

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

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

Staff Present: Keri Van Zante and Ethan VanderPol

Guests Present: Dave Van Waus, Fran Henderson, Jamie Malloy

With a quorum present, the business meeting was called to order by Chairperson Yeager at 8:30 am. Minutes of September 2, 2025, regular meeting and September 19, 2025 special meeting were approved as written.

APPROVAL OF BILLS – ACTION 26-29. 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	\$713.45	
	0001-22-6110-000-43143	\$221.19	
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc	0001-22-6110-000-43244	\$64.03	
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc	0001-22-6110-000-43242	\$193.61	
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc	0001-22-6110-000-21249	\$48.74	
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc	0001-22-6110-000-43213	\$89.68	
Jasper County Engineer	0001-22-6110-000-25000	\$2,384.90	
Jasper County Engineer	0001-22-6110-000-25000	\$2,224.16	
MidAmerican Energy	0001-22-6110-000-43144	\$262.00	
	0001-22-6110-000-43144	\$130.52	
Skunk River Sanitation LLC	0001-22-6110-000-21944	\$55.00	
US Cellular	0001-22-6110-000-42080	\$175.16	
Newton Daily News	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$95.00	
Walmart	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$147.27	C
Studio MELEE	0023-22-0210-000-60000	\$1,285.00	
Logan Contractors	0001-22-6110-000-41546	\$49.39	
	0001-22-6110-000-41546	\$2,211.00	
Riggs Printing	0001-22-6100-000-26339	\$630.98	
Theisens	0001-22-6110-000-	\$13.49	
Authorize.net	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$19.60	C
Amazon	0001-22-6110-000-21942	\$9.30	C
Newton Daily News	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$60.00	
	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$95.00	

	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$95.00	
Greiner Construction	0028-22-0210-000-60000	\$96,437.35	
Menards	0031-22-0210-000-44142	\$3,703.99	C
Theisens	0001-22-6110-000-21942	\$27.97	C
	0001-22-6110-000-21942	\$91.97	C
	0001-22-6110-000-44000	\$28.47	C
	0001-22-6110-000-44300	\$14.99	C
Walmart	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$16.25	C
	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$83.98	C
Niemann Ace	0001-22-6110-000-23200	\$180.39	C
Ryans Tire and Auto	0001-22-6110-000-44000	\$140.00	C
Newton Daily News	0001-22-6100-000-26000	\$143.00	
Newton Daily News	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$130.00	
Ziegler Comp	0001-22-6110-000-44300	\$115.80	C
VanWall	0001-22-6110-000-44000	\$21.00	C
Amazon	0001-22-6100-000-26000	\$27.94	C
	0001-22-6100-000-26000	\$52.64	C
	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$102.94	C
O'Reilly	0001-22-6110-000-44000	\$154.00	C
CCPOA MCP	0001-22-6100-000-42200	\$95.00	C
Acent Drywall LLC	0001-22-6110-000-44142	\$1,385.00	
Bob's Septic	0001-22-6110-000-41046	\$450.00	C
Arrow Pest Control	0001-22-6110-000-44142	\$80.00	
Newton Landfill	0001-22-6110-000-44142	\$11.95	C
Magnum Auto	0001-22-6110-000-44000	\$87.37	C
Menards	0001-22-6110-000-44142	\$1,268.49	C
Theisens	0001-22-6110-000-41546	\$329.97	C
Key Cooperative	0001-22-6110-000-41546	\$471.07	C
Amazon	0005-22-6100-000-29280	\$76.54	C
Amazon	0001-22-6100-000-26000	\$5.99	C
Amazon	0001-22-6110-000-36700	\$198.99	C
SCI Communications	0028-22-0210-000-60000	\$12,981.70	C
Forbes Office Solutions	0001-22-6100-000-40200	\$65.34	
Dodds Trash Hauling & Rec	0001-22-6110-000-44146	\$33.81	
	0001-22-6110-000-21942	\$33.82	
Amazon	0001-22-6100-000-29139	\$59.99	C
	0001-22-6110-000-20142	\$6.47	C
Spahn & Rose Lumber Supp	0031-22-0210-000-44142	\$12,605.43	C
	0031-22-0210-000-44142	\$58.26	C

P&P small engines	0001-22-6110-000-24100	\$157.96	C
Newton Daily News	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$60.00	
Central Iowa Distribution	0001-22-6110-000-23200	\$432.00	
Smiths Quality Rental	0031-22-0210-000-44142	\$800.00	C
Meta	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$41.98	C
NAPA	0001-22-6110-000-21944	\$9.99	C
Theisens	0001-22-6110-000-21944	\$28.95	C
	0001-22-6110-000-21943	\$49.95	C
Jack's Small Engines	0001-22-6110-000-24100	\$149.08	C
Greiner Construction	0028-22-0210-000-60000	\$96,437.35	
Amerigas	0001-22-6110-000-43044	\$164.22	
Snyder & Associates	1555-22-0220-000-60100	\$8,376.15	
Spahn & Rose Lumber	0031-22-0210-000-44142	\$408.36	C
Paul's Ace Hardware	0001-22-6110-000-21900	\$138.86	C
Theisens	0001-22-6110-000-23200	\$173.89	C
Amazon	0001-22-6110-000-23200	\$43.48	C
Forbes Office Solutions	0001-22-6100-000-40200	\$76.38	
Hometown Press	0001-22-6100-000-40000	\$120.00	
Jerry Ratliff	0001-22-6100-000-41400	\$105.00	
Keri Van Zante	0001-22-6100-000-41400	\$105.00	
Katie Cantu	0001-22-6100-000-41400	\$105.00	
Greg Oldsen	0001-22-6100-000-41400	\$105.00	
Tristan Hunt	0001-22-6100-000-41400	\$105.00	
Kent Dunsburgen	0001-22-6100-000-41400	\$105.00	
Ethan Vander pol	0001-22-6100-000-41400	\$105.00	
		\$251,454.94	

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DIGITAL TRANSACTIONS- ACTION 26-30. Motion by Herbold, second by Stone to approve the September 2025 digital transactions. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A report was given by VanderPol.

WAGAMAN MILL DRIVEWAY AND PARKING LOT FEMA PROJECT BID OPENING- ACTION 26-31. Yeager opened 3 sealed bills that were submitted for the Wagaman Mill driveway and parking lot project. Huffaker Trucking bid

\$16,578.45, Scott Nikkel Trucking bid \$15,852.15, and Sully Construction bid \$14,201.29. Motion by Herbold, second by Stone to accept the low bid from Sully Construction of \$14,201.29 for the Wagaman Mill driveway and parking lot FEMA project. Motion carried unanimously.

GEISLER-PENQUITE LAND STEWARDSHIP LAB NEXT STEPS- ACTION 26-32. Jamie Malloy from Studio Melee presented cost saving ideas for a rebid of the Geisler-Penquite Land Stewardship Lab project at the nature center. Malloy suggested allowing his staff to remove any “extras” from the design and rebid it as one complete project instead of in 5 bid packages as before. Motion by Herbold, second by Kramer to have Studio Melee simplify the design rebid of the Geisler-Penquite Land Stewardship Lab and move forward with a rebid as just one single project . Motion carried unanimously.

GREENWALLS HYDROPONICS WALL CONTRACT- ACTION 26-33. Van Zante presented a contract from Greenwalls to construct and maintain the hydroponics wall at the nature center. This preoject is being sponsored and funded by Newton Rotary. The cost to construct the wall is \$17,096.00 and maintenance is set at a weekly rate of \$1,037.00/month or biweekly rate of \$540/month. Motion by Herbold, second by Stone to approve the Greenwalls installation cost for the hydroponics wall of \$17,096.00 and biweekly maintenance for 6 months for \$3,240, totaling \$20,336. Motion carried unanimously.

GREENHOUSE UPDATED QUOTE – ACTION 26-34. Oldsen collected add-ons to the previously approved greenhouse quote. The Jasper County Zoning department is requiring signed engineered plans, which adds \$6,000 to the original quote. We also changed the door to be ADA accessible, which adds \$1,218.00 to the quote. Motion by Herbold. Second by Stone to add the engineered plans and the ADA door to the quote, for a total of \$7,218.00 additional cost. Motion carried unanimously.

YOUTH FISHING POND- ACTION 26-35. Board members discussed designating the older north pond at the nature center as youth only fishing. The designation would allow fishing club members and others youth to fish without adult competition or pressure. Motion by Herbold, second by Kramer to designate the north pond at the nature center area as youth only fishing. Motion carried unanimously.

RED ROCK PRAIRIE TRAIL NEXT STEPS- ACTION 26-36. Van Zante reviewed the current schedule for the Red Rock Prairie Trail development:

3/1/26 – 12/15/26 Construction Engineering

4/1/26 – 10/31/26 Construction

10/31/26 – 12/15/26 Project Closeout

Board members would like a letter sent out to all the adjacent landowners along the trail informing them of this schedule and that staff will be re-

establishing the easement area this fall so that construction can begin next spring. The easement area is 50' from the centerline of each side of the trail, except for at landowner Mike Devries's property, and his will be set at 33', as his easement allows closer farming to the raibed. Board members also discussed letting landowners know that the right-of-way will be seeded with prairie grass after the trail is built. Van Zante has reviewed all of this information with county attorney Scott Nicholson, as well. Motion by Stone, second by Kramer to send a letter to the Red Rock Prairie Trail adjacent landowners to let them know the trail development schedule and that conservation staff will be re-establishing the easement area of 50' from the centerline, and 33' for the Devries landowner. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF ASSESTS FROM CURTIS "CURT" JACKSON TRUST – ACTION 26-37. Van Zante announced that the Curt Jackson Trust will be donating \$1,223,182 to Jasper County Conservation for the development of the Environmental Education Center. The trust information has been reviewed and approved by county attorney Scott Nicholson. Motion by Kramer, second by Herbold to accept the Curt Jackson Trust donation of \$1,223,182 to be used for the development of the Environmental Education Center. Motion carried unanimously.

Other. Nothing identified.

Board Member Concerns. Stone would like to see the sign for Uhlenhopp/Sugar Creek on Hwy 6 repaired after it was damaged by a gun shot. Van Zante will begin that process with DOT.

ADJOURNMENT– ACTION 26-38. With no further business appearing, motion by Stone second by Herbold that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:52 a.m.

Chris Herbold, Secretary