

Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday January 8th, 2019 in the Board Office located at 1944 Columbus Rd. Lansing, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Jesse Delaney, Dennis Koenig and Bill Moody. Those attending from the public included Paul Melsha, Bruce Palmborg, and Dennis Blocker. Also attending were Conservation Board staff members Erin Cubbon, Ross Geerdes, James Janett, and Jarrod Olson.

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 Delaney, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Claims, revenues, and the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Board reviewed line items from the proposed 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget. The Board discussed a number of budget considerations regarding the proposed budget which included part-time seasonal hours, making necessary vehicle changes, grants, and planned construction projects for the upcoming fiscal year. The board reviewed current staff salaries and compared to state averages. The Board discussed the difficulty in meeting comparative salary averages with a percent increase. The Board discussed trying to do a higher percent increase over a two – three year period to reach comparative averages. A motion was made by Delaney to recommend a 5% salary increase for the four fulltime Conservation Board employees to the Board of Supervisors for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budgets, second Clark, voting aye Carroll, Clark, Delaney, Moody, abstaining Koenig.

Program and event summaries were provided to the Board. Numerous school programs had been completed in the area schools, showing of Decoding the Mysteries of the Driftless, full moon winter hikes, and district meetings information was provided.

Field operations were discussed by the Board and included completing the peregrine falcon display, lighting completed on the entrance sign and flag pole, and starting work on the Quandahl Property.

Informational items included Office Manager Erin Cubbon successfully completing her employment probation period, progress on grants for kayaks and kayak launch at Village Creek Boat Landing, grants for boat replacement with the Sheriff's Office, and the filing of a unemployment claim from a past part time seasonal position.

The next Board meeting will be held Tuesday February 4th at 1:00 P.M. There being no additional business a motion was made by Koenig to adjourn, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 P.M.