

The Mahaska County Conservation Board (MCCB) held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, June 17, 2024, at the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) at Caldwell Park. Board Chair Steve Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Other members of the Board present at the meeting were Curt Jager, Linda Fox, and Chuck Webb. Board Member Jennifer Peterson was absent. The members of the staff present were Director Chris Clingan and Administrative Assistant Dorothy Wedgewood. Present from the public were Rodney Anderson, Friends of Mahaska County Conservation and Marlis DeBoef.

Board Chair Dixon asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Clingan stated there were no changes. Jager made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Webb seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Minutes were discussed.

- I. Fox made a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 20, 2024, regular board meeting as presented. Jager seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- II. Fox made a motion to approve the Minutes of the June 11, 2024, special board meeting as presented. Jager seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Expenditures were reviewed.

- I. Clingan discussed several items on the expenditures listing.
- II. Webb made a motion to approve the expenditures as presented. Fox seconded this motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Playscape Construction Documents and Bidding were discussed.

- I. Clingan updated the Board regarding the playscape.
 - A. Clingan advised the Board that ShiveHattery has provided a Professional Services Agreement to be added to the Mahaska Nature Playscape Opinion of Probable Cost.
 - i. ShiveHattery's original Mahaska Nature Playscape Opinion of Probable Cost was \$81,884.00. The Professional Services Agreement would add an additional \$15,516.00 for a total of \$97,400.00. This will bring the total project to approximately \$500,000.00.
 - ii. The Professional Services Agreement would provide topo and utility services, construction documents, handling of the bidding process, and construction administration.
 - iii. Clingan stated that he talked with Andrew Ritland, Mahaska County Attorney, and Ritland said that it was a good idea to have a professional company take bids for the project and oversee the project.
 - iv. Clingan said that bids for the project could be requested in December 2024 or January 2025 with groundbreaking in the Spring of 2025.
 - v. Clingan recommended adding the Professional Services Agreement to ShiveHattery's Mahaska Nature Playscape Opinion of Probable Cost.
 - B. Clingan reminded the Board that MCCB has a donor that is willing to match funds up to \$40,000.00. Clingan said that with possible upcoming grants, other donations, and the matching funds MCCB should be able to raise the additional \$15,516.00.
 - C. Webb made a motion to approve the addition of the Professional Services Agreement to the Mahaska Nature Playscape Opinion of Probable Cost bringing the ShiveHattery's cost to \$97,400.00. Jager seconded this motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Vos Culvert was discussed.

- I. Clingan updated the Board regarding the Vos Culvert project.
 - A. Clingan informed the Board that in additional conversations regarding the culvert project it was determined that one eight-foot culvert instead would be preferable to two four-foot culverts to help lessen the likelihood of a washout.
 - B. Clingan stated that one eight-foot culvert would cost an additional \$287.00 for a total cost of \$4,087.00.

- C. Clingan recommended the purchase of one eight-foot culvert for the additional cost of \$287.00 for a total cost of \$4,087.00.
- D. Jager made a motion to approve the recommendation as presented. Webb seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- E. Discussion ensued regarding but not limited to measuring the depth of the area for the culvert, discussing with Andrew McGuire, Mahaska County Engineer, the best solution, the fill dirt used to cover the culvert and whether the road will be wide enough to drive over.

The Tourism Video was addressed.

- I. Clingan advised that the tourism video will be shooting June 22 and June 23, 2024.
 - A. Clingan presented the filming schedule to the Board. Discussion ensued regarding
 - B. Clingan advised the Board that this will be a very cinematic and professional video and there will be a drone for aerial footage.
 - C. Clingan encouraged the Board members to come and out and participate and enjoy the filming process.
 - D. Clingan stated that the final filming will take place at the gazebo on the town square.
 - E. Dixon said that he did not feel it appropriate to have the public pick up any turtles at the Eddyville Dunes and Sand Prairie. Jager concurred and suggested allowing the public to view but not handle a turtle.
 - F. Dixon stated that the old bridge at Eveland is not managed by MCCB.

In Other Business:

- I. Clingan discussed a couple items.
 - A. Clingan presented a copy of the Comprehensive Park Plan.
 - B. Clingan advised the Board that the vault toilet at Robertson Access was damaged during a recent storm and will need to be repaired.
- II. Rodney Anderson, President FMCC, addressed couple items.
 - A. Anderson advised the Board that FMCC purchased and delivered two chairs, a bench, and two trash receptacles. These items were procured through the Build with Bags grant.
 - B. Anderson discussed various fundraisers and grant opportunities.
 - C. Anderson notified the Board that as of July Mark Sullivan will take over as President of FMCC and he will be Vice President.
- III. Marlis DeBoef asked about the open hours of the ELC and where staff post unforeseen closures.
- IV. Fox asked Wedgewood to send a thank you card to Musco for their work on the John Lacey project.

Webb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Fox seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Chairman _____

Secretary _____

Date _____

Date _____