

OSCEOLA COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD MINUTES

May 12, 2020

The Osceola County Conservation Board met pursuant to the law electronically via Zoom due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, with the following members present: John Corbett, Ann Byers, John Schmidt, and Zach Marco.

Absent: Jerry Helmers, Supervisor's Liaison

Staff present: Nick Schmalen, Director

Visitors: None

The meeting was opened at 7:04 P.M. by Jason Otto, Chairperson.

A motion was made by Zach Marco, seconded by John Schmidt, to approve the agenda. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

A motion was made by John Corbett, seconded by Ann Byers, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

A motion was made by John Schmidt, seconded by Ann Byers, to pay the attached claims. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

There was a discussion of the current COVID-19 situation. Topics of discussion included when to open the Nature Center, Bathrooms and cleaning procedures, and summer help. Summer help is slated to start on June 1, and the Nature Center should open at the same time as the Courthouse (June 8). Bathrooms will remain closed at this time.

A motion was made by John Schmidt, seconded by John Corbett, to approve the construction contract with MEGA, Inc for the Ashton Wayside Park Shoreline Protection Project. All voted "AYE," motion carried. Zach Marco Abstained from voting.

Job Descriptions for the Director, Resource Naturalist, Maintenance Technician, and Administrative Assistant were reviewed. Changes will be emailed to Jack Reed, and the Board will look at and approve them at the next meeting.


The Board looked at and discussed damage to the Melvin Park caused by Snow removal for the City of Melvin.

The Willow Creek T-Dock was discussed. Director Nicholas Schmalen submitted two proposals from VW Dock to get the floating T-Dock fixed so it is safer for use. A motion was made by John Corbett, seconded by Ann Byers, to purchase the 5 x 20 section for the floating dock at Willow Creek County Park. John Corbett, Ann Byers, Jason Otto, and Zach Marco voted "AYE," John Schmidt voted "NAY." Motion carried.

There was a discussion about the property purchased by the Secondary Road Department in Ashton, (Cedar Cabin Property) which is being shopped by the City of Ashton and the Osceola County BOS for a business. The Conservation Board would like to keep the shoreline of the pond, and maintain a 25 foot easement for access for Shoreline Protection.

Director Nicholas Schmalen submitted the monthly schedule.

There being no further business, a motion was made by John Schmidt, seconded by John Corbett, to adjourn at 8:40 P.M. All voted "AYE," motion carried.



Nicholas J. Schmalen, Director

Jason Otto, Chairperson