survey group and made some suggestions.

Action: Nancy DeLong moved and Jim Miller seconded to accept the survey as prepared by ISU and move forward with the survey process. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

Tyson Request to Relocate a Section of the RRVT - Director Wallace reported that the Plant Manager from Perry Tyson Fresh Meats contacted him requesting to relocate a section of the RRVT due to their expansion of the Plant. He acknowledged that the expenses to relocate the trail would be the responsibility of Tyson. There was board discussion regarding Snyder and Associates be the engineer to assist Tyson with this design of the relocation of the trail and it be required that it would be a paved trail; discussion of requesting trees and shrubs as a barrier; and a conversation regarding the trucks parking on the county’s unimproved parking lot.

Action: Jim Miller moved and Mark Powell seconded to request that Director Wallace proceed with discussions with Tyson Fresh Meats regarding relocating a section of the trail. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

RRVT to HTT Connector Project – Director Wallace reported that he continues to negotiate with the current land owners. There was a support group meeting with some potential financial donors regarding keeping the momentum moving for the connector project.

Paved Crossing Project – Director Wallace reviewed the DOT bid process for the identified paved crossings. He reminded the board of the base bid to include three crossings with other crossings to be listed as alternates. Director Wallace reported that the combination funding of the donations, REAP and both grants would allow the opportunity to get all of the crossings completed this year if the maximum amount was increased. CIRTPA recently made the second grant available this fiscal year.

Action: Jim Miller moved and Mark Powell seconded to increase the maximum amount for the project to \$198,315. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

Private Access Trails Along the RRVT - Director Wallace reported that Lorinda Inman had brought an issue to his attention regarding private access trails along the RRVT. The board was concerned about safety issues with this type of access trail and reported it is the county's responsibility to trim and maintain the trail. It was the consensus of the board to request that Director Wallace/staff visit with the property owner that has limestone chip put on the private access.

Big Bend Wildlife Area Acquisition – Director Wallace reported there is a piece of property for sale that is 400 acres of high quality habitat that are in smaller parcels. The current owner has contacted the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation regarding his desire to sell the property. It was the consensus of the board that Director Wallace has a conversation with Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation regarding these parcels.

Trail Crossing Easement for Tony York – Director Wallace reported there is nothing new to report on the requested trail crossing easement near Panther Creek Bridge west of Adel; just waiting on additional information.

Budget – Director Wallace reported there was nothing new to report.

Other Business

Nothing.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss at this time, Jim Miller moved and Mark Powell seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 P.M.

Mark Powell, Chairperson

Date

Sherry James, DCCB Staff

Date