

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held January 11, 2022 at the Board's office, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Mark Marriott.

Board Members present included Mark Marriott, Tom Johnson, Holly Martin, Kathy Jordan and new member Whitney Beery.

Staff present included John Schwab, Terry Broyles and Charly Stevens.

Present as guests included Amy Toye, representing Shenandoah Valley News, Joyce Kruse, Michelle Jordan, Judith Blay and Larry Lock.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Johnson, second by Jordan, to approve the agenda for January 11, 2022 as presented. Motion carried.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Jordan, second by Martin, to approve the Minutes of December 14, 2021. Motion carried.

Claims: - The large expenditures were explained by staff.

Month-end for December

Board Mileage – self explanatory

Minor Equip/Hand Tools – Fastenal - \$452.02 for a 16 ft. extension ladder and 18-volt lithium battery.

Pierce Creek Horse Campground – Card Services - \$1,429.89 for 11 – 12 ft. gates and \$624.95 for 5 – 12 ft. panels. (to be reimbursed thru grant)

MidAmerican Energy - \$466.09 collectively for meters

Mid-Month for January

Rapp Park – RJ Thomas Mfg. - \$961.00 for memorial bench

Pierce Creek – RJ Thomas Mfg. - \$480.00 for 2 fire rings (will be reimbursed thru grant)

Conservation Center – Legendary Lawn Care - \$150.00 for snow removal

Water -SW Regional Water District – PC shop/equestrian campground - \$776.56

(November reading)

MOTION: A motion was entered by Johnson, second by Jordan, to approve the submitted claims for month-end December and mid-month January. Motion carried.

No public comments were heard.

Joyce Kruse indicated that she is talking with Back Country Horseman group and has scheduled some work days. The following dates are April 9th (rain date of 23rd), May 14 (rain date 28th). They will file the volunteer forms with the office. July 9& 10th is the Trail ride competition (NATRC) as approved at December 14, 2021 board meeting and insurance certificate has been provided. Trail rides are scheduled for September 17, and October 8th. The schedule is subject to change. She had questions on which insurance

waiver should be submitted and whom to contact about the scheduling; she will visit with Charly on those dates if changes occur.

Election of Officers then followed. Nominations on the floor for the position of Chair – Jordan nominated Martin, second by Johnson. Motion by Jordan, second by unanimous vote to cease further nominations. Motion carried.

For the position of Vice-Chair. Nominations on the floor entered by Martin to nominate Jordan, second by Johnson. Beery moved to nominate Marriott as Vice Chair, second by Johnson. Nominations ceased. Vote was then taken with Marriott and Jordan abstaining. Marriott retained the position after a 2 to 1 vote. Motion carried.

For the position of Board Secretary. Nominations on the floor entered by Marriott to nominate Beery, second by Martin. All in favor and motion carried. Motion by Jordan, second by Johnson to cease nominations. Motion carried.

Slate of Officers is as follows: Holly Martin – Chair; Mark Marriott – Vice Chair and Whitney Beery as Board Secretary.

The following policies were reviewed as per annual directive. The vehicle usage policy - John went over that and indicated no changes to the policy.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Beery, second by Jordan, to approve the vehicle usage policy. Motion carried.

The PPE and Workplace Attire Policy was reviewed with a minor change made about footwear policy as in “the PCC department is responsible for supplying PPE for all employees except for footwear. Replacement and/or purchasing of foot wear will be at the discretion of the PCCB.”

MOTION: A motion was entered by Jordan, second by Johnson, to accept the revised PPE and Workplace Attire policy as presented. Motion carried.

Bylaws were then reviewed, original bylaws, Amendment 1 and Review #2.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Jordan, second by Martin, that no changes were needed – bylaws remain the same. Motion carried.

John was contacted by Page County Extension staff on a proposed shooting sports program. In the past, it was held here at the office utilizing the grounds but with the change allowing only Hunter Safety classes, John proposed that the shooting sports program utilize the gun range at Pierce Creek. They’re only in the beginning stages of planning and nothing has been finalized.

Covid Policy update – John discussed the policy that was issued by the BOS and awaiting further direction from the Supreme Court. He did relay to the board that they were

exempt from the policy. A short discussion followed on payment of the testing every 7 days. The discussion was tabled.

Staff communication and park updates included the following: budget update, theft at Pierce Creek, storm damage on trails and Pioneer Park, and tiling project at Pierce Creek. The budget update was the change to 3% on salaries for John and Charly which also changed the FICA, IPERS and a raise in dental and health insurance with an overall budget increase of \$7,844.04 requested. No appointment to meet with the BOS has been given at this point.

Theft of equipment from vehicles parked at the maintenance compound was discovered, reports furnished to law enforcement and one truck is in the shop to get item replaced. Board member Beery suggested installing cameras and WI-FI and/or fiber optic was discussed. Marriott indicated he would talk with Farmer's Mutual Telephone Company about Pierce Creek.

Staff indicated that it may take 1.5 days to cleanup any storm damage on the trails at Pierce Creek. Terry indicated he would like to see a pile of firewood placed at the primitive area at Pierce Creek or let people know that a firewood permit may be obtained. The storm damage to the trees at Pioneer will be done by RC Tree Service due to safety reasons.

The tiling project at Pierce Creek is on hold until further notice since the passing of the landowner.

Terry indicated that the range will be in use for hunter safety class from 1-4 on Sunday, Jan. 16th, and he will be present to monitor.

Board communication – Marriott introduced newest board member Whitney Beery and she provided background information about herself.

A plaque was presented to Tom Johnson in recognition of his 11 years of being on the Conservation Board, this was his last board meeting.

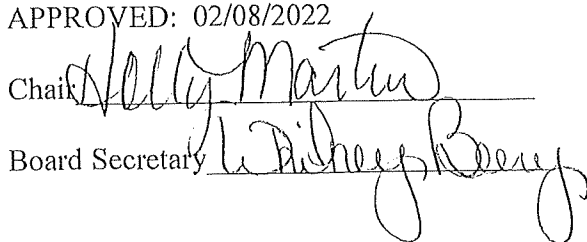
No further business to come before the Board, the Vice Chair called for an adjournment.

MOTION: A motion was entered by Martin, second by Jordan to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting then adjourned at 7:15 p.m. and will meet again Tuesday, February 8, 2022.

APPROVED: 02/08/2022

Chair

Board Secretary



The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held February 8, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Holly Martin.

Board members present included Holly Martin, Kathy Jordan, Whitney Beery and Mark Marriott.

Staff present were John Schwab and Charly Stevens.

Visitor to the meeting was Amy Toye with Shenandoah Valley News.

Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the February 8, 2022 agenda by Marriott, second by Jordan. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the January 11, 2022 meeting minutes by Beery, second by Jordan. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims – The Conservation Board reviewed month-end claims of January and mid-month claims of February from 26 vendors. All questions regarding the current claims were explained and discussed. Motion by Beery to approve the presented claims, second by Marriott. All in favor and motion carried.

Public Comment – N/A

Joyce Kruse was not able to attend the meeting, John addressed the Board about Joyce's donation from the City of Shenandoah of a larger arena to be placed at the equestrian campground on a workday. It is bigger than the one currently in place.

Discussion on Rapp Park – John met with Greg Connell (Shenandoah Chamber/Economic Development office), architects and engineers from HGM about Rapp Park.

