

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Polk County Conservation Board met in regular session on Wednesday, November 12, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

#1a – Roll Call

Members Present: Levis, Johnson, Smith, Kurovski
Members Absent: Cataldo

#1b - Action on the Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s)

MOTION: Moved by Kurovski to approve the meeting minutes as written.

VOTE YEA: Kurovski, Johnson, Levis, Smith

#2 – Public Comments

No public comments.

#3 – Consent Agenda Items

MOTION: Moved by Levis to approve consent agenda items a and b and to move item c off the consent agenda to the regular agenda for Board consideration.

- a) PCC October 2014 bill list;
- b) PCC's Travel & Expense Reimbursement Policy as revised;

VOTE YEA: Levis, Kurovski, Smith, Johnson

#3c – Land Acquisition

MOTION: Moved by Smith to ratify action approving and authorizing staff to work with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation to secure the Kal-Dens Farms parcel of land located near Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt and to work with Polk County Conservation Board partners to accept contributions and finalize ownership of the parcel of land in Polk County's name.

VOTE YEA: Smith, Johnson, Levis

VOTE NAY: Kurovski

#4 – Public Records, Open Meetings & Competitive Bidding

Candy Morgan, Asst. County Attorney, spoke to the Board on updates to public records and open meetings laws. She also spoke on Iowa Code Chapter 26 that talks about bids for work done by employees of the agency. Information on competitive bidding will be brought to a future meeting.

#5 - Jester Park Conservation Center Update

Interim Director Leopold explained to the Board that after he and staff considered potential cuts to the Conservation Center project and after discussing funding, a gap of approximately \$2.25M remained to complete the project.

Following Board discussion, the Board indicated they would like to move forward with the full project. The Board asked Leopold to bring a Request for Proposal to them at the December meeting for a third party opinion on the fund raising. Based on the results of the analysis, which the Board hoped to receive at the February or March meeting, the Board shall determine if it is feasible to complete the entire project, or if cuts may have to be made. Hiring a fundraising consultant will be considered at this time also. This action means construction would be postponed for approximately a year.

#6 – Flood Debris Removal

Mark Dungan, Natural Resources Manager, identified a correction to the writeup for this item. The writeup refers to High Trestle Trail at Beaver Creek, when it should say Trestle to Trestle Trail at Beaver Creek.

MOTION: Moved by Levis to approve accepting Reilly Constructions bid of \$88,500 to cleanup flood debris on both the Chichaqua Valley Trail bridge and Trestle to Trestle Trail bridge; and due to the uncertainty of the amount of debris removal and disposal involved with the project authorize payment to Reilly Construction up to \$100,000 from their bid of \$88,500 if debris removal and disposal is more than estimated. The Board further approves and authorizes the Interim Director to sign the contract with Reilly Construction. Payment for this work will be reimbursed to PCCB in the 3rd quarter amendment next spring as approved by Mark Wandro.

VOTE YEA: Levis, Smith, Johnson, Kurovski

#7 – CBG, State Recreational Trails Grant Application – Truss Bridge

MOTION: Moved by Kurovski to approve staff applying for a State Recreational Trails grant to repair the historic truss bridge at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt.

VOTE YEA: Kurovski, Levis, Johnson, Smith

#8 – Budget, FY 2015-16

Carol Ann Carlson, Accountant, reviewed budget handouts she distributed to the Board.

MOTION: Moved by Kurovski to approve the FY 2015-16 budget as presented for submittal to the Polk County Board of Supervisors.

VOTE YEA: Smith, Johnson, Kurovski, Levis

Discussion & Remarks

- Leopold distributed bond project sheet developed from day spent between PCCB staff and Shive Hattery and briefly reviewed with the Board. Explained a one page information sheet would be completed on each project. Shive Hattery would be developing these sheets for the projects.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Prepared by: Cindy Lentz

Approved: 12/10/14