

Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 5:00 P.M. Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at the Kerndt Brothers Community Center located at 391 Main Street Lansing, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public were as follows: Bruce Palmborg, Steve Casterton, Gary Krapfl, Kelly Meyers, Clem Schulte, John Verdon, Laurie Maloney, Marlene Blocker, and Julie Rotach.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

2015-2016 fiscal year budget ending projections were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. The Director announced that the CAT Board awarded \$486,386.00 to the Conservation Board on May 11th, 2016. The campaign to build the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center will continue fundraising by moving into the public phase of the campaign by hosting a press conference announcing the Beyond the Plateau campaign to the public. Work completed this month included: masonry work starting, sewer and water being connected to the building, first level windows are to be arriving soon, rough plumbing and electrical work is ongoing, and pitless units for geothermal have been installed.

The Board reviewed and approved the seventh contractor claims, totaling \$122,273.84 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builder's claim for \$52,962.50 by Carroll, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Skyline Construction's claim for \$61,938.39 by Koenig, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Shawver Well's claim for \$7,372.95 by Moody, second by Koenig, all in favor, motion carried.

Postville Trail Line bid summary and updates were provided to the Board. The Board of Supervisors public hearing for the sale of the property was May 23rd, the Board of Supervisors accepted the highest bid from Andy Moore for \$6,001.50.

ATV parking and staging at County Parks were discussed by the Board. The Board will allow parking and staging of ATV's and will reevaluate policy if issues arise.

Field operations and educational updates were provided to the Board. All areas are open to the public except the new restroom at Nobles Island. The contractor should be finishing the concrete sidewalk in the near future. The part-time season have all began for the season. Multiple educational programs are ongoing.

Informational items discussed by the Board included IACCB dues, the Des Moines Register working on an article about the closing of the Button Factory, and possible educational displays about the button industry in the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, June 21st, 2016 at 1:00 P.M in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Moody; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.