

**REGULAR MEETING
JASPER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD
Conservation Office, Armory Building
January 7, 2025, 8:30 A.M.**

Board Members Present: Andy Stone, Carol Kramer, Chris Herbold and Willie Yeager

Staff Present: Keri Van Zante, Tristan Hunt, Katie Cantu, Jerry Ratliff, and Jade Read

ELECTION OF OFFICERS- ACTION 25-39. Motion by Kramer, second by Yeager, that a unanimous ballot be cast for the officers of the Conservation Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Willie Yeager, Chairperson
Carol Kramer, Vice Chairperson
Chris Herbold, Secretary

With a quorum present, the business meeting was called to order by Chairperson Yeager at 8:30 am. Minutes of the December 3, 2024, regular meeting were approved as written.

APPROVAL OF BILLS – ACTION 25-40. Motion by Kramer, second by Stone that the following bills be approved for payment from the conservation fund:

Alliant Energy	0001-22-6110-000-43142	
Alliant Energy	0001-22-6110-000-43142	\$251.90
Alliant Energy	0001-22-6110-000-43143	\$222.24
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc	0001-22-6110-000-43244	\$80.59
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc	0001-22-6110-000-43242	\$208.01
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc	0001-22-6110-000-21249	\$30.04
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc	0001-22-6110-000-43213	\$123.93
Jasper County Engineer	0001-22-6110-000-25000	\$1,078.75
Jasper County Engineer	0001-22-6110-000-25000	\$1,198.24
Skunk River Sanitation LLC	0001-22-6110-000-21944	\$55.00
Dodds Trash and Hauling	0001-22-6110-000-44146	\$80.00
	0001-22-6110-000-44142	
US Cellular	0001-22-6110-000-42080	\$173.96
Safelight Fulfillment, INC	0001-22-6110-000-46200	\$392.80

Lynnville Historical Society	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$87.50	
Studio MELEE	0023-22-0210-000-60000	\$1,285.00	
	0028-22-0210-000-60000	\$7,191.00	
Forbes Office Solutions	0001-22-6100-000-40200	\$125.77	
Arrow Pest Control	0001-22-6110-000-44142	\$80.00	
Amerigas	0001-22-6110-000-43044	\$429.40	
Riggs Printing	0001-22-6100-000-26339	\$393.90	
	0001-22-6100-000-41200	\$192.63	
CDW	0001-22-6100-000-26000	\$670.01	
Studio MELEE	0023-22-0210-000-60000	\$2,570.00	
	0028-22-0210-000-60000	\$2,130.00	
Mike's Machine Repair	0001-22-6110-000-44300	\$631.06	
Murphy Tractor & Equip	0001-22-6110-000-44300	\$76.82	C
Amazon	0001-22-6110-000-63700	\$59.76	C
Amazon	0005-22-6100-000-29280	\$109.04	C
Authorize.net	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$12.70	C
Amazon	0001-22-6100-000-26000	\$8.42	C
	0001-22-6110-000-63700	\$9.99	C
Newton Public Works	0001-22-6110-000-21943	\$39.75	C
Walmart	0001-22-6110-000-21900	\$49.97	C
Walmart	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$30.85	C
Walmart	0001-22-6110-000-20142	\$8.56	C
Hobby Lobby	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$90.19	C
Theisens	0001-22-6110-000-24100	\$0.00	C
Theisens	0001-22-6110-000-24100	\$377.91	C
4 Seasons Trailer Equip	0001-22-6110-000-44300	\$41.40	C
O'Reilly Auto Parts	0001-22-6110-000-44300	\$61.59	C
Walmart	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$87.64	C
Walmart	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$23.92	C
Menards	0001-22-6110-000-29000	\$204.68	C
Menards	0001-22-6110-000-21942	\$18.99	C
Theisens	0001-22-6110-000-44000	\$24.97	C
Walmart	0001-22-6110-000-23200	\$42.44	C
Van Wall Equipment	0001-22-6110-000-44300	\$45.99	C
NAPA	0001-22-6110-000-44300	\$43.96	C
Canva	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$14.99	C
Theisens	0001-22-6110-000-44144	\$39.55	C
		\$21,205.81	

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DIGITAL TRANSACTIONS- ACTION 25-41. Motion by Stone second by Herbold to approve the bank statement showing the monthly digital and online transactions and ACH transfers. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Staff reports were presented by Cantu, Hunt, Ratliff, and Read.

Mariposa Truck Snowplow. Hunt presented costs for a snowplow for his truck. Truck Equipment bid \$9,090, Hawkeye Truck \$9,414, and Total Truck bid \$11,100. Board members asked how the tractor was working for snow removal and Hunt said he hadn't received enough snow yet to know. Board members decided to table the discussion to see how the tractor will work, as well as seeing what our budget looks like at year end.

Conservation Budget 2025-2026 Discussion. Van Zante presented the budget as it was submitted to the BOS. No guidance has been given yet regarding salaries, but a budget meeting will be held with the BOS to discuss items next week. Van Zante will update next month.

WRAC GRANT FUNDING AGREEMENT- ACTION 25-42. Van Zante presented a grant agreement with IDNR for a WRAC (Water Recreation Access Cost-share) grant that was approved for a new fishing pier, boat dock and kayak launch at Ahrens Access of Jacob Krumm Nature Preserve. This grant will be matched with the \$18,000 approved by the BOS in our current conservation budget. Motion by Herbold, second by Stone to accept the WRAC funding of \$15,994 for a new fishing dock and kayak launch at Ahrens Access. Motion carried unanimously.

ASHTON PARK INVASIVE SPECIES GOAT RENTAL AGREEMENT- ACTION 25-43. Ratliff presented a 1-year contract for goat rental to control invasive species at Ashton Park. The goats are \$2/month (20 goats to start) with a \$350 replacement fee for any goats lost during the contract. JCCB will be responsible for the fencing and staff estimate that cost at \$1500 for a 1-acre paddock. Motion by Herbold second by Stone to approve the 2025 Grazing Lease Agreement with Eric and Deb Finch of Finch Livestock. Motion carried unanimously.

MY COUNTY PARKS "NEARBY ATTRACTIONS"- ACTION 25-44. Read presented a plan to include 6 nearby attractions on the Jasper County Conservation page of My County Parks website. Her plan is to offer this opportunity for free to 6 of our conservation partners for the first year. Board members agreed this was a good fit for the website. Motion by Stone second by Kramer to offer the free opportunity to 6 of our nonprofit partners to be listed as "Nearby Attractions" on My County Parks. Motion carried unanimously.

Other. The city of Baxter has asked if they can paint the caboose at Baxter with grant funding and requested that we replace, at our cost, any loose or rotting boards. Board members would like to move forward with the painting, but since the ownership of the caboose is still in question, they won't approve any expenditures until the ownership has been clarified.

Board Member Concerns. Nothing identified.

ADJOURNMENT- ACTION 25-45. With no further business appearing, motion by Kramer second by Stone that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT - 10:21 a.m.

Chris Herbold, Secretary