

October 11, 2023
Jester Park Nature Center
12130 NW 128th St Granger, IA 50109
5:30 PM – PCC Board Meeting

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Polk County Conservation Board met in person for regular session Wednesday, October 11, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

#23-1001 **Roll Call**
Members Present: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer (Arrived 5:50 PM), Cataldo, Crane**
Members Absent:

#23-1002 **Public Comments**

#23-1003 **New Employee Introduction**
a. **Jeremy Bassett – Park Ranger (Easter Lake)**

#23-1004 **Financial Reports/Budgeting Presentation- Deb Anderson**

#23-1005 **MOVED BY Mollenhauer to approve the September 13, 2023 meeting minutes.**
SECONDED BY Crane
Vote Yea: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo, Crane**
Members Absent:

CONSENT AGENDA

#23-1006 **Approving** bill list.

#23-1007 **Awarding** the contract for Vegetation and Debris Removals in the Fourmile Creek Greenway to Central Tree Pros. in a contract amount of \$76,000.00 plus a 10% contingency.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by **Lewis** to approve the consent agenda.

SECONDED BY Mollenhauer

Vote Yea: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo, Crane**

Members Absent:

ACTION ITEMS

#23-1008 **Approving** the formal quote for the septic tank replacement at the Jester Park Golf Course to Septics and More Inc., for \$51,850 plus a 10% contingency.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by **Crane** to approve Action Item 23-1008.

SECONDED BY Cataldo

Vote Yea: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo, Crane**

Members Absent:

#23-1009 **Approving** contract with Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig for engineering/design services for the Buttonbush wetland improvements at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt in the amount of \$125,628.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Crane to approve Action Item 23-1009.

SECONDED BY Cataldo

Vote Yea: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo, Crane**

Members Absent:

#23-1010 **Approving** an Easter Lake North Shore change order for the Rowing Building sprinkler system plumbing and electrical work in an amount not to exceed \$128,930.00.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Cataldo to approve Action Item 23-1010.

SECONDED BY Crane

Vote Yea: **Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo, Crane**

Vote No: **Lewis**

Members Absent:

#23-1011 **Review and approve** proposal guidelines for partnership with Sandy Creek Partners for the Trails End Mitigation Bank Phase 2 and Ziel Mitigation Bank and authorize staff to negotiate transfer of stream credits generated from the Ziel and Trails End Phase 2 mitigation banks with Sandy Creek Partners, using the attached proposal as an initial point of negotiation, with the understanding that any final negotiated agreement will require approval at a future Board meeting.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Mollenhauer to ~~approve~~ move forward with Action Item 23-1011.

SECONDED BY Lewis

Vote Yea: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo**

Members Absent: **Crane (departed 6:45 PM)**

BOARD DISCUSSION

Director Remarks –

PCC was awarded a \$400,000 Trails Grant from the DOT to be applied towards the Mountain Bike Park thanks to Adam Fendrick's efforts – great job Adam!

Trestle to Trestle Trail – the City of Des Moines owns land outside of the city boundary that involves the Trestle to Trestle trail and PCC owns land that goes into the city boundary with the trail – a land swap has been proposed as a result of the expiration of the 20 year lease. PCC is willing to proceed with the land swap and will be working through the land management/mowing/snow removal implications with this land swap over the next year or two.

November PCC Board Meeting Presentations:

Two Rivers Park – Kami and Rich met with the MidAmerican committee last week and MidAmerican Energy has postponed their presentation until the November Board Meeting to facilitate meetings with PCC staff.

Adam Fendrick will be presenting the Mountain Bike Park bike trails plan.

Sustainability Committee/Blue Dot presentation – Blue Dot (sustainability consultant company hired by PCC) has created a plan to achieve PCC Sustainability goals and will be sharing this presentation at the November PCC Board Meeting.

Nature Summit – 11-16 thru 11-17-23 – Drake University – all PCC Board Members are welcome to attend – please let Rich or Kami know if you’d like to attend and PCC will make arrangements to pay for registration.

PCC Board Member Text Notification System - the GroupMe application will be used to create a text notification chain that will be used to notify PCC Board Members and PCC staff of current and upcoming events/points of interest/attendance reminders. The text will come through with a strange phone number – once you identify that it is the PCC Board Member notification text, please save the phone number in your cell phone Contacts and title the entry: “PCC Board Notifications” in the First Name field. All future texts will then appear in your caller ID as “PCC Board Notifications” when they come through.

Brenton Slough Property – INHF is currently fundraising and fostering partnerships – Rich has created a visioning document with the help of Doug Sheeley/NR staff/Jessica Lown that will be used in Grant Applications and fundraising efforts.

Deputy Director Remarks – the Jester Park Nature Center Terrace Conversion Project will be opening bids in November, to move forward with construction.

Board & Chair Remarks –

Lewis – who is sending out the Nature Summit materials to us? – Rich committed to emailing them to PCC Board Members.

Altringer – thanks to all involved PCC staff for hosting Jill and Ryan Crane on a horseback ride on the JPEC trails! Jill returned with her daughter for another great horseback ride a week later!

Lewis – thanks to Jessica Lown/Doug Sheeley for the wonderful Brenton Slough tour! It was so informative and brought into better focus the immensity of the land acquisition.

Mollenhauer – love the Staff reports! On a national level PCC’s volunteer hours are calculated at \$31.80 - a savings of around \$50,000 for last month! Love to see the corporate engagement within the Volunteering Department! Lunch ‘N’ Learn on 10-25-23 – what time is that? – Lown replied that the Lunch ‘N’ Learn events are always at noon.

MOTION: Moved by Altringer to end open session 7:04 PM.

No roll call taken.

MOTION: Moved by Altringer, to go back into open session 7:09 PM.

VOTE YEA: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo**
Members Absent: **Crane**

The Board returned to open session.

CLOSED SESSION
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Polk County Conservation Board met in closed session Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 7:10 PM.

MOTION:

#23-1012 **MOVED BY Cataldo** to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(j) to discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property or reduce the price the governmental body would receive for that property.
SECONDED BY Mollenhauer

VOTE YEA: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo**
Members Absent: **Crane**

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo, Leopold, Rankin, Clark, Cook, Sheeley, Stoklasa, McFarlane**

MOTION: Moved by Mollenhauer, Seconded by Cataldo to go back into open session.

VOTE YEA: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo**
Members Absent: **Crane**

The Board returned to open session.
There was no action taken during closed session.

MOTION: Moved by Altringer to adjourn.

VOTE YEA: **Lewis, Altringer, Mollenhauer, Cataldo**
Members Absent: **Crane**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD AND WITH NO OBJECTIONS, THIS MEETING IS ADJOURNED.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.