



**Wayne County Conservation Board
Conservation Director; Kenny Banks**

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WAYNE COUNTY AUDITOR

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ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024

Board Roster

Tom Rockhold – Chair, Lineville, IA	2028
Diane Olson Schroeder - Vice Chair, Humeston, IA	2024
Mike Lewis – Member, Seymour, IA	2026
Marty Nickel – Member, Lineville, IA	2028
Garrett Abel – Member, Allerton, IA	2026
Don Seams – Member, Supervisor, Corydon, IA	2028

Terms expires December 31,

-Lance Lange replaced Don Seams in January 2024 after election

Staff Roster

Kenny Banks – Executive Director, Allerton, IA
Brittany Snow – Assistant Director/Technician, Lineville, IA
Ashleigh Arnold – Naturalist, Centerville, IA
Linda Allen – Part-time clerical, Part-time secretary, Allerton, IA
Steve Benjamin – Part-time Technician, Allerton, IA
Ronnie Guthrie – Part-time Technician, Corydon, IA
Vernon Trower – Part-time Technician, Allerton, IA

Regular County Conservation Board meetings held in accordance with Iowa Code 350.3.

There were 12 regular meetings during the fiscal year.

Lance Lange was appointed to the Conservation Board as a supervisor in January 2024 to finish out fiscal year for Don Seams.

Mike Lewis resigned from the board on May 20, 2024.

Ashleigh Arnold turned in her resignation on June 28, 2024.

Conservation Park enhancements:

- Cut several dead Ash Trees (ash bore) at Corydon Lake Park
 - Continuing cutting of Ash Trees in all parks
- Helga, IDNR, helped implement a bow only management hunt at Bobwhite State Park
- Cut 200 trees from Corydon Lake Park
 - Burned all the tops below the lake dam
 - Marked more trees for removal at Corydon Lake Park
- Raised camping prices to \$20 a night
- Installed a new sewer line at Bobwhite in July of 2023
- Leveling camp pads and extending them at Bobwhite
- IDNR restock of Humeston Lake
- IDNR restock of Medicine Creek Wildlife Area Lake
- Had new park signs hung on Highway 2 by DOT for Lakeside Park
- New playground at Corydon Lake Park
 - Seeded the new playground
- Added new signs to Medicine Creek Wildlife Area
- Started to cut the roadside at Lakeside Park
- Burned a brush pile and timber reserve area at Bobwhite

Conservation Set Backs:

- Set back with start of mowing season in spring due to continual rain

Maintenance Areas:

Corydon Lake Park:

- 143-acre park
- 64-acre lake
- 2 shelters; electricity and drinking water
 - Stationary grills at each
- Modern shower house
- 19 campsites
- ADA EZ Dock and 2 kayak launchers
- Camping
- Playground
- Picnicking
- Hiking trails
- Fishing/boating; electric motors only
- 9-hole disc golf course
- 3rd year of water quality treatment with IDNR hatchery
- New playground by shelters completed

Bobwhite State Park

- 390-acre park
- 90-acre lake
- 2 shelters
 - Stationary grills at each
- Modern shower house
- 30 campsites
- Camping
- Playground
- ADA pit toilet South shelter
 - ADA sidewalk
- Picnicking
- Hiking trails
- Fishing/boating; electric motors only
- ADA dock and 2 kayak launchers
- Beach and swim area

Moore-Gosch Memorial Park

- 29-acre park
- 12-acre lake
- Camping
- 1 shelter; electricity and drinking water
 - Stationary grill
- Modern shower house
- 22 campsites
- Picnicking
- Fishing/boating; electric motors only
- Dock and a kayak launcher
- Playground
- Half-court basketball

Lakeside Park

- 86-acre park
- 45-acre lake
- Camping
- 1 shelter; electricity and drinking water
 - Stationary grill
- Modern shower house
- 29 campsites
- Picnicking
- Fishing/boating; electric motors only
- 2 ADA docks and 2 kayak launchers
- 2 ADA sidewalks at docks and shelter
- Single stall restroom on the North side of park by the shelter
- 3 playgrounds
- WCCB large storage building

Medicine Creek Wildlife Area

- 1,028-acre area
- 140 wetland acres
- Restored prairie
- Upland timber
- Public hunting
- Fishing/boating
 - Boat ramp
- Food plots
- Restocked by IDNR

Campgrounds Use Totals:

Corydon Lake Park:

Total of 81 units
 43% in county
 45% out of county
 12% out of state
 197 nights of stay
 194 individuals

Moore-Gosch Memorial Park:

Total of 201 units
 33% in county
 19% out of county
 48% out of state
 517 nights of stay
 520 individuals

Lakeside Park:

Total of 403 units
 35% in county
 59% out of county
 6% out of state
 1,468 nights of stay
 1,169 individuals

Bobwhite State Park:

Total of 322 units
 54% in county
 24% out of county
 22% out of state
 931 nights of stay
 855 individuals

% of use for FY 23/24

Park	In County	Out County	Out State
CLP	35	25	10
BW	174	78	70
MG	67	37	97
LSP	141	236	26
Total	417	376	203
Total %	41%	39%	20%

\$ totals for camping FY 23/24

FY 23/24	BW	LSP	MG	CLP	Totals
July	\$2,660	\$8,120	\$1,540	\$1,160	\$13,480
Aug.	\$3,360	\$3,860	\$1,300	\$900	\$9,420
Sept.	\$3,780	\$5,060	\$1,540	\$500	\$10,880
Oct.	\$2,940	\$1,960	\$1,960	\$0	\$6,860
Nov.	\$990	\$0	\$60	\$0	\$1,050
April	\$340	\$480	\$320	\$240	\$1,380
May	\$2,270	\$3,500	\$1,720	\$660	\$8,150
June	\$2,280	\$6,380	\$1,900	\$480	\$11,040
Totals	\$18,620	\$29,360	\$10,340	\$3,940	\$62,260

Account Balances Ending FY 23/24

Reap..... \$14,970.54
 Wetland.....\$0
 Donations..... \$4,648.14
 Duncan..... \$83,680.33
 SEP..... \$4,379.43
 Cons. Reserve
 IA Code 350.6.... \$3,321.24

Total camping fees collected.....\$62,260.00
 15 shelter rentals at \$25.00.....\$375.00
 Total revenue FY 23/24.....\$62,635.00

Law Enforcement Activities:

- Took calls about hunting, fishing, and park regulations
- Operated under the Wayne County Sheriff's office
- County Officers patrolled each park
- In certain situations where law enforcement is needed, we called the sheriff's office
- Work with IDNR officer, for Wayne and Lucas County, Kyle Jensen on all hunting, fishing, and game matters
 - o Wildlife removal from roadways
 - o Wildlife disposal
 - o EHD deer removal from lakes

Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance:

- Performed routine maintenance on all mowers and equipment as necessary
 - o Change oil
 - o Change air filters
 - o Change gas filters
 - o Run correct air pressure in tires
 - o Check hydro oil
- Changed blades on mowers
- Sharpen mower blades
- Repaired mowers as needed
- Performed routine maintenance on trucks as necessary
 - o Oil changes
- Repaired trucks as needed
 - o Brakes rotor on White Ford
 - o Driver side brake caliper replaced on Green Ford
- Kept updated gas log
- Keep updated mileage log in trucks
- Purchased a new mower (G4)
- Maintained hand tools
 - o Update as needed
- Maintenance for tractor as needed
- Maintenance for skid loader as needed
 - o New electric wiring harness
- Purchased stump grinder for skid loader

Public

- Monthly board meeting
- See Naturalist yearly report
- Attempting to keep Reap committee together
- Work with Stacey, Corydon City Clerk on grant
- Work with Taylor and Stacey on new playground at Corydon Lake Park
- Participate in supervisor meetings to explain budget and new budget for conservation
- Hosted community work day for students from Wayne Community School at Corydon Lake Park
- End of year activities for Mormon Trail students at Lakeside Park
 - o Kayaking
 - o Fishing
 - o Life Jackets
 - o Hike
 - o Archery
- Take on community service workers to work off hours
- Issued fuel wood permits to the public
- Work with Stacey and Jared from the City of Corydon on tree removal from Corydon Lake Park
- Assist with Civil War Reenactment at Corydon Lake Park
- Participate in Job Shadowing program with Wayne High School
- Time Republican reached out about attending Board meetings
 - o Told them yes, they are open to the public
- Partner with Appanoose County Conservation
- Work with Corydon Museum
- Spoke with Mrs. Day regarding the Little Red School House
- Work with Courtney for the City of Humeston on rules and regulations for camping
- Had Wayne students at Corydon Lake Park for Community Service Day
 - o Pictures on Facebook

Continuing Education:

- Attended Winterfest in January of 2024
 - o Continuing education
 - o Brittany and Ashleigh attended
 - o Kenny wasn't able to attend

Office:

- Input claims in Excel
 - o Started new system to track claims/budget
- Filed claims
- Read e-mails
- Input camp receipts
- Took phone calls
- Cleaned office
- Maintain Facebook page
- Open mail and bills
- Filed copies of claims sent to courthouse
- Wrote up claims list
- Wrote up claims to submit to courthouse for payment
- Work on agenda for board meeting
- Took phone calls for shelter reservations
- Put information in together for board meetings
- Worked on budget for the next fiscal year
- Worked on timesheets promptly
- Kept updated logs for what was done that day
- Retrieved claims from courthouse for board meetings
- Post board meeting agenda outside office
- File and save information on the computer
- Print off bills from e-mails
- Input camping receipts into computer
- Attend department head/safety meetings
- Work with Auditors Office
- Work with Recorders Office
- Work with Treasurers Office
- Make calls to turn on and off power and water with said entities according to season
- Work with State Auditors
- Welcomed supervisor Lance Lange to first meeting as a board member for the Conservation in January to replace Don Seams
- Update and return capital asset sheets to insurance company

Naturalist:

- Ashleigh worked full time with Wayne County Conservation
- Put on public programs at each park
- Provided programs at the Seymour, Wayne, and Mormon Trail elementary schools
- Provided programs at Corydon, Seymour, and Humeston libraries
- Provided programs at Corydon Head Start and Magical Beginnings
- Maintained Honeybees and extracted honey
- Assisted with Maintenance and Office
- Attended Winterfest

Monarch Tagging	BW, MP
Fishing	LSP
Snakes	CL, SL, BW, MG, CLP, LSP, MP, CSC
Kayaking	BW, LSP, MC, HL, SL, CL
Fish Kill	MP
Camp or Treat/cookoff	BW
Beeswax Lotion Bars	SL, HL, CL, MP, QCWOC
Turtle	BW, LSP, MG, CLP
Daylight, Starlight Wildlife	CHS, MB
Bee Keeping	ACCB Homeschool Group
Seed Dispersal Method	SL, HL, CL, S, W, MT, MP
Seeds Move	CHS, MB
Metamorphosis	SL, HL, CL, MT, LSP
Honeybees	BW
Bookmarks	SL, HL, CL
Hike	LSP
Taxonomy	SL, HL, CL, S, CHS, W, MB, MT, MP
Insects	SL, HL, CL, S, CSC, W, MB, MT, MP, CHS
Food Chain	SL, HL, CL, S, CHS, W, MB, MT, MP, CSC

Pollination	SL, HL, CL, S, CHS, W, MB, MT, MP, CSC
Recycled Bee Cans – Summer Reading	SL
Lifejacket	LSP
Fishing	LSP
Archery	LSP
Bird Call Bingo	WCF, SL, HL, CL, S, W, MT, CSC
Dutch Oven	QCWOC, SL, CL, MP

Monthly Participants

July	70
August	64
September	734
October	751
November	680
December	50
January	681
February	692
March	695
April	756
May	174
June	98
Total	5,445

MT – Mormon Trail
 S – Seymour
 W- Wayne
 MP – Murphy’s Place
 AWF – Allerton World Fair
 MG – Moore-Gosch
 BW – Bobwhite
 CLP – Corydon Lake Park
 LSP – Lakeside Park
 WCF – Wayne County Fair
 CHS – Corydon Head Start
 MB – Magical Beginnings
 SL – Seymour Library
 CL – Corydon Library
 HL – Humeston Library
 QCWOC – Quad City Women’s Outdoor Club
 MC – Medicine Creek
 CSC – Corydon Specialty Care
 ACCB – Appanoose County Conservation Board

Maintenance:

Spring/Summer:

- Open parks
 - o Open bathhouses
- Board meetings
- Beach monitoring with ISU
 - o Water quality testing
- Mow/burn plot areas off
- Burn prairie for prairie restoration BW
- Burn CLP dam
- Burn brush pile @ BW
- Work with Mark Flammang, IDNR, aquatic spraying of lake @ CLP
- Work with IDNR, Kyle Jensen
- Burn and compost leaves
- Change boundary signs that have been shot
- Maintain mowers
- Mow all parks
 - o Usually 26 – 30 times per season depending on weather
- Trim all parks
- Spray all parks
- Spray campground pads
- Mow lake shores w/ side cutter
- Mow dams w/ side cutter
- Mow roadways and trails w/ side cutter and bush hog
- Mow MCWA entrance
 - o Field entrances for parking and dead-end road
- Fill trucks up when needed
- Oil change on trucks when needed
- Clean, repair, maintain all shower houses
- Clean/open shower houses in spring
- Load firewood in the box in the campground
- Fill pot holes in at campgrounds
- Clean, maintain, rent out shelters in all parks
 - o Weddings
 - o Family reunions
 - o Graduations.... etc.
- Pick up trash @ all parks
- Painted curb stops at South Shelter @ CLP

- Primp all parks for special weekends, yearly festivals
 - o Old settlers
 - o Bordertown days
 - o Watermelon days
 - o Wayne Co. Fair
 - o Allerton World Fair
 - o Memorial Weekend
 - o 4th of July
 - o Labor Day Weekend
 - o Easter
 - o Mother/Father's Day
- Clean vehicles, shop & equipment
- Clean the parks up after storm damage
- Maintain kayaks and kayak trailer
- Received new stump grinder
- Marked 200 trees for removal @ CLP
- Turn water and utilities on in all parks for camping season
- Ron, Linda, and Vern started back to work part-time
- Cleaned up areas around the campground
- Camp host, Steve Benjamin planted sunflowers at the BW campground entrance

Maintenance Continued:

Fall/Winter:

- Fill out fuel wood agreements for cutting in BW, CLP, and LSP
- Close parks
- Winterize all shower houses
- Burn brush piles
- Cut hazard trees
- Cut and split firewood to sell at CG
- Worked on and submitted budget
- Fall burn
- Annual report
- Continuing education
- Build tables
- Repair tables
- Winterize trucks, tractors, mowers
- Winterize @ shop
- Clean fire rings
- Blade snow
- Shovel snow
- Work on ice removal
- Board meetings
- Clean shop
- Work in campgrounds, weather permitting
- Trickle charge batteries
- Move equipment inside for the winter
 - o Storage building @ LSP
 - o Back shop @ BW
- Inventory
- Put gates up at BW campgrounds to close campgrounds
- Work with IDNR, Helga Offenburger
 - o Fall hunt at BW
- Maintain chainsaws
- Fill trucks up when needed
- Oil change on trucks when needed
- Follow IDNR hazard tree cutting protocol
- Cutting every ash tree that the ash bore has killed in every park
- Turn off water and utilities at all parks for winter

Future Park Plans:

1. Groom parks to meticulous standards
2. Continue tree cutting @ all parks regarding dead Ash Trees until all are cut out of high use areas
3. Burn off Dams @ all parks
4. Burn the Prairie @ BW and MCWA
5. Food plots @ MCWA
 - a. Establish sunflowers for annual growth
 - b. Establish food plots
6. Provide excellent outdoor activities for local and non-local residents
7. Opportunities for the schools
8. Expand the kayak program
9. Continue working with IDNR for the lake at CLP
 - a. Water quality
 - b. Fish habitat
10. Work with ISU for beach monitoring at BW
11. Maintain all areas of the parks
12. Keep working w/ schools and the community via naturalist programs
13. Get CLP looking more like the other county parks with more grass growth and tree cutting programs
14. Cut 200 or more trees at CLP
15. Work with IDNR with herd reduction by bow hunting at BW
16. Work with IDNR with restocking fish population at the MCWA
17. Grants for new electric and water line at CLP
18. Grants for a restroom by new playground @ CLP Shelter
19. Bids for new mower
20. Harvest honey from beehives
 - a. Continue with pollinator program
21. Get water and electric to the southside at BW
22. Get funding for a new Nature Center