John detailed some of the plans that were presented at the meeting, and project plans will be presented once it's all put together. This hasn't been presented to the City of Shenandoah or the Board of Supervisors. The Conservation Board felt that we have spent a lot of time and resources in developing Rapp Park over the years and concerns about the loss of revenue from camping and the lease monies from the crop ground. There are too many questions on development and control of the area. The consensus of the Board was to obtain more information. Beery suggested looking at past revenue, prior budget to develop Rapp Park, benefits to the county vs benefits to the City of Shenandoah, obtain some history on the acquisition of Rapp Park and explore the agreement that was held regarding Manti Park.

Staff communication and park updates included having trail cams installed at Pierce Creek, major limbs from the storm cleaned up at Pierce Creek and fence repaired in timber area, trees removed from storm damage at Pioneer. Both trucks have been repaired. Budget was approved with a few questions from the Board of Supervisors

about the need for a part time person instead of keeping the employee as a seasonal. Covid policy that was tabled from last meeting is not needed.

The creators of the disc golf course at Nodaway have been working on the project. John had an initial meeting with Matt Darrah last month. They are going to come up with a course design and then meet with the Board about its placement.

Was contacted by Madwood BBQ about hosting a possible BBQ contest at Rapp Park and to make it an annual event, will be meeting with him on Friday to discuss it.

A total of 17 beavers were trapped at Pierce Creek during the open trapping season. Beavers have moved back into Rapp Park but in a different location. Working with local nuisance control trapper to find some better solutions.

Water issue at Pierce Creek mentioned at several meetings has a possibility of running a new line from pipe in front of the shop.

Vice-Chair Marriott indicated that fiber optic was installed close to the shop at Pierce Creek and might be plausible to link into that.

John indicated that he will be discussing funds from ARPA to work on shoreline at Pioneer with the Board of Supervisors.

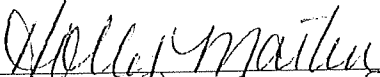
There is a meeting on the 17th to discuss Schenck's lake proposal but John will be unable to attend; our district meeting is that day.

Lost a seasonal employee to the City of Shenandoah to a full-time status. John will be posting for seasonal employment.

There was no board communication.

Adjournment – Motion by Marriott, second by Beery to adjourn. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED: 03/08/2022

Chair 

Board Secretary 

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held March 8, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Holly Martin.

Board Members present included Holly Martin, Whitney Beery, Mark Marriott and Bill Robertson. Absent was Kathy Jordan.

Staff present were John Schwab, Terry Broyles and Charly Stevens.

Visitors to the meeting included Seth Watkins, Michelle Franks, Rebecca Castle Laughlin, Joyce Kruse, Chuck Morris and Amy Toye.

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Beery to approve March 8, 2022 agenda, second by Marriott. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - Motion by Beery to approve the February 8, 2022 minutes, second by Marriott. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims – The Conservation Board reviewed month-end claims of February and mid-month claims of March from 23 vendors. All questions regarding the current claims were explained. Motion by Robertson to approve the presented claims, second by Marriott. All in favor and motion carried.

Public Comment – N/A

Joyce Kruse asked if her and John could meet at Pierce Creek equestrian campground next week to go over her projects so that they would be on the same page. She asked if the materials had been ordered, John replied no as he was waiting on bids for the shelter. The panels and gates have been ordered, picnic boards have not been picked up to work on the picnic tables. Joyce asked about the grants and John explained the \$5000 is due to be spent by the end of the fiscal year. The arena donated by the City of Shenandoah is heavy and discussion about obtaining some heavier clips from the Gate Shop. Joyce invited all to the work day scheduled for April 9th with a rain date of 23rd.

Discussion with Seth Watkins, Michelle Franks and Rebecca Castle Laughlin with the Golden Hills RC&D then ensued. Seth talked about his involvement with the RC&D and the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and keeping the lines of communication open regarding Rapp Park and other projects as well with community support.

Rebecca and Michelle had sent a proposal in the amount of \$15,000 to the Board of Supervisors for funding for projects in Page County. They would like to provide support as they have in Mills, Harrison and Pottawattamie counties. In Harrison county they were able to find funding support and other proposals and collaboration from many services to help Harrison enhance some of their outdoor amenities. Their goal is to identify projects and identify what county conservation board needs/wants are. Chuck Morris, BOS, reiterated that RC&D has dedicated time to search for funding to assist in

developing potential projects and the utilization of RC&D support. If this proposal would go thru, Board member Marriott asked if RC&D would be present at the conservation board meetings to keep us up to date. Questions from other board members regarding other departments utilizing RC&D – Franks and Laughlin indicated that they usually work with conservation projects; RC&D likes to work with counties for enhancement in the parks, that is their focus – conservation and other recreational opportunities in the county.

John applied for several grants for playground equipment for Nodaway and Pierce Creek and re-do surfacing at \$19,000.00. A grant request to Shen Foundation for \$5,000 and Clarinda Foundation for \$5,000.00 with \$9,000 to cover. Miller Lumber has indicated they would contribute if the grants were awarded, grant applications have also been sent to Lisle Foundation and the CYC Board. Board members contributed their ideas on sources to ask for additional funding. John would like playground equipment at each park, expand playground at NVP/PC/PP by 30x32 ft, consolidate the two playgrounds at PP into one large one and resurface all playgrounds with new cedar chips for necessary fall protection.

Approval to submit grants - Motion by Beery to approve the grants to be submitted to the respective foundations for playground equipment, second by Marriott. All in favor and motion carried.

Rapp Park history of expenditures and revenues were reviewed upon a request by the Conservation Board which covered over the past 14 years.

The subject of Manti Park followed a lengthy discussion at the February meeting, John researched about the management between Fremont and Page County and then with City of Shenandoah taking complete control of the park – this was approximately 13 years ago.

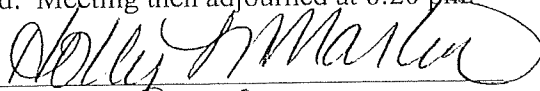
Park updates included the hiring of two new part time employees, rehired Jeff Kirk, retained Mike and Terry. John indicated that he will not be hiring a cleaning crew for the bathrooms. Clean up started last week. Hauled couple of dump trailer loads of branches and will continue as the weather gets nicer. Had a water issue at Rapp Park – the pipe leading into the park was damaged, Shenandoah has since fixed the issue and flushed the system. LaPorte Electric will be running power to the bathroom at Rapp Park as soon as ground thaws and Crowley Construction will begin work on the concrete parking area adjacent to the bathroom and the retaining wall for the storm shelter. All equipment for the controlled burn at Pioneer is ready, just waiting for better weather. The dredging at Pioneer is also weather dependent, a patch will be needing to be fixed there in the pipe as well. All roads have been reopened at NVP and Rapp Park. Still waiting on estimate for the water work at PC; cheapest solution is a new pit in front of the maintenance shed by rural water and consolidation of water pipes at the equestrian meter by Crain Construction. Also waiting on estimate for the shelter at the equestrian area at PC. Dump truck is in the shop again, transmission seals needs replaced – once that is fixed we will begin stock piling rock.

ARPA funds was briefly discussed and will be placed on the Board of Supervisor's agenda.

There was no board communication.

Adjourn – Motion by Marriot, second by Robertson to adjourn. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting then adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Chair



Board Secretary



The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held April 19, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Holly Martin.

Board Members present included Holly Martin, Kathy Jordan, Whitney Beery and Bill Robertson. Absent was Mark Marriott.

