

Boone County Conservation Board regular meeting
Tuesday, August 12, 2025
Boone County Courthouse, 4th floor conference room

Members present: Jennifer Schieltz, Pat Hagan, Gary Nystrom, Lisa Kobernusz, Brian Bales

Members absent:

Employees present: Ex. Dir. Chelsie Wilson, Ranger Cooper Sanor

Chair Nystrom officially called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Hagan made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Bales. Motion passed.

Kobernusz motioned to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Bales. Passed.

The board opened the floor for any public comments. There were none.

Executive director Wilson presented the monthly bills totaling \$28,535.49. Bills this month included a new electric blower for the golf greens, dam safety training for two staff, mower expenses, chemicals for the golf course for the rest of the year, and our yearly \$5000 fee to the steering committee for the High Trestle trail. Bales made a motion to approve the monthly bills, seconded by Kobernusz. Passed.

Old Business:

Don Williams new clubhouse update: A groundbreaking ceremony on August 5 was well attended. Ex Dir. Wilson reported that the start date for construction was pushed back to August 18 due to delayed materials. This has pushed back the planned time for exterior painting to November. The contractors are concerned the weather may not be correct at that time of year and they might need to wait until spring to paint. The board is concerned about the siding being negatively affected if it sits all winter without paint and we are in favor of asking the contractor to rearrange things if necessary to prioritize getting the siding painted before the winter to avoid having to wait until spring.

New Business:

Ranger Sanor's patrol truck has been having issues and needs to be traded in and replaced. We do have money budgeted to update a vehicle this year. Ex. Dir. Wilson presented preliminary vehicle quotes from two local dealerships. The board discussed the maximum amount we feel can be spent on this given the expected trade-in value from the current truck. While we prefer to use local companies when possible, it was suggested that getting a couple more quotes from dealers outside of the county might be worthwhile. For purchasing vehicles, we need to use a competitive bid process where final written quotes are obtained and the lowest formal bid selected.

Several facility issues have required repair recently, including an area of soft and sinking soil at the dump station at campground A, foundation issues at the Lodge by the Lake, trouble-shooting electrical concerns from some campers about the pedestal they plug into, and a sinkhole trench in the golf course near hole 9. We are not sure what is causing the sinkhole (broken tile line?) and

have not been able to contact the adjacent landowner yet. Ex. Dir. Wilson is working with the county attorney to understand who is responsible for any repairs or work needed. Work on the septic system for the ranger residence at Don Williams should start in about two weeks.

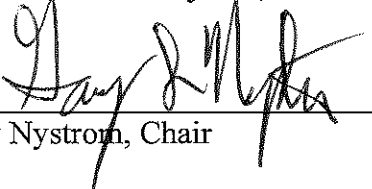
Don Williams south dock replacement: When we replaced the main public dock on the lake recently, we were able to salvage a couple sections from the old dock that are still useable. Ex Dir. Wilson shared a quote for a new gangway and hinges to connect to those dock sections to replace the south dock. She also mentioned that instead of re-using those old pieces, we could get new ones that are the same brand as the new dock for an additional \$1700. This would allow for swapping out sections between docks if needed. The board discussed pros and cons of both options and agreed to defer a decision until our next meeting.

The Boone County employee engagement committee has asked Ex. Dir. Wilson if they can host a golf tournament, which would be free to county employees on a to be determined date in September. The board is supportive of this, but requested that the date not overlap with Pufferbilly Days. Hagan made a motion to approve the tournament, seconded by Bales. Motion passed.

Other Discussion: A memorial golf tournament in honor of two former members has been requested to take place on Sunday, August 24. The organizers have already filled registration at around 80 participants. The board approved this tournament and Chair Nystrom signed the contract.

Member Bales discussed whether it might be helpful to use some sort of software to catalog and organize all of our motions, approvals, contracts, etc. Ex. Dir. Wilson looked into some options. Price is a concern. Member Bales is willing to explore further. The board also discussed a need to find out what software other county departments use or if this is an issue to bring to the county supervisors to purchase something for the whole county, not just the conservation department. The excavating company that damaged some concrete near the High Trestle Trail did agree to replace the damaged sections instead of just the patching they had done. The contractors who will be pouring the concrete pads for the disk golf course at Don Williams have not done this work yet due to rain and other delays, but should be completing it next week.

Hagan moved to adjourn, Kobernusz seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.



Gary Nystrom, Chair

Jennifer Schieltz, Secretary

Action Items

- Chelsie/ Gary talk to clubhouse contractor about prioritizing siding painting before winter
- Chelsie get one or two more quotes from other truck dealers outside of Boone County, then get final quotes from the two Boone dealers. Gary and Pat can help if needed.
- Continue to work with county attorney about who is responsible for tile line repair/ drainage issues. Do we need a professional (from the county or an outside company?) to

come out and assess the sinkhole trench on golf course and give a recommendation on what to do to fix it?

- Cooper/Gary work with ranger residence septic system replacement.
- Everyone consider south dock replacement options for next meeting – which do you prefer? Where would the extra \$1700 come from is we get all new?
- Chelsie talk to Boone County employee engagement committee to find a date for their tournament that doesn't conflict with other events
- Brain continue to look into organizational software. Who will talk to county supervisors about this as well?