

The Mahaska County Conservation Board (MCCB) held a special meeting on Thursday, December 28, 2023, at the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) at Caldwell Park. Chairman Steve Dixon called the meeting to order at 8:57 p.m. Also present at the meeting were Board Members Curt Jager and Jennifer Peterson. The members of the staff present were Director Chris Clingan and Administrative Assistant Dorothy Wedgewood.

Jager made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The FY25 Budget Discussion was addressed.

- I. Clingan presented the budget sheets to the Board.
 - A. Clingan went through the budget sheets fund by fund and line item by line item. He told the Board what amounts had been allotted and how he and the committee had decided on the funding for each line item.
 - B. Clingan stated that the Mahaska County Board of Supervisors advised directors that the Compensation Committee had recommended a 3% wage increase for county employees.
 - C. Clingan reviewed the increase in the 01-611 Maintenance and Operation Fund and Line Item. The increase will not only implement the 3% wage increase but will also honor Ryan's step increase as a law enforcement officer. It will also make provision for an additional \$22,700.00 for an attendant for the ELC and a conservation technician for the MCCB areas.
 - D. Discussion ensued.
 - E. Dixon asked the Board to review the budget sheets and be prepared to make cuts.
 - F. Jager made a motion to approve the FY25 Budget as presented. Peterson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- II. Clingan advised the Board that the John Deere Tractor was once again in for repair at VanWall Equipment.
 - A. Clingan explained that VanWall thought the tractor had sludge in the fuel lines.
 - B. Jager asked if there was algae in the tank and suggested treating the tank for algae.
- III. The Board asked Clingan about the budget work session with the Mahaska County Board of Supervisors. Clingan said that it is to be held Friday, January 12, 2024, from 11:20 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.

Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jager seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Chairman _____ Secretary _____

Date _____ Date _____