

Polk County Conservation Board
5:30 p.m. – **Join Zoom Meeting**
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Meeting ID: **443 275 6020**

-OR-

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Polk County Conservation Board met via Zoom Meeting for regular session on Wednesday, January 13, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

- #21-0101 Roll Call
Members Present: Crane, Cataldo, Altringer, Mollenhauer (5:41 pm)
Members Absent:
- #21-0102 Public Comments
- #21-0103 Employee Introductions
 o Shae Rossetti – FT Community Outreach Coordinator
- #21-0104 Financial Reports
- #21-0105 **MOVED BY Cataldo**, to approve the December 9, 2020 meeting minutes.
Vote Yea: Crane, Cataldo, Altringer, Mollenhauer
Members Absent:
- #21-0106 FY 21/22 Budget Presentation
- #21-0107 Bond Funding Update

CONSENT AGENDA

- #21-0108 **Approving** bill list.
- #21-0109 **Approving** multiple maintenance/operation agreements for operations of the Lauridsen Skatepark - \$85,340.00 estimate.
- #21-0110 **Approving** Professional Service Agreement for preliminary design/engineering for a trail connection between Polk City and the High Trestle Trail with Snyder & Associates in an amount of \$35,500.00, if Polk City agrees to reimburse Polk County Conservation 50% of contract costs (\$17,500.00).
- #21-0111 **Approving** funding commitment for the replacement of the Trestle-to-Trestle bridge over Beaver Creek from partner cost-share contributions and a minimum 20-year maintenance period.
- #21-0112 **Approving** contract award to JEO Consulting Group for design/engineering services for the Chichaqua Drainage Study within the Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt in the amount of \$50,000.

- #21-0113 **Ratifying** Board's electronic vote approving renovation work at the Easter Lake Park Ranger residence for a total cost not to exceed \$70,000, waiving of the Board's procurement approval and authorizing staff to complete the repairs.
- #21-0114 **Approving** revisions of the Polk County Conservation Board Administrative Manual to address pay differential for Conservation Laborers with Certified Pesticide Applicators Licenses.
- #21-0115 **Authorizing** the Director or his designee the authority to approve a construction contract upon receiving of quotes within the approved budget, not to exceed \$44,000.00 for the Skunk River bridge guardrail repair along the Chichaqua Valley Trail.
- #21-0116 **Approving** payment to Lyle Sumek & Associates LLC in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for strategic planning services.
- #21-0117 **Approving** recommendation to the Polk County Board of Supervisors to grant a temporary easement to the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) as part of the improvements to State Highway 28 bridge over the Raccoon River on land known as Brown's Woods.
- #21-0117A **Approving** agreements to finish the mezzanine office area at the Natural Resources facility at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt to aid in separating staff due to COVID. - \$45,519.31

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

Vote Yea: Crane, Cataldo, Altringer, Mollenhauer

Members Absent:

ACTION ITEMS

- #21-0118 **Approving** revisions of the Polk County Conservation Board Bylaws and place on the February Board meeting for adoption, action requires two affirmative votes.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by **Cataldo** to approve Action Item 21-0118.

Vote Yea: Cataldo, Crane, Mollenhauer, Altringer

Members Absent:

- #21-0119 **Approving** Vehicle and Equipment Replacement program for FY21/22 and authorizing staff to acquire said vehicles and equipment upon Board of Supervisors FY21/22 budget approval and reallocate any proceeds from sales to support equipment needs. (Approved pending change to Landpride Mower cost typo from \$45,000 to \$17,500.)

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by **Mollenhauer** to approve Action Item 21-0119.

Vote Yea: Crane, Mollenhauer, Cataldo, Altringer

Members Absent:

- #21-0120 **Approving** additional funds for the Trails End Mitigation Bank Phase I - Stream Restoration project in an amount of \$750,000 for a project total not to exceed \$1,686,387.00.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Altringer to approve Action Item 21-0120.

Vote Yea: Altringer, Cataldo, Crane, Mollenhauer

Members Absent:

BOARD DISCUSSION

Director's Remarks

- The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is doing a regional trail strategic planning process to facilitate regional coordinator of the trail system.
- Northwoods of Copper Creek land – PCC Parks Planner Adam Fendrick and FT Community Outreach Coordinator Shae Rossetti are collaborating with a designer on a single track bike trail design on this property.
- Trestle to Trestle Bridge replacement – PCC is working with an engineer at Polk County Public Works but trail letting won't occur until July 2021 – as a result, bridge construction probably won't be completed until 2022.
- PCC's Nature Pass Program – this low-income household program offers reduced rates on PCC's services and programs – 23 families utilized the program in 2020 – the Great Outdoors Foundation reimburses PCC for income loss due to the reduced rates.
- Feasibility study on new Bond – PCC is collaborating with the Trust for Public Lands, the Nature Conservancy, the Great Outdoors Foundation, and a few advisors in moving forward with a feasibility study for a new Bond. On Tuesday, 1-12-21, the Polk County Board of Supervisors voted 5 Yea – 0 No to proceed with the feasibility study.
- Rich will continue to inquire about possible candidates who could fill former PCC Board Member Lance Northway's vacant seat.

Board & Chair Remarks

Crane – thanks to Rich for the update on progress with the new Bond!

CLOSED SESSION

#21-0121 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.

Vote Yea: Mollenhauer, Cataldo, Crane

Members Absent: Altringer

Closed Session Attendees/Roll Call: Doug Sheeley, Katie Stoklasa, Rich Leopold, Jim Cataldo, Pam Mollenhauer, Ryan Crane, Cassie Cook, Doug Romig, Kate Clark, Natalie McFarlane

Action on closed session:

Moved by _Mollenhauer_ to return to open session.
Vote Yea: Mollenhauer, Cataldo, Crane
Members Absent: Altringer

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at **_7:00_** p.m.