Staff present were John Schwab, Terry Broyles and Charly Stevens.

Visitors to the meeting included Kent Dinnebier with Clarinda Herald Journal, Ethan Hewitt with KMA, Deb Ratliff, Joyce Kruse, Michelle Jordan, Judith Blay, Larry Lock, Matt Darrah, Eric Rhodes and Richard Morgan-Fine.

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Beery to approve April 19, 2022 agenda, second by Jordan. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Motion by Robertson to approve the Minutes of March 8, 2022, second by Beery. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims – The Conservation Board reviewed month-end claims of March and Mid-Month April from 40 vendors. All question regarding the current claims were explained. Motion by Jordan to approve the presented claims, second by Robertson. All in favor and motion carried.

Public comment period – Judith Blay expressed concerns about the downed trees near the foot bridge at Nodaway Valley Park. She commented that a log was cut/not removed, but the area hasn't been repaired, inquired about a new bridge across the washout. Board member Robertson said he'd go look at it and more discussion about uniform usage can be placed on the May agenda. Judith also commented that the trails at Pierce being nice and wide.

Deb Ratliff distributed some photos of a tree taken over by beavers and a washout with a log filled in and commented that the hole is getting bigger since last fall on the west side of the lake. She was told that those items are on the list to get taken care of. She inquired about getting the manure trailer emptied. Deb showed a map she had drawn pertaining to the gates that had been installed to prevent usage of some of the trails due to work that is going to be done at Dinsmore's adjacent to some trails. She was informed that the gates will remain in place. It will depend on the timing, but the gates will be opened once the work on the county side is done. It sounded like the contractor would start with the county side and the gates would be in place until the work is completed. A recap of the gate issue – when the work starts on the property line on the county side, gates will be closed, Schwab said the gates will be removed when the work is completed.

Michelle Jordan told the Board about the workday and the support of 20 volunteers that worked on various projects at the equestrian campground with more work pending. She asked about the unpainted picnic tables, the table that has a burned hole and needs repaired. Photos of the work day have been posted on the county website and on the conservation Facebook page and the Back-Country Horsemen's page. She indicated that there were trees on timber trails - 2 by the bathroom in the north campground that needs removed. She asked about posts that needed to be purchased and telephone poles by the maintenance shed that was from a grant but not available on the workday but had been previously there. A lengthy discussion on grants and the use of them will lead the Board to schedule a special board meeting to discuss grant history in more detail. Michelle indicated that she had volunteered to make signs back in October, but it appears signs aren't done? Does staff need assistance in placing them? A question was asked about the use of steel posts – that will be pending an inquiry to the insurance company. Michelle asked about some signage and mileage markers for the event in July. She was then directed to John about those items closer to the event.

Deb and Judith thought that equestrian area looked nice with wide trails.

Volunteer based usage was discussed, including the 4-H club on projects at Pierce Creek. Terry Broyles indicated that he's going to meet with Sarah Martin (Shenandoah High School/FFA students) to meet at Pioneer Park for a cleanup day. Cayuse Club, Boy Scouts, etc. were mentioned as possible groups to help with park projects.

Joyce Kruse then asked about notification when the gun range is having additional events so that she can post on her "Friends of Pierce Creek" page to alert potential horse users coming to Pierce Creek. This is something that can be done. Joyce asked about the rock shavings disappearing and said it was part of the grant monies and she wants it back for the next work day. John indicated that rock went to Ross Park, so it wouldn't get stolen and will get some more of it and indicated that rock needs to be hauled and is looking at obtaining quotes.

Eric Rhodes, Richard Morgan-Fine and Matt Darrah representing Flip, Flop and Fly Disc Club, brought an update to the Board regarding the disc golf proposal for Nodaway Valley Park. They would like to have #1 hole completed to use as advertising and obtain sponsors for the purchase of pads and baskets with 22 baskets in all once completed. The sponsor name would be engraved in the concrete. The club would be using their labor and money. Would CCB pay for a basket, landscaping needs? They explained that the baskets are approximate \$400 and the pads per hole is \$200 in concrete. They are working on removal of some bushes but taking care of the cleanup. They're looking at barriers behind the basket at every hole, maybe Evergreens, Mums, Asian Lilies and garbage cans were also mentioned. The Board would like to have them come back with a diagram of hole #1 and their funding needs.

The Schenck Lake proposal was re-visited; John met with the group. CYC is working with an engineering firm for development areas that CYC would like planned, with the exception that it be for public use. CCB is still in the running for obtaining it.

Nodaway Valley Park – still have a small leak somewhere in the park. Water is turned back on to see if a wet spot pools along the water line, all services are on.

Pioneer Park – all services are on. Still searching for a welder to close the outflow pipe. A controlled burn was also completed. Shoreline work proposed for early May; this is where ARPA funds will be used.

Pierce Creek – Tiling is to start Wednesday, prior discussion on closures of trail is impacted by the work to be done. Water to the equestrian area will be turned on within the next couple of weeks – weather dependent. All water services are on in the north campground. Also completed a controlled burn on the dam.

Ross Park – framework is finished on the shelter house, waiting on better weather to get the roof on and work on reinforcing the footings.

Rapp Park – the bathroom and holding tank is scheduled to have electricity installed by LePorte Electric next week. The concrete pad to be installed in front of the bathroom and retaining wall for the shelter hopefully be done by mid- May. Water services turned on later this week but weather dependent. Bathrooms will not be opened until the concrete and electrical work is completed.

Raised \$6,000 from local organizations to go towards the Nodaway portion of the playground remodeling. Shenandoah grant review is the 27th of April for Pierce Creek playground remodeling. Golden Hills RC&D is working on getting us in the system to be eligible for some other grants that we may be able to use for the Pierce Creek portion of the playground remodel and potential expansion of Rapp Park campground. Clarinda Foundation grant review is in June, so we won't know until then. A letter of support for connection to the Wabash Trace was discussed.

Motion – A motion by Jordan to provide a letter of support for potential grant for the Wabash Trace connection to Rapp Park, second by Beery. All in favor and motion carried.

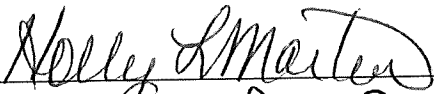
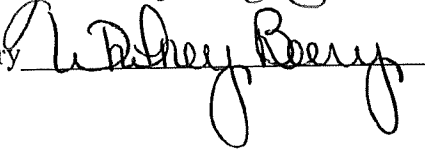
A request from the gun range committee by Terry Broyles to have an additional event at the range for a Ladies Day with handguns and firearm safety. He suggested dates of May 14th and 28th which conflicts with equestrian planned events already listed. Terry will talk to the gun range committee and get back with the board on the date; Beery suggested some dates.

Everybody was informed that the May meeting will be held at 6 p.m. not 6:30 p.m.

Chair Martin brought up vandalism issues, dumping issues and need for additional camera coverage in the parks. No further communication from other board members.

Motion – Robertson made a motion to adjourn, second by Jordan. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting then adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

APPROVED: May 10, 2022

Chair 
Board Secretary 

A special board meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held on Friday, April 29, 2022 beginning at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Holly Martin.

Board Members present included Bill Robertson, Mark Marriott, Whitney Beery, Kathy Jordan and Holly Martin.

Staff present were John Schwab and Charly Stevens.

Visitors to the meeting included Amy Toye, representing Shenandoah Valley News, Chuck Morris, BOS, Michelle Jordan, Joyce Kruse, Judith Blay and Deb Ratliff.

