

January 11, 2023
Polk County Administration Bldg., Room 120
111 Court Ave., Des Moines, IA
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, January 11, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

- #23-0101 **Roll Call**
Members Present: **Lewis, Mollenhauer (Zoom), Crane, Altringer, Cataldo**
Members Absent:
- #23-0102 **Public Comments**
- #23-0103 **New Employee Introduction**
a. **Hailey Christoph – Assistant Naturalist**
- #23-0104 **Financial Reports**
- #23-0105 **MOVED BY Cataldo to approve the December 14, 2022 meeting minutes.**
SECONDED BY Lewis.
Vote Yea: **Lewis, Mollenhauer (Zoom), Crane, Altringer, Cataldo**
Members Absent:

CONSENT AGENDA

- #23-0106 **Approving** bill list.
- #23-0107 **Approving** update to the Polk County Conservation Board's Bylaws – second vote.
- #23-0108 **Approving** amendment to contract with JEO Consulting Group, Inc for engineering/design services for a floodplain restoration project at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt and additional funds in the amount of \$2,500.
- #23-0109 ***Approving the Polk County Conservation Public Art Committee's choice of original artwork on the north shore of Easter Lake Park in recognition of former Deputy Director, Doug Romig's inspirational vision of an all-inclusive outdoor space as part of the Athene North Shore Recreation Area project. Moved to Action Items for discussion.***
- #23-0110 **Approving** the Polk County Conservation Public Art Committee's recommendation for the 2023 Rotating Sculpture Program at Jester Park called "Long Distance".
- #23-0111 **Accepting** the highest bids for Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt crop ground rental for the 2023 cropping season and authorizing the Chair, or their designee, to sign the leases.

#23-0112 **Awarding** lowest contractor bid for hazard tree removals in Polk County Conservation parks to Xtreme Tree in a contract amount of \$61,823, plus a 10% contingency.

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

SECONDED BY Cataldo.

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

Vote No: **Lewis**

Members Absent:

ACTION ITEMS

#23-0109 **Approving** the Polk County Conservation Public Art Committee's choice of original artwork on the north shore of Easter Lake Park in recognition of former Deputy Director, Doug Romig's inspirational vision of an all-inclusive outdoor space as part of the Athene North Shore Recreation Area project.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Crane to approve Action Item 23-0109.

SECONDED BY Cataldo.

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

Vote No: **Lewis**

Members Absent:

#23-0113 **Approving** the Professional Service Agreement with Bolton & Menk for design/engineering services for the Lauridsen Skatepark Parking Lot in the contract amount of \$135,000.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Crane to approve Action Item 23-0113.

SECONDED BY Lewis.

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

Members Absent:

#23-0114 **Approving** the Purchase Agreement with Eric and Carol Ziel to purchase 42.03 acres of property near Alleman, Iowa, for an amount of \$368,281.57, plus closing costs.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Cataldo to approve Action Item 23-0114.

SECONDED BY Lewis.

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

Members Absent:

#23-0115 **Approving** Professional Service Agreement with Foth for Design/Engineering Services for the Trails End Mitigation Bank Phase II in the contract amount of \$74,900.

LET THE RECORD SHOW it was moved by Lewis to approve Action Item 23-0115.

SECONDED BY Crane.

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

Members Absent:

BOARD DISCUSSION

Director Remarks

Chairperson Altringer and Director Leopold will come up with a dozen topics to help the PCC Board better understand the budget, financials, and accounting processes currently in place. Athene North Shore at Easter Lake – PCC has been working closely with Hansen Construction and Shive Hattery on the bid package and have identified \$1,500,000 in project cut-backs without damaging the functionality and Universal design aspects, and another \$500,000 in cut-backs that would have operational repercussions but could also be done if needed. By the end of January we will have the design engineering revisions done. The Board will be asked to approve in March. PCC anticipates costs will be over \$8,100,000 with the additional design and engineering revisions – could potentially range around \$8,400,000 to \$8,600,000. PCC has put in \$400,000 but could cover any gap with 2022 bond funds. These design figures are much more solid than the last estimate. We are hopeful we will get more reasonable bids this next go around.

Altringer – let's wait to see how the bids come back and then we can make decisions on any additional cut-backs. Board Retreat – 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Friday, 2-24-23 – order lunch – at JPNC Boardroom

Board & Chair Remarks –

Chairperson Altringer: has two goals – implement Robert's Rules of Order and focus on the Budget in more detail – any other ideas please let Jill know.

1. Presentations – keep to a 5 minute presentation with 5 minutes for questions (Lewis – No)
2. Plan 2-3 Field Trips with the Board members – explore what PCC oversees (3-4 hr trips) – would be optional
3. Establish group text reminders for events that PCC Board Members are invited to – send the day before the event

CLOSED SESSION

#23-0116 **MOVED BY Lewis** 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 none.

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

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

Action on closed session:

MOVED BY Lewis to return to open session. **SECONDED BY Cataldo**.
Vote Yea: **Mollenhauer (Zoom), Altringer, Lewis, Crane, Cataldo**
Members Absent:

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD AND WITH NO OBJECTIONS,
THIS MEETING IS ADJOURNED.** Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM .