REGULAR MEETING
JASPER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD
Dana King Ceretti Environmental Education Center, Newton, Iowa
November 3, 2026, 8:00 A.M.

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

Staff Present: Keri Van Zante, Liz Ventling, and Katie Cantu

With a quorum present, the business meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Herbold at 8:04 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- ACTION 27-35. Motion by Yeager, second by Nearmyer to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2026 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS – ACTION 27-36. Motion by Stone, second by Yeager, that the following bills be approved for payment from the conservation fund:

Amazon	$36.99	0001-22-6100-000-26000
Amazon	$71.24	0001-22-6100-000-26000
Amazon	$16.14	0001-22-6100-000-26000
Amazon	$16.82	0001-22-6100-000-26139
Amazon	$12.95	0001-22-6100-000-29139
Amazon	$12.99	0001-22-6100-000-29139
Amazon	$28.50	0001-22-6100-000-29139
Amazon	$69.00	0001-22-6100-000-29139
Amazon	$12.34	0001-22-6100-000-29139
Amazon	$8.76	0001-22-6100-000-29139
Walmart	$15.89	0001-22-6100-000-29139
Walmart	$41.95	0001-22-6100-000-29139
Walmart	$9.94	0001-22-6100-000-29139
Amazon	$11.19	0001-22-6100-000-29139
My County Parks	$244.00	0001-22-6100-000-40000
Loves	$15.28	0001-22-6100-000-40000
Canva	$14.99	0001-22-6100-000-40000
Authorize.net	$16.70	0001-22-6100-000-40000
My County Parks	$260.00	0001-22-6100-000-40000
Amazon	$40.28	0001-22-6100-000-40200
Forbes Office Solutions	$228.40	0001-22-6100-000-40200
Forbes Office Solutions	$132.56	0001-22-6100-000-40200
Forbes Office Solutions	$129.69	0001-22-6100-000-40200
Jasper County Extension	$45.00	0001-22-6100-000-42200
Amazon	$36.08	0001-22-6110-000-20142
Finch Livestock	$224.00	0001-22-6110-000-20142
Walmart	$11.68	0001-22-6110-000-20142
Jasper Construction Services	$167.96	0001-22-6110-000-21200
Jasper Construction Services	$88.16	0001-22-6110-000-21200
IRUA	$229.17	0001-22-6110-000-21249

Amazon	$20.97	0001-22-6110-000-23200
Jasper County Engineer	$4,156.95	0001-22-6110-000-25000
Bob's Septic	$463.50	0001-22-6110-000-41046
T-Mobile	$104.36	0001-22-6110-000-42080
Alliant Energy	$61.82	0001-22-6110-000-43142
Alliant Energy	$551.31	0001-22-6110-000-43142
Alliant Energy	$58.42	0001-22-6110-000-43142
Alliant Energy	$115.76	0001-22-6110-000-43143
Alliant Energy	$23.02	0001-22-6110-000-43143
MidAmerican Energy	$83.40	0001-22-6110-000-43144
AmeriGas	$48.78	0001-22-6110-000-43144
Alliant Energy	$68.12	0001-22-6110-000-43145
IRUA	$31.92	0001-22-6110-000-43242
IRUA	$36.59	0001-22-6110-000-43242
IRUA	$55.73	0001-22-6110-000-43242
IRUA	$33.11	0001-22-6110-000-43242
IRUA	$43.55	0001-22-6110-000-43242
IRUA	$37.89	0001-22-6110-000-43242
IRUA	$71.98	0001-22-6110-000-43243
IRUA	$44.30	0001-22-6110-000-43243
IRUA	$52.50	0001-22-6110-000-43244
IRUA	$286.25	0001-22-6110-000-43245
Newton Classic Carwash	$21.00	0001-22-6110-000-44000
Theisens	$148.84	0001-22-6110-000-44000
Ryan's Tire & Auto	$131.00	0001-22-6110-000-44000
Napa Auto Parts	$80.24	0001-22-6110-000-44000
Magnum Automotive	$2,152.09	0001-22-6110-000-44000
Theisens	$91.96	0001-22-6110-000-44000
Napa Auto Parts	$74.46	0001-22-6110-000-44000
Ryan's Tire and Auto	$202.00	0001-22-6110-000-44000
Theisens	$155.83	0001-22-6110-000-44000
Arrow Pest Control	$80.00	0001-22-6110-000-44142
Dodd's Trash Hauling	$78.80	0001-22-6110-000-44142
Menards	$835.69	0001-22-6110-000-44142
Sherwin-Williams	$348.74	0001-22-6110-000-44142
Arrow Pest Control	$80.00	0001-22-6110-000-44142
Skunk River Sanitation	$171.00	0001-22-6110-000-44144
Dodd's Trash Hauling	$78.80	0001-22-6110-000-44146
Amazon	$13.49	0001-22-6110-000-44146
Prairie Ag Supply	$80.39	0001-22-6110-000-44300
Van Wall Equipment	$5.99	0001-22-6110-000-44300
Hewitts Service Center	$90.00	0001-22-6110-000-44300
Synder & Associates	$8,761.00	0001-22-6110-000-49160
Theisens	$17.98	0001-22-6110-000-63800
Theisens	$25.51	0001-22-6110-000-63800
Walmart	$27.44	0001-22-6110-000-63800
Theisens	$14.99	0001-22-6110-000-63800
Theisens	$39.96	0001-22-6110-000-63800

