

Meeting Minutes March 4th, 2026

**Call to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:33pm by Kenkel

**Board Members Present:**

Kenkel, Dunning, Behrens, Fillon (Zoom)

**Staff Present:**

Behrens, Horne, Tague

**Public Comment:** None

**Information Items:**

Maintenance Report:

Maintenance Supervisor Horne provided the maintenance report for the month of February.

Naturalist Report:

Director Behrens provided the Naturalist report for education and outreach for the month of February.

Director Report:

Director Behrens provided his report for the month of February.

**Action Items:**

Park / Equipment Purchases:

Director Behrens presented updated information on trailer trade-in and purchase options along with options for Blinds and Security Cameras for the Nature Center.

Motion by Behrens to approve trade-in purchase of utility trailer from PJ Trailers, second by Dunning, all voting in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Dunning to purchase blinds for NC for no more than \$4000 in total. Seconded by Kenkel, all voting in favor. Motion passes.

Motion by Kenkel to purchase Google Security Cameras and associated basic storage package, as well as door chime equipment. Seconded by Filloon, all voting in favor. Motion passes.

Board member future roles:

Staff and board discussed rotating roles of current Conservation Board members and assigned roles/terms.

Motion by Filloon to designate Kenkel as Chair, and Dunning as Vice Chair until end of 2026.

Seconded by Behrens, all voting aye. Motion passes.

**Discussion:**

Ike's Refresher Course and Input:

Director Behrens provided an update on the bi-annual Ike's training course and individual pass sales. There were approximately 40 attendees at the refresher course, and little input on Ike's changes.

Seasonal Posting:

Director Behrens provided updates on the Seasonal Conservation Aide posting for summer staff. Board and Director agreed that the position be allowed a wage range between \$15-18, and a change to the posting to “Start at \$15, based on experience”.

Budget Savings options:

Director Behrens provided an update on rollover abilities and options based on talks with the Board of Supervisors and auditor. Director Behrens presented a Fleet Replacement plan for the next roughly 10 years for replacing motor vehicles and heavy machine equipment, as well as budget adjustments for future fleet replacements.

Animal Vet Updates:

Director Behrens presented pricing for all ambassador animals to see a vet on a yearly check up basis. Naturalist Tague provided an update that vet visits will occur after cold season so as not to disrupt winter animal rhythms.

Tama County Land:

Staff and Board discussed land adjacent to Tama County Landfill and future use or possession options.

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion by Behrens to approve the Meeting Minutes and Claims for February 2026. Seconded by Dunning. All voting in favor. Motion passes.

**Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn by Filloon. Seconded by Behrens. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.