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Marriott to approve the April 29, 2022 agenda, second by Jordan. All in favor and motion carried.

The Director started the meeting off by mentioning the monies/projects in the parks due to several emails that spending was all being done at the equestrian park. NVP- \$10,000 playground; PC North -\$10,000 – playground; Rapp Park - \$30,000+ bathroom & concrete work; Ross-\$4,000 new shelter +\$2,000 proposed new dock; Pioneer - \$40,000 pond renovations + \$20,000 for equipment, and PC East - \$8,000-\$9,000 in improvements. Several parks incurred extensive storm damage.

The meeting was then turned over to the equestrian committee. Deb Ratliff read a prepared statement. #1 – she reported how nice the trails on the west side of the lake after they had been widened. She would like to express she also had been on the east side of the lake and the grassland trails have been widened and they look great. #2 – she reported about the beaver hole and asked if it could be filled for safety reasons and that it had been taken care of. She appreciates the task being completed. #3 – she thanked Board Member Beery for working out a compromise concerning the gate and closing off the trails on the east side of the parks. #4 – she thanked the Director for reopening the trails on the east side which was agreed upon at the last meeting. #5 – She understood the manure pile couldn't be cleaned up until water was available and she thanked Broyles for undertaking that task when it's possible. Her final comment was asking the board what they want from the equestrian riders? Do you want us bringing concerns to the board meeting or not bringing them to the meetings? She felt that the riders didn't come to the meeting to cause extra work nor do they want to bring up the same thing at different meetings. They're only trying to keep Pierce Creek safe and beautiful. When everyone does their job and the work gets done hopefully they won't need to come and voice concerns. They don't want hostile feelings or arguments so what can be done to make the meetings smooth sailing? Lastly, she inquired about the grant items, she felt moving on that when a grant is awarded perhaps it could be made available for everyone to know what the grant was written for and a list of the items that were purchased with the grant money.

Judith Blay wanted to know about the chain of command. Chairperson Martin then answered her questions regarding how the order of command should be. It all flows thru

John and he then sets the tasks for the other employees. The Board is the policy maker, and the only point of contact as written in the job description is the Director.

Michelle Jordan explained the benefits of having parks like Pierce Creek. She issued a challenge to increase usage and therefore revenues alike. She mentioned challenges and a lack of response; she listed signs not being done, closed trails due to metal on the trail, fence posts taken down and lack of picnic tables. Statements from employee's vs actions aren't adding up, she cited examples; destruction of items; employee took down pens, fire rings disappeared, gravel removed from the road/campsites, removal of concrete and hitching posts. Conflicting signals as to what is going on. Signage she offered to pay for them (donations being refused). These things cause discouragement of users (refusal to maintain trails, tall grass in the day use area, bugs, park being shut down to non-use, no water for the horses, homeless people in the park all winter and scattered trash. No insurance for organized events, they found another source and those entities get the revenue from the event. Trail maps haven't been updated. Trails were closed for six months due to a downed fence. There is mistrust with donors – donated items from grant have been moved to other parks. Campgrounds and trails not being maintained. She indicated payments being lost. There is a lack of communication, with history between horse people and the conservation board hasn't been good. The equestrian users just want things better, need help and board support, running water and better signage.

Joyce Kruse went over the agenda items she asked for beginning June 9, 2020 which indicated signage, gravel, weed control, fire rings and lack of picnic tables, horse signs being removed, and volunteer form change regarding liability and lack of water. She inquired about lack of directional signage at several locations. She wants to see signage done. She also indicated that bridge coming from the east will soon be repaired and will need detour signs. John will check with the engineer's office. Joyce did comment that the park is looking better just emphasized needing water and signage completed. John asked for how many signs and locations needed.

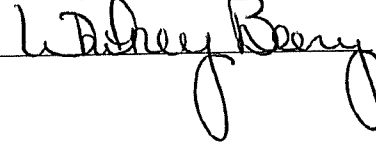
Board of Supervisor, Chuck Morris, talked about his camping at Lake Icaria vs Page County parks and the need for marketing tools, funding issues and lack of communication between parks and the public. Board Marriott mentioned increasing park usage by having a theme day per park.

Adjourn – Motion entered by Marriott to adjourn, second by Robertson. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting then adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 10th beginning at 6 p.m.

APPROVED: May 10, 2022

Chair 

Board Secretary 

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held May 10, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Holly Martin.

Board Members present included Holly Martin, Kathy Jordan, Whitney Beery, Mark Marriott and Bill Robertson.

Staff present were John Schwab and Charly Stevens.

Visitors included Tom Berrier, Dennis Tillman, Judith Blay, Joyce Kruse and Ethan Hewitt with KMA.

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Robertson to approve the May 10, 2022 agenda, second Marriott. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Motion by Beery to approve the Minutes of April 19, 2022, second by Jordan. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - Motion by Jordan to approve the Minutes of April 29, 2022, second by Beery. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims - The Conservation Board reviewed month- end claims of April and mid-month May. All questions regarding the claims were explained. Motion by Robertson to approve the presented claims, second by Marriott. All in favor and motion carried.

On public comment Joyce Kruse asked about getting a sign to post at the equestrian area acknowledging the funding received from the Rapp Foundation.

Staff communication included park updates. John indicated that we lost one part time employee which drops down available manpower and he will be re-posting for the position later this week. Maintenance is in full swing now.

Nodaway Valley Park – water leak has been fixed, progress is being made on the 1st tee for the disc golf course and slowly working on the storm damage on the trails.

Pioneer Park – hit a snag on getting the outflow welded. Have to come up with a better plan to prep the site. Hopefully shoreline will start in the next two weeks. Contractor is still backed up with work.

Pierce Creek – Signs have been ordered for the equestrian area. Water work will begin hopefully later this week or early next week, contractor also backed up from the past two weeks. Door ordered for the bathroom at an estimate of around \$1,000.00 and approximately 6 weeks for delivery. Tiling project is finished. Gate has been removed. Other barriers will be removed later this week as time permits

Rapp Park – lake is down about another foot or so from over the winter. Boat dock may need to be moved due to water level which also affects the handicapped fishing pier. Golden Hills is searching for funding for a possible drainage project out at Rapp. Also looking at possible funds to concrete the boat ramp (difficult in finding a contractor with the experience we are looking for). Electricity is done in the bathrooms and they are up and running. It will cost approximately \$300 each time we have the holding tank pumped out. Still waiting on the parking pad and retaining wall (Crowley Construction). They are also backed up.

Ross Park – still working on the shelter, roof is not on yet, Concrete supports will be poured this week.

Joyce Kruse asked the Board if the discussion last month at the special meeting helped? She also relayed that she and Michelle had done some trail clearing by removing some small brush. The concept of using community service volunteers was discussed again to have school kids come in and help finish up the arena and maybe paint the latrines. She was told to contact Shenandoah and Essex schools to see if they'd consider it. She asked if metal clips for the arena have been ordered and if replacement seats in the latrines have been ordered. She also asked about non-equestrian signage to be replaced.

Motion to Approve - Marriott moved to have the non-equestrian signage replaced, second by Jordan. All in favor and motion carried.

Revisions to by-laws were discussed at length including emergency expenditure of funds (in unforeseen circumstances) Article VII- 7.4 and changing of election of officers – Article IV – 4.2. from January to July meeting (beginning of the fiscal year).

Motion to Table – Marriott moved to table any changes till the June board meeting and when proper language for the purposed changes can be discussed with the County Attorney, second by Beery. All in favor and motion carried.

There are currently funds of \$726.98 sitting in the Greater Shenandoah Foundation that were earmarked for projects at Rapp. Do we leave it there drawing interest or cash it out and put the funds in the conservation reserve?

Motion - Marriott moved to close the account at the Greater Shenandoah Foundation and place the funds in the conservation reserve line item, second by Beery. All in favor and motion carried.

In board communication; board member Jordan reminded those present about an email from Scott Whitehead months ago about considering all park users and their level of usage whether its fishing, camping, hiking, etc. We want the parks used and should be able to offer a wide range of experiences for everyone in the county. If we don't - we lose revenue and we lose grant opportunities. Additional emails have been received about lack of work being done at other parks. These emails have been responded to and

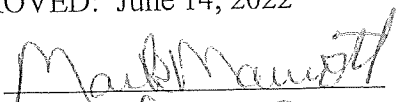
we need more communication and make them feel free to voice their concerns and expand on the email if necessary or come to the board meetings.

Schwab did relay to the board that we've received news that the Rapp Foundation has awarded \$5,000 towards the playground equipment at Pierce.

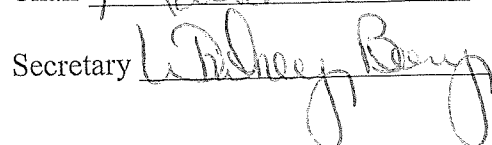
Motion to adjourn - Robertson moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Marriott. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting then adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

APPROVED: June 14, 2022

Chair



Secretary



The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held June 14, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Mark Marriott.

Board members present included Mark Marriott, Whitney Beery, Kathy Jordan, Bill Robertson and newest board member Randy McNutt.

Staff present included John Schwab, Terry Broyles and Charly Stevens.

Visitors present were Joyce Kruse, Matt Darrah, Richard Morgan-Fine and Liz Skillern representing the Valley News.

Approval of Agenda - Motion by Beery, second by Jordan, to approve the agenda for June 14, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - Motion by Robertson, second by Jordan to approve the Minutes of May 10, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims - The Conservation Board reviewed month- end claims of May and mid-month claims for June. All questions regarding the claims were explained. Motion by Robertson, second by Beery to approve the presented claims. All in favor and motion carried.

No public comments were submitted.

Park updates were then given. Good numbers of campers all Memorial weekend. Pioneer Park – welding part is still on back order. Ross Park – the footings for the shelter house has been poured; waiting to add roof. Rapp Park – water level is low around the boat dock, but boats are managing to still be launched. A change in maintenance may occur if fuel prices reach \$6/gallon; currently spending \$700-1400 a month on fuels. Mowing may stay the same, cutting the grass every week dependent upon weather, but trails may change – ½ of a trail one week and finish the trail the following week.

An update on the disc golf course was provided by Matt Darrah and Richard Morgan-Fine. A couple of non-local sponsors have been obtained to assist with funding towards the course. The logistics of getting the baskets purchased and delivered were discussed, 22 baskets are \$9,305 if purchased by the end of the fiscal year. The logistics of advertising of a business on county property was discussed at length with the Board, also the need of a written agreement between the Board and the disc group. Questions about sponsorship, construction, maintenance and ownership of the course. The group hopes the course can be up and running in a year or so.

Motion - Robertson moved, McNutt second, to approve the purchase of 22-disc golf baskets at a cost of \$9,305 if a contract is approved by the County Attorney assuring that

funds from sponsors will go back to the Board to assist in covering the costs of the course and ask about the advertising of sponsors. All in favor and motion carried.

Terry Broyles, representing the gun range committee, updated the Board on range usage during the month of May with 142 shooters utilizing the range – 104 of that being the Department of Corrections statewide training. He indicated that DOC had donated some pallets for targets and materials for stands. Broyles indicated they are hoping to schedule a special Ladies Day shoot at the range in September and October on the 2nd Saturdays.

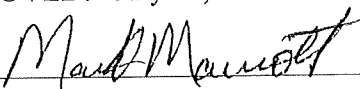
Joyce Kruse, representing the equestrian committee, had questions for the Board. She indicated that signs had been added to the park, but they are not visible and asked if something could be done about that. Kruse asked about the grants to see if the project monies had been used per the guidelines of the grant. She relayed for maintenance purposes that the gates are open, so the arena area can be mowed. She also asked about solar lights, wheelbarrow, hoses, rakes and items for the primitive area. Schwab indicated to have a wish list drawn up and hopes to have items purchased before the end of the fiscal year.

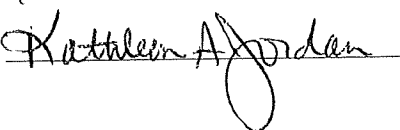
A discussion on the revision of the By-laws then ensued. According to Chapter 350, elections shall be held at the first meeting of the year as officers hold their seats thru a calendar year not a fiscal year and emergency spending procedures. Other discussion on this will be on the July agenda.

In Board communication, Beery indicated she would not attend the August meeting.

Motion to Adjourn – Robertson moved, Jordan second, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting then adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

APPROVED: July 12, 2022

Chair 

Secretary 

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held July 12, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Mark Marriott.

Board members present included Mark Marriott, Whitney Beery, Kathy Jordan and Randy McNutt. Absent was Bill Robertson.

Staff present were John Schwab and Charly Stevens.

Visitors present included Larry Locke, Judith Blay, Joyce Kruse and Deb Ratliff.

Approval of Agenda - Motion by Beery, second by Jordan, to approve the agenda for July 12, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes - Motion by McNutt, second by Beery, to approve the Minutes of June 14, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims - The Conservation Board reviewed end of month claims for June and mid-month claims for July. All questions regarding the claims were explained. Motion by Jordan, second by Beery, to approve the presented claims. All in favor and motion carried.

Public comments were from Larry Locke included a leaking hydrant at Pierce Creek wasting water non-stop and posts on ground at Rapp that had rerod sticking out of it causing a liability issue.

John read a letter from Mary Fettes regarding the horse event that was held at Pierce Creek over the weekend. *"just a quick note to say a million thanks for the use of your county park for our North American Trail Ride conference (NATRC) sanctioned ride this past weekend. Your property is well-developed and well-maintained, and your attention to everything we needed to pull it off was amazing! I especially appreciated your generosity as to where we parked and where we tied horses. In order to get our rather large group in there we needed to be creative and you made that possible!*

Over and over I heard positive comments from the riders. They enjoyed your trails and had so much fun! Many who were there for the first time are close enough to utilize your park for their recreational rides and indicated that they would do so. And later this year, we would like to talk about the possibility of having another NATRC ride there in 2023.

We hope the local volunteers also had a memorable & enjoyable weekend. We worked them hard! Once you get feedback from them, please contact me with any questions or concerns."

John then gave park updates – Nodaway Valley Park – playground equipment will be ordered once we hear from the Clarinda Foundation. If we don't get the grant we will

take it out of either Nodaway's line item or REAP funds. After speaking with the county insurance advisor, it has been determined that it would be in our best interests to not attempt to fix the washout, or even build a footbridge in that area. We are going to post signs that state that the northern end of the park is "hike at your own risk" and that there are no official trails in that area. This was due to the liability that we would be opening on ourselves regarding maintaining that portion of the park as we do not have the equipment to safely maintain the area.

