

Boone County Conservation Board regular meeting
Monday, February 12, 2024
Don Williams Park Office and via Zoom

Members present: Marilyn Jordan (zoom), Gary Nystrom, Randy Johnson, Jennifer Schieltz

Members absent: Pat Hagan

Employees present: Ex. Dir. Katie Taylor, Rangers Cooper Sanor and Chris Call, Operations Manager Zach Stevens

Chair Jordan officially called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Nystrom made a motion to approve the agenda, 2nd by Jordan. Motion passed.

Jordan made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Johnson seconded. Passed.

Ex. Dir. Taylor presented the monthly bills totaling \$18,966.88. This included another payment to 10Fold architecture for their continuing work on the clubhouse remodel plans, as well as some re-wiring and a new conference table in the Don Williams Park office. Tires and rims were replaced on the skid-loader. Motion made by Schieltz to approve the bills, seconded by Johnson. Passed.

Old Business:

Fiscal Year 24/25 budget approval: Ex. Dir. Taylor presented the budget numbers discussed at last month's meeting to the Board of Supervisors. We requested only a 1.35% increase over last year because the supervisors are concerned about tax credit changes made by the state legislature that will reduce the amount of money coming to counties. Nystrom made a motion to approve the budget as presented, Jordan seconded. Passed.

Don Williams clubhouse remodel update: 10Fold architecture gave us two more options (options 3a and 3b) for a remodel design. Option 3b, the less expensive of the two, is estimated at \$577,594 total for construction and soft costs. This is still more than \$100,000 over what the supervisors have allocated for this project. Our hope is that bids might come in cheaper than this estimate. Gary Nystrom suggested that we list in a call for bids a set of optional items or alternates that we would accept to allow bidders to provide dollar amounts on these items. We also discussed addressing the demolition, soil borings, and septic system as separate items, rather than including them as part of a bid package. Schieltz made a motion to move forward with asking 10Fold to put together a bid package, minus those three items (demolition, soil borings, and septic) that can be sent out for bids. Johnson seconded. Passed.

New Business:

Office remodel update: tonight's meeting was held in the newly remodeled Don Williams Park office. The building now has a private, closed-door office for the Director, a conference room, a partition for the Naturalist, and a welcoming entry area for the public with our live education turtles on display. Everyone is very pleased with how it turned out.

Swede Pointe lease renewal agreement: we have historically had 25-year lease agreements with the Army Corps of Engineers for Swede Pointe Park. Because we are trying to put a bike trail through Swede Pointe, we need a longer lease and to renew our current one that is expiring in 2026. The new lease is for 50 years. Chair Jordan and secretary Schieltz will meet with Ex. Dir. Taylor in the near future to sign and get this new lease notarized.

2024 dock space and golf cart storage lease agreements review: staff is proposing to add a provision to the dock space agreement stating that boats must be removed from the lake by November 15 or the lessee forfeits their right to the space the following season. The board approved of this addition. Language in the golf cart storage lease agreement will be cleaned up and stronger language added regarding no fuel storage in the shed, no homemade chargers, and no cords in poor condition will be allowed.

Other Board Discussion: Applications are currently open for seasonal positions, and applications are coming in. The application window is set to close at the end of February. Member Johnson relayed some info from Bill Greiser related to the golf course clubhouse and cart shed. Ranger Call will plan to put some more rock down soon. There was a request to put a gutter on the south side of the cart shed. We will also try to get some more railroad ties or telephone poles to serve as parking blocks to prevent any cars from getting too close to the building.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Marilyn Jordan, Chair

Jennifer Schieltz, Secretary