

The Mahaska County Conservation Board (MCCB) held a special meeting on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) at Caldwell Park. Vice-Chairman Curt Jager called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Also present at the meeting were Board Members Linda Fox, Jennifer Peterson, and Chuck Webb. Chairman Dixon arrived shortly after the meeting started. Members of the staff present were Director Chris Clingan, Administrative Assistant Dorothy Wedgewood, and Naturalist Laura DeCook.

Webb made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Fox seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Park Ranger Position was addressed.

- I. Clingan notified the Board that Park Ranger Jason Ryan has submitted his resignation.
 - A. Clingan stated that Ryan's last day will be July 12, 2024.
 - i. Clingan said that Ryan has taken a Conservation Technician position with Marion County Conservation.
 - ii. Clingan notified the Board that MCCB will need to compensate Ryan for his accrued vacation and compensatory time for approximately \$4,000.00.
 - iii. Clingan added that Ryan has been a valued member of the staff.
 - B. Clingan addressed the Park Ranger position that will be open upon Ryan's exit.
 - i. Clingan stated that Ryan's current position is a paygrade 16, \$24.91 per hour for a total of \$51,812.00 per year.
 - ii. Clingan asked the Board if they would like to follow the wage schedule implemented by the Mahaska County Board of Supervisors .
 - iii. Discussion ensued regarding but not limited to wages for ILEA certified vs noncertified, giving noncertified a year to qualify, length of time to post the Park Ranger position, and contract for repayment/retention (Ryan's contract was done in April),
 - iv. Webb made a motion to approve the search for a new Park Ranger with a salary between \$47,923.00 and \$51,812.00, to be determined by experience. Fox seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
 - v. Discussion ensued.

The Heartland Insurance Payment was discussed.

- I. Clingan presented the Heartland Insurance bill and claim to the Board.
 - A. Clingan stated the bill is in the amount of \$53,177.00.
 - B. Clingan advised the Board that the claim for FY23 was not seen by MCCB but was written by the Mahaska County Auditor's office in error before MCCB approval.
 - C. Jager made a motion to pay the claim to Heartland Insurance in the amount of \$53,177.00. Webb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Webb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Fox seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Chairman _____ Secretary _____

Date _____ Date _____