Theisens	$54.13	0001-22-6110-000-63800
Miracle Recreation	$31,564.00	0004-22-6110-000-44142
Boland Recreation	$4,500.00	0004-22-6110-000-44142
Shive Hattery	$6,115.94	0027-22-0210-000-60000
Amazon	$41.98	0028-22-0210-000-60000
FarmTek	$4,280.83	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Crop King	$7,897.05	0028-22-0210-000-60000
GTG Construction	$44,199.37	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Studio MELEE	$1,380.00	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Des Moines Winsupply Pump Co	$342.91	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Des Moines Winsupply Pump Co	$7,035.04	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Spahn & Rose Lumber Co	$36.47	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Amazon	$19.89	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Robbie Howe	$1,000.00	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Des Moines Winsupply Pump Co	$1,864.82	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Menards	$114.52	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Theisens	$4.98	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Theisens	$31.92	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Ace Hardware	$48.86	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Indianola Precast LLC	$4,368.60	0028-22-0210-000-60000
DC Sports	$462.00	0028-22-0210-000-60000
GTG Construction	$37,345.00	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Theisens	$363.93	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Theisens	$32.56	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Theisens	$50.66	0028-22-0210-000-60000
Greenhouse Megastore	$689.99	0028-22-0210-000-60000
R.P. Lumber	-$35.99	0031-22-0210-000-44142
Miracle Recreation	$11,384.00	0031-22-0210-000-44142
Terpstra	$12,774.00	0031-22-0210-000-44142
Synder & Associates	$16,176.78	1555-22-0220-000-60100
Howrey Construction Inc	$38,785.85	1555-22-0220-000-60100
	Total: 255,436.17	

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DIGITAL TRANSACTIONS- ACTION 27-37. Motion by Stone, second by Yeager to approve the October 2026 digital transactions. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:
A naturalist report was given by Cantu and Ventling.

NATURE CENTER PHASE 2 LAND STEWARDSHIP LAB CHANGE ORDER- ACTION 27-38. Van Zante presented a change order for the Geisler-Penquite Land Stewardship Lab project. This change order is for $4500 in credit due to the heaters in the greenhouse being bid multiple times in the bid packet. This was determined to be a mistake of the architect and the engineer so the credit will go to Jasper County Conservation. Motion by Yeager, Second by Stone to approve change for the Geisler-Penquite Land Stewardship Lab project in the amount of $4500 credit. Motion carried unanimously.

POTENTIAL LAND ACQUISITION OPPORTUNITY- ACTION 27-39. Van Zante presented an opportunity for land acquisition in the Skunk River Bottom, south of Reasnor. The landowners reached out to Jasper County Conservation regarding this sale to add to the neighboring public land (Carpenter wildlife area). The acquisition is 120 acres total. These acres are already enrolled in the Wetland Reserve Easement Program, so they cannot be farmed or developed. The property is located in the historical floodplain of the South Skunk River and has soil that is consistently wet. The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation would purchase the land up front and Jasper County Conservation would pay them back as grants and donations are obtained. Motion by Stone, second by Yeager to move forward with the wetland acquisition of 120 acres. Motion carried unanimously.

Nature Center Phase 1 and Phase 2 Construction Projects Update. The contractor reported that the basement at the Nature Center should be done around November 11th, except for some of the millwork that has not arrived yet, including the ceiling clouds. Other than that, everything else should be finished up. The Phase 2 project still has a few punch list items to be completed, but staff are now moving things into the building and getting the classroom and the archery range set up.

Red Rock Prairie Trail Construction Update. The Red Rock Prairie Trail Phase 2 construction is nearly complete. A punch list walk-through with the contractor and engineer is supposed to happen today, but heavy rain, it may be postponed until later this week. As soon as the punch list is completed, the project will be done and the trail will open.

Uhlenhopp Sunday Pond and Pumped Wetland Update. Uhlenhopp Sunday Pond is now complete, and the pond is starting to refill with water. The pumped wetland at Uhlenhopp has now been permitted by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Iowa DNR. The plan is to bid the project out this winter with construction happening during the spring and summer of 2027.

Uhlenhopp Waterline Repair Project Update. VanderPol is planning to begin replacing the water line at Uhlenhopp at the beginning of next week. We will be renting a trencher and purchasing waterline supplies and hope to be done within the week.

FEMA Projects Update. A few FEMA projects remain from 2024 including the Wagaman Mill Portage Path, Mariposa parking lot, and the reseeding around the cabin area at Mariposa. Van Zante and Ratliff have been inspecting the Chichaqua bike trail to determine damage done during spring flooding of 2026. There is now a FEMA project created for this damage, as well.

Mariposa Cabin Construction Update. Vander Pol has a few small items left to finish inside the cabin and hopes the project will be completed by the 1st of next week.

Other. Bid Proposals for FEMA Project Wagaman Mill Portage Path Repair were distributed to 3 local contractors with a due date of Nov 20 @ 8:00 am.

Board Member Concerns. None identified.

ADJOURNMENT– ACTION 27-40. With no further business appearing, motion by Yeager, second by Stone that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT 9:03 a.m.

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Thad Nearmyer, Secretary