Update on the disc golf course – no further discussion, is not going to happen.

Pioneer Park – weather prevented welding this week, but should be done shortly as the parts for their welder have come in. Continue to repair camping pads and lay down new gravel. On the list for next year with stocking from DNR.

Met with Iowa State Entomology department over the weekend regarding the Black Widow spiders sighting in the bathroom. No live specimens were found during the search. They will be compiling a press release for us later this week. General consensus is that it was a "hitchhiker" that came in on either a person or camping equipment and may have had babies. Search of the entire park was conducted, and no dangerous species were found.

Pierce Creek – Held the trail ride over this past weekend. Spoke with Mary and everyone had a great time. All sites were doubled up and electricity held without issue. Amazing job cleaning up the area. We are hoping they will choose us again for next year, but that will be discussed after this year is over.

DNR conducted electro surveying out at PC last month. Large population of healthy and Largemouth Bass and Bluegill. Some bass were well over 5 lbs. Water quality is excellent, which is unfortunately leading to large algae blooms. Will try to control with earlier chemical treatments next year.

Ross Park – Work on the shelter continues. Starting to get the roof on. Concrete footings have been poured. Bow Hunters had a large event at the end of last month which they reported had solid numbers. Some participants chose to camp at the park and enjoyed the area. The boat that was pulled out of the lake was also removed by the Bow Hunters.

Rapp Park – Solid numbers over 4th of July weekend. Continue to have algae issues around the banks. Too late to do anything about it this year as treatment of established plants can cause oxygen issues from decaying plants. Will treat the area next year where we have seen blooms.

Meeting with DNR Fisheries tomorrow to discuss fishery conditions at Pioneer, Rapp and Pierce Creek. DNR is working with us to address the boat ramp situation at Rapp as they are no longer able to launch their own watercraft. This will impact vegetation management as DNR sprays for us at Rapp, as well as annual reports on fish population and other services they provide.

John provided a handout on current projects to be completed, addressing the high priority issues and future projects. Road conditions at NVP was discussed.

Discussion was then held on By-Law revision on emergency spending as per Article VII – Expenditure of Funds, Section 7.4. Examples of emergency situations were then given with some costs included and the need to notify board members immediately in the event of a situation. This could be done by text, phone call or email.

Motion – Beery motioned to adopt the language used in Polk County By-laws, second by McNutt. All in favor and motion carried. Revision as approved, “In emergency situations (Defined as immediate public health and welfare) the Director may spend up to \$10,000 as necessary to meet the needs of the emergency within 48 hours and inform the Conservation Board of any emergency spending as soon as possible.

Election of Officers midterm – Article IV, Section 4.1 read in part, “in the event of an office becoming vacant between elections, the Board shall appoint a successor for the balance of the term of the vacated office. According to Chapter 350.2 in the event of a loss of the Chairperson, the Vice Chair moves to Chair, and the Board Secretary moves to position of Vice Chair. Therefore, the position of Secretary is open.

Motion – McNutt moved to nominate Jordan to fill the position of Secretary, second by Beery. All in favor and motion carried.

By-law revision on Sections 7.4 and Section 4.1 as amended at the regular meeting on July 12, 2022.

Soliciting and advertising in the parks as part of the disc golf discussion is addressed in the park regulations under Section 12, Recreational Uses Only Allowed, “ *It shall be unlawful for any person to occupy any portion of any area for washing or repairing vehicles, advertising or political campaigning; peddling, hawking, soliciting, begging, or carrying on of business or other commercial enterprise, or any other purpose not primarily recreational, except by written permission of the Board or the Director. No person shall post, paste, fasten, paint or affix, any placard, bill, notice or sign upon any structure, tree, stone, fence, thing or enclosure along or within any area, except by written permission of the Board or it's Director.* ”

The SW IA Bowhunters activities were briefly mentioned; it was suggested to invite the members to the September board meeting.

Gun range committee updates – none currently.

Equestrian committee updates – Joyce Kruse gave a brief update on the activities from the NATRC event of July 9th and 10th. She also brought a request from the Back-Country Horsemen to have a meet and greet/scavenger hunt/ride at Pierce Creek this fall.

Motion – Jordan moved, Beery second, to coordinate with Back Country Horsemen but not to interfere with the gun range activities. All in favor and motion carried.

Deb Ratliff agreed that the trail maps looked good and learned a lot from the clinic.

Board Communication – Beery commented that the Fair Board needs hog panels, pens, etc. and was asking for ideas for grants.

John read to the Board on the revenues we projected to bring in last fiscal and the revenue we brought in which was \$6,861 over the budgeted amount.

Motion to adjourn – Beery moved, Jordan second, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting then adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED: August 9, 2022

Chair

Mark Mauist

Secretary

Patricia A. Jordan

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held August 9, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mark Marriott.

Board members present included Mark Marriott, Randy McNutt, Kathy Jordan and Bill Robertson. Absent was Whitney Beery.

Staff present were Charly Stevens and Terry Broyles. Absent was John Schwab.

Visitors present included Jean Minor, Joyce Kruse and Deb Ratliff.

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Robertson, second by Jordan, to approve the Agenda for August 9, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Motion by Jordan, second by McNutt, to approve the Minutes of July 12, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims – The Board reviewed end of month claims for July and mid-month claims for August. All questions regarding the claims were explained. Motion by McNutt, second by Jordan to approve both sets of claims. All in favor and motion carried.

Public Comments were from Jean Minor. Her family had been camping at Nodaway and one of the campers on the north end were openly smoking marijuana. They'd been observed coming from one of the trails carrying backpacks. She called John who also called the Sheriff's department. She felt that the Sheriff's department didn't take care of the situation. Mark will visit with Lyle Palmer about the matter.

Deb Ratliff appreciated having the timber trails mowed.

Park updates included the following. We have received \$3,949 from the Clarinda Foundation for playground equipment at Nodaway Valley Park. Electrical issues with sites 5-8 also at Nodaway Valley; Witthoft Electrical has been contacted. John has received at least one estimate for the ramp work at Rapp in the amount of \$70,000. He will also be applying for a DNR grant. The booth at the fair was reasonably well attended during peak times. A weekend stay at a park was part of the prizes given to the Bingo game and a kid's dice game for tickets for the carnival. Mark invited us if we wanted to participate in having a booth at the Essex Labor Day celebration or be in the parade.

Gun range updates were provided by Terry Broyles. Attendance is slow due to the heat and they were not opened last Wednesday. Work pending is the addition of some covers over the 25-yard range and the pistol range, smaller covers but will be installed on all 3 ranges.

Equestrian updates were provided by Joyce Kruse. She hopes to have a work day in September or October. There are some boards that need replaced at the shelter in the horse campground. They could paint the boards on their work day along with finishing the gates and the arena. She asked Terry about some 2x4 treated lumber posts, 3 dead trees and a stump that needs removed and about the posting of the gun range signage that didn't specify an end time. Terry explained that the park is technically open until 10:30 p.m. and the gun range could be if they chose to stay open that late. He is still maintaining the open/closed range signage previously put into place.

Joyce had a flyer announcing a Pony Express sponsored poker ride for Saturday, September 10th, after a discussion with Terry about a possible conflict, she will reschedule. She did include some additional activity dates.

Board Communication – Randy asked about the Pierce Creek dam problem, and Mark voiced a question with the variety of species of trees, if there is Walnut there might we do a walnut harvest? Mark asked for a copy of the DNR's dam report.

Motion to Adjourn – Motion by Robertson, second by McNutt to adjourn. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting then adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVED: September 13, 2022

Chair Mark McNutt
Secretary Nathaniel Jordan

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held September 13, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 pm. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mark Marriott.

Board members present included Mark Marriott, Whitney Beery, Randy McNutt, Kathy Jordan and Bill Robertson.

Staff present were John Schwab and Charly Stevens.

Visitors present included Andy Jansen, representing DNR Fisheries, Larry Lock, Judith Blay, Joyce Kruse, Liz Skillern with Shenandoah Valley News and Bill Harrison with the SW Iowa Bowhunters Club.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Robertson, second by Jordan, to approve the Agenda for September 13, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Beery, second by McNutt, to approve the Minutes of August 9, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims: Motion by Robertson, second by Jordan, to approve both sets of claims from month- ending August and mid- month September. All questions regarding the claims were explained. All in favor and motion carried.

Public comment was from Judith Blay regarding the art sculpture and the work that had been done around it.

Andy Jansen, DNR Fisheries, reviewed with the board the options for Pioneer Park and bringing it back to be an acceptable fishing site. There is currently Black Bullhead and Carp in the waters, a complete fish kill is needed to improve the fisheries by starting over. He would apply Roetene to the pond and the watershed above. The cost of the chemicals figuring 10 gallons is about \$851.30. He would like to start this year while the pond is down and dry. Renovation would include making the pond deeper and results should be apparent within two years with the restocking of Channel Catfish, Bass and Bluegill. The DNR would post appropriate signage and John will work with the landowners in the watershed area. Jansen did mention that his department did place about 5,000 Wipers at Rapp and hopes to place Trout in the one pond again also at Rapp yet this fall.

Motion: Jordan moved, Robertson second, to allow for the expenditure of \$851.30 for the chemicals for Pioneer. All in favor and motion carried.

Bill Harrison, representing SW Iowa Bowhunters Club gave an overview of their club's activity since their formation in 2009. They have shoots from March thru September and one of their goals is to get kids out to experience archery.

Park Updates included eviction notices on two for violating Section 12 of the park regulations regarding use of the campground for recreational use only. They aren't banned and still can use the parks, just not for long term use. Another individual was served a ban notice due to misconduct at NVP and that is extended till the end of the year.

PC Dam Repair – all bids are on hold until further information is obtained from the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the need for permits/engineer drawings for the proposed dam repair that the DNR inspected. Bid invitations will be re-opened once more information is received.

Rapp Park – Construction is underway on the boat ramp. Tentative time completion is end of month/beginning of October which is weather dependent. Trout stocking will take place again this year in partnership with Green Plains and the IA DNR. Proposed time frame is mid-October.

Nodaway Valley and Pierce Creek – Playground equipment has been ordered. Demo of old equipment will begin once a shipping date new equipment has been set.

Work to be done – Hydrant #7 at NVP – damaged by a camper, private insurance will pay for it.

Hydrant #12 at Pierce – scheduled for replacement

Hydrant # 11 at Rapp – scheduled for replacement

Septic systems at NVP, Pierce Creek and the dump station at NVP are scheduled to be serviced. It was determined that septic systems are all over due for maintenance, Pioneer's was done over Labor Day weekend.

NVP mower is in the shop approximately \$1540 in parts for gearbox and pulleys.

Labor Day weekend – No major issues. All parks were full with the exception of Rapp with only a few campers. SWINA was at Pioneer. Large group camped at Ross Park and loved the new improvements.

Animal calls – Coyote problem handled at Pierce Creek north campground, eagle call near Coin and squirrel and rabbit calls during the month.

John was contacted by someone from VA about a placement of a Freedom Rock at Rapp Park. The rock will be donated, and the VA will choose location, they're working with the artist on this.

A review of the trail pass or free will donation was then reviewed for Pierce Creek. Whitney brought up the signage issue, Kruse mentioned that riders don't realize they can pay as there isn't any notice. We are still "selling" annual trail passes on occasion – \$15 for individual and \$20 for family.

MOTION: Jordan moved, Beery second, to retain the free will donation at the equestrian campground but add permanent signage about donations. All in favor and motion carried.

Gun range updates – none available. The ladies shoot that was scheduled for September 10th was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Equestrian updates – Joyce remarked how good the grounds looked since the mowing. She indicated that Larry Lock donated two security lights for the campground and will be installing them. She then inquired into the past two grants - \$5,000.00 and that not everything was done and when would they get the rest of the stuff. She referred to the picnic tables in particular – asked for 5 but only got 3. John indicated that once the Pierce Creek dam project was completed, he would then work on the horse campground items. She then inquired about having a line item expense to keep track of income better to provide for additional items at the equestrian campground. John indicated that donations have been going to the Conservation Reserve line item and if there was a line item that income would need to be expended before June 30th so therefore a separate line item is not necessary.

Board communication – McNutt suggested checking on a camper that may have been at NVP longer than the allotted 14 days as stipulated in the regulations.

Motion to adjourn – Robertson moved, Jordan second, to adjourn. All in favor and motion carried. Meeting then adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED: October 11, 2022

Chair Mark Mainott

Secretary Kathleen Jordan

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held October 11, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mark Marriott.

Board members present included Mark Marriott, Whitney Beery, Randy McNutt, Kathy Jordan and Bill Robertson.

Visitors included Kevin Christensen, Liz Skillern, representing Valley News, Joyce Kruse, Judith Blay and Larry Lock.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Robertson, second by Beery, to approve the Agenda for October 11, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Jordan, second by Robertson, to approve the Minutes of September 13, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims: Motion by McNutt, second by Robertson, to approve both sets of claims from month ending September and mid-month October. All questions regarding the claims were explained. All in favor and motion carried.

Public comment from Judith Blay on how nice the trails looked at Pierce Creek and the park looked wonderful for the poker ride.

Park updates included all water services to be shut off by the end of the month, Rapp Park could be sooner depending on the weather.

NVP – used up all remaining road patch for the year, approx. 3000 lbs. and won't get anymore till spring. Doing trail clearing/trail maintenance – lots of downed trees.

Pioneer – Fence has been repaired between the park and Ketchum's property. Have received authorization from all landowners in regarding the chemical treatment. DNR plans on doing it soon, but they want to walk the creek that runs into the ponds.

Pierce – Have all needed authorizations from government entities to start the dam project. Will postpone until Spring to give us time to conduct a controlled burn (with IDNR) and to see how many of the trees we can remove during the winter.

Rapp – Boat ramp is finished and getting a lot of use. Lots of thanks and compliments on the work. Shoreline work along the trout pond was also completed. Approx. 1100 trout were stocked on Oct 7th and 8th.

All broken hydrants at the parks have now been all replaced.

Majority of the mowing is done for season, and winterizing has begun on our equipment. We are keeping one mower up and ready until snow starts.

Removal of playground equipment will begin tomorrow with Nodaway. We are still waiting on our new equipment to come in. May be back ordered until Spring.

Meeting with VA on October 19 regarding the freedom rock proposal at Rapp Park.

A review of the current camping regulations/reservation policy was then discussed. Section D - #2 – “no camping party or camping unit shall be permitted to camp for a period longer than that designated by the Board and no longer than a period of 14 consecutive days, unless written permission is obtained from the Board or Director”. Currently the campers move out of the park for a period of 24 hours after the 14 day stay. Is it possible to let them move to a different site rather than move out of the park; this could be considered on timing of year and on a case by case situation. Beery wondered about a reservation policy to reserve a campsite like some parks have on my countyparks.com. Due to the size of our campgrounds, a reservation system isn't feasible.

Section E – Campsites shall be occupied when the requirements of that Section have been met. John placed some signage explaining about placing a vehicle or picnic table at the site until the camping unit has been moved in which has been working.

Section 12 – Recreation uses only allowed – this was discussed but reference was made to the non-recreational uses we have encountered in several of the parks.

Motion: Motion by Robertson, second by Jordan, to leave the camping regulations as is until January. All in favor and motion carried.

Kevin Christensen representing NAMI inquired about scheduling a fishing derby for NAMI clients April 22 or 29th at Rapp Park. This event would be open to all age groups. Beery recommended the Board donate “certificate for free camping weekend”. Kevin will coordinate with NAMI and come to the November board meeting to provide an update.

Schwab also brought up to the Board about switching our fishing derby to mid-May at Rapp or Pierce Creek due to spawning season and lack of algae blooms in the water making fishing better.

There was no gun range update other than DOC will be at the range November/December for some qualification rounds.

Joyce Kruse representing the equestrian committee also mentioned how nice the trails and grounds looked at Pierce Creek, there has been a lot of walkers utilizing the area. She thanked employees for repairing the boards at the shelter house. She would like to meet with John sometime about location for the solar lights and some poles in the arena area.

There was no additional board communication.

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held November 8, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mark Marriott.

Board members present included Mark Marriott, Whitney Beery, Randy McNutt, Kathy Jordan and Bill Robertson. Staff included John Schwab and Charly Stevens.

Visitor to the meeting was Joyce Kruse.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Robertson, second by Jordan, to approve the Agenda for November 8, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Beery, second by Robertson, to approve the Minutes of October 11, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims: Motion by Beery, second by Jordan, to approve both sets of claims from month ending October and mid-month November. All in favor and motion carried.

No public comments.

Park updates included playground equipment will not be delivered/installed until Spring.

Chemical treatment is completed at Pioneer. Quite a few large Grass Carp, Black Bullhead and Catfish.

All water services have been turned off until next season.

Quite a few homeless individuals have been staying in the parks. Most have been compliant with the 14-day policy and no legal/law enforcement actions have needed to be taken so far.

Started trail work at Nodaway and removal of brush/trees around the lake and dam at Pierce Creek

Office will be closed on Friday, November 11th for Veterans Day.

District 4 meeting in Shelby County on Thursday, November 17th, so office may be closed for most of the day.

All seasonal employees have been terminated for the season. (Mike is permanent part-time and is still on the payroll for the winter with a reduction of hours to 12 per week).

Nodaway Roads Update – spoke with a few asphalt companies out of Omaha to get bids for Nodaway Valley Roads. From the beginning of the park to the 4-way intersection, it would be around \$425,000.00. Estimated for the entire park, including camping pads would be close to \$1.6 to 1.7 million on a conservative estimate. We are still waiting for

estimates from a few other companies we reached out to, but so far everyone has been around the same cost. We can currently get 2800 lbs. of patch for about \$800.00 through Secondary roads contact. We used around 7000 lbs. this past season already.

Joyce updated the Board on a recent ride netting \$45 in trail fees. She commented on how well the equestrian area and trails looked. Her concern was the status of the latrines, the one by the boat ramp. It needs several items done to it. Volunteers will be working in the arena area next spring and she inquired if the Board would purchase paint for the project before they're assembled. In-depth discussion followed on latrine upgrades.

A review of the current budget and preliminary budget items for next fiscal were then discussed at length including the following:

Increase number (3) of seasonal employees and increase from 28 hours to 30/35 with either \$13 or \$15/hr. wage.

Projects included dredging at PC/PP (we have the equipment)

Install floating docks/fishing piers – 2 @ Rapp, 2 @ PC, 1 @ PP and 1 @ Ross

VA Memorial @ Rapp

Flagpole @ the office

PC dam repair

NVP roads

Latrine upgrade @ PC

Increase camping sites (cabins, yurts)

Finish retaining wall for the storm shelter/concrete poured for handicapped sidewalk

Grants were discussed for various projects.

There were no additional board communications.

Move to adjourn: Robertson moved, McNutt second, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor and motion carried. The meeting then adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

APPROVED: December 13, 2022

Chair Mark Mauett

Secretary Rachel A. Jordan

The regular meeting of the Page County Conservation Board was held December 13, 2022 at the Board's office beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mark Marriott.

Board members present included Mark Marriott, Whitney Beery, Randy McNutt, Kathy Jordan and Bill Robertson. Staff included John Schwab and Charly Stevens.

Present as guests included Larry Lock, Judith Blay, Joyce Kruse and Liz Skillern.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Robertson, second by Jordan, to approve the Agenda for December 13, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Beery, second by Robertson, to approve the Minutes of November 8, 2022. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Claims: Motion by Beery, second by Jordan to approve both sets of claims from month - ending November and mid-month December. All in favor and motion carried.

Public comments were from Judith Blay who inquired when the donated solar lights from her and Larry Lock were going to be installed by park personnel. John said he would have an electrician do the install next spring.

Park updates included VA rock at Rapp with discussion on a rock at Schildberg, VA with some funding, offer from Essex and Shenandoah schools for building benches near the rock and an artist has come forward. Further discussion will continue between all parties.

Trail trimming at NVP has started otherwise all projects are on hold till spring.

Inventory of trailers were assessed, and we have one with a broken axle, it's a small homemade trailer to haul one mower. We are looking for a trailer that can haul two mowers. Trail-Pro has one with some minor cosmetic dents and has agreed to sell for \$3,400.00.

MOTION: Motion by Robertson, second by McNutt, to authorize the purchase of a trailer 83"x16' tandem axle utility trailer (2x3 angle frame) for \$3,400.00 out of this year's budget.

Joyce Kruse then reiterated the conversation she had with John about the scheduling of events next year for the horse committee. The events will remain on the 2nd and 4th weekends. The gun range committee still have 1st and 3rd Saturdays with a 5th Saturday open, the two committees need to meet and discuss the scheduling. She asked about the donated monies that have been put in reserve fund, currently there is \$549.00. She hopes that the equestrian committee will have input on projects. One project to complete will be installing a cement floor in the shelter house at the equestrian campground.

Budget work then began. Board and staff went thru each line item discussing increases and decreases. Salaries for part time seasonal employee with additional hires and permanent part time were broken down. Total budget change (not including any salary changes for John and Charly with FICA and IPERS) ended with a decrease of \$681.00 compared to last year's budget. REAP expenditures and revenues did not change. Projected revenues increased by \$2,800 compared to last year's budget.

MOTION: A tentative budget approval was discussed with salaries for John and Charly set at a minimum of 6% unless the comp board offers a different amount. A special meeting will be then held to adjust. Motion by McNutt, seconded by Robertson, to set the minimum wage increase at 6%. All in favor and motion carried.

Board Communication - Beery would like to see annual performance reviews done in October/November 2023 to better gauge wage discussion on the following year's budget work.

MOVE TO ADJOURN: Beery moved, Robertson second, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor and motion carried. The meeting then adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

APPROVED: January 10, 2023

Chair Matt Maust

Secretary Jane Stinson