

Draft
Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday October 6, 2020 in the Board Office located at 1944 Columbus Rd. Lansing, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, and Jesse Delaney. Attending from the public was Bruce Palmborg, Jens Kallevang, Dennis Blocker, Jane Regan, Gary Krapfl, and Dave Duncklee. 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 minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved upon a motion by Delaney, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year budget summaries were reviewed and approved upon a motion by Delaney, second Clark all in favor, motion carried.

The Director provided information regarding Secondary Roads Department replacing bridges on the Yellow River on Livingood Spring Drive and on Smithfield Rd. The County Engineer had discussed the possibility of incorporating off road parking and access to the Yellow River at these locations. The Conservation Board would be responsible for maintaining the access area. The Director will keep the Board informed on these locations as planning on the bridge replacements moves forward.

Updates were provided to the Board regarding the Allamakee County Historical Society plans for