

Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday November 6th, 2018 in the Board Office located at 1944 Columbus Rd. Lansing, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Marilyn Clark, Jesse Delaney, Dennis Koenig and Bill Moody. Present from the public was Bruce Palmborg. Also attending were Conservation Board staff members Erin Cubbon, Ross Geerdes, and James Janett.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved upon a motion by Koenig, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Claims, revenues, and the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

A draft of Conservation Easement guidelines were reviewed and edited by the Board. The guidelines will be used to address future conservation easement requests.

Information was presented to the Board regarding partnering with the Iowa DNR Fisheries Division on a permanent public fishing access easement on the Yellow River. Iowa DNR Fisheries secured a permanent public fishing access easement on the Yellow River in Allamakee County. The Iowa DNR Fisheries would like to enter into a management agreement with the Allamakee County Conservation Board that would allow both departments to apply for grants such as Fish Habitat Grants for trout habitat improvements. Management costs for such items as signage, parking maintenance, and permit procurement will be the principal responsibility of Iowa DNR. A motion was made by Delaney to move forward with drafting the management agreement between the Iowa DNR Fisheries Division and the Board, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. The Director will move forward drafting the easement and present it to the Board for approval at the December meeting. Once the Board approves the easement the item will be placed on the Board of Supervisors agenda for their approval.

Submitting a Fish Habitat Grant for stream bank stabilization and trout habitat improvements on the private land fishing access easement property was discussed by the Board. The Fish Habitat Grants are due November 30, 2018 and are reviewed for approval December 19, 2018. The funding formula for the grant will allow for a \$25,000.00 request from the Conservation Board. A motion was made by Koenig to submit a Fish Habitat Grant for \$25,000.00 for stream bank stabilization and trout habitat improvements for the permanent public fishing access easement on the Yellow River in Allamakee County, second Delaney, all in favor, motion carried.

Program and event summaries were provided to the Board. The Birding Fest being hosted at the Driftless Center on November 10th has received many information requests.

Field operation summaries were provided to the Board. Most all the restrooms have been winterized, areas had received minor damage from high water, and most docks were operational.

Upcoming Board Member appointments were discussed by the Board. Board Member Bill Moody is up for reappointment. Moody informed the Board that he would accept another appointment to the Board. The Director will draft a letter to the Supervisors requesting they reappoint Bill Moody to the Board.

The next Board meeting will be December 4, 2018 at the Board Office.

There being no additional business a motion was made by Koenig to adjourn the meeting, second Delaney, all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 P.M.