

Polk County Conservation Board
4:30 p.m. – Sleepy Hollow Sports Park Tour
5:30 p.m. – Pizza
6:00 p.m. – PCC Board Meeting
4051 Dean Ave, Des Moines, IA 50317

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Polk County Conservation Board met in person for regular session Wednesday, June 8, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

- #22-0601 **Roll Call**
Members Present: **Lewis, Mollenhauer, Altringer, Cataldo (Zoom)**
Members Absent: **Crane**
- #22-0602 **Public Comments**
- #22-0603 **ICON Letter of Support Presentation-GOF**
- #22-0604 **Financial Reports**
- #22-0605 **MOVED BY Altringer** to approve the May 11, 2022 meeting minutes.
Vote Yea: **Mollenhauer, Lewis, Altringer, Cataldo (Zoom)**
Members Absent: **Crane**

CONSENT AGENDA

- #22-0606 **Approving** bill list.
- #22-0607 **Approving** the purchase and installation of two automatic sliding gates at both entrances to Easter Lake Park for a total cost not to exceed \$36,195 to American Fence Company.
- #22-0608 **Approving** the nomination to appoint Dayna Chandler to serve on the Trails and Greenways (TAG) Advisory Committee on behalf of Polk County Conservation for a two-year term.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by **Altringer** to approve the consent agenda.
Vote Yea: **Mollenhauer, Cataldo (Zoom), Lewis, Altringer**
Members Absent: **Crane**

ACTION ITEMS

- #22-0609 **Approving** a PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) with Red Lion Renewables, LLC for a 25-year service agreement to install a solar system in eleven

locations across the parks system.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Mollenhauer to approve Action Item 22-0609.

Vote Yea: **Cataldo (Zoom), Mollenhauer, Lewis, Altringer**

Members Absent: **Crane**

#22-0610 **Approving** the Destination Iowa grant application for the Copper Creek Mountain Bike Park project and providing documentation of 60% matching funds from Polk County Conservation and other funding sources.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Altringer to approve Action Item 22-0610.

Vote Yea: **Mollenhauer, Cataldo (Zoom), Lewis, Altringer**

Members Absent: **Crane**

#22-0611 **Approving** a State Recreational Trails Grant application for the Copper Creek Mountain Bike Park project and provide 25% matching funds from Polk County Conservation and other funding sources.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Altringer to approve Action Item 22-0611.

Vote Yea: **Mollenhauer, Lewis, Cataldo (Zoom), Altringer**

Members Absent: **Crane**

#22-0612 **Approving** the Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) grant application for the Copper Creek Mountain Bike Park project and providing documentation of 80% matching funds from Polk County Conservation and other funding sources.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Altringer to approve Action Item 22-0612.

Vote Yea: **Mollenhauer, Lewis, Cataldo (Zoom), Altringer**

Members Absent: **Crane**

BOARD DISCUSSION

Director's Remarks –

Next month is at the Trestle To Trestle Trail Bridge on the south side of Johnston at Beaver Creek. Two other things that will be presented at the next meeting:

1. PCC Org Chart
2. Acquisition Strategy

We've had staff meetings and ranked acquisitions – I would now like to present final decisions on acquisition prioritization.

Field Trips: did one at 4 Mile Greenway a couple weeks ago with Hockensmith, Gatto, Ben Page, Westerhoff

Would like to do a field trip for PCC Board Members – let's set some up soon.

Lewis – would like one at Trail's End mitigation site – thanks to Doug Sheeley to explaining that the Muchakinock creek area belongs to Altoona!

Rich – what day of the week would work best?

Pam – beginning of week is bad – Thur/Fri is better

Jill – what month?

Rich – early fall

Jill – let's do the trips after Aug 23 (after kids are back in school)

Rich – we would like to invite BOS and city council members along with PCC Board Members
Suggested destinations: 4 Mile Greenway, Trails End, something on the West Side like Brenton Slough

Jill – one question – where are we at with Easter Lake?

Kami – \$5.3 Million raised ytd, waiting on Destination IA grant response. If we get what we ask we will be over 8 million which will cover the total project cost plus provide a surplus of funding. The last official meeting of the ELNS Campaign Leadership/Advisory Team is in July but many are saying we could continue fundraising for programming dollars and would be willing to attend future meetings to do this. Timeline is late Oct or early Nov 2023 to break ground. Completion Date/Grand Opening would be April/May 2024. Construction would be complete in Dec 2023.

Rich – programming is incumbent on us for the Easter Lake Project. Kami and Rich have cut a million dollars from this project but have not touched the mission involving universal design, accessibility, and the overall goal of the project.

Lewis – there are some heavy hitters on your team!

Board & Chair Remarks -

Greg Lewis – would really like to thank Cassie Cook and Amanda Brown on their presentation to the Isaac Walton League – it was an excellent presentation showing the progression of what PCC has done at Walnut Woods. Mike Delaney and others were impressed with PCC's performance and results.

Also, thanks to Director Leopold and Doug Sheeley for their support regarding Copper Creek Mountain Bike Park. Several residents have been upset about the large dirt pile (storage location until DOT can transport off site). There have been concerns about a specific rare orchid that a resident has testified to identifying in the area. A resident complained about a tree that fell on her property (after site survey it was determined to be on her property) but it has been removed as of today. Copper Creek Mountain Bike Park is a beautiful site that needs cleaning up and even though residents are complaining, Doug Sheeley and other PCC staff who have addressed the residential complaints deserve a big thank you!

CLOSED SESSION

#22-0613 Moved by **Altringer** 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.

Vote Yea: **Cataldo (Zoom), Mollenhauer, Altringer, Lewis**

Members Absent: **Crane**

Closed Session Roll Call: Katie Stoklasa, Rich Leopold, Kami Rankin, Cassie Cook, Doug Sheeley, Greg Lewis, Jill Altringer, Natalie McFarlane, Pam Mollenhauer, Jessica Lown, Jim Cataldo (Zoom)

Action on closed session:

Moved by Altringer to return to open session.

Vote Yea: **Lewis, Cataldo (Zoom), Mollenhauer, Altringer**

Members Absent: **Crane**

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

Meeting adjourned at **7:16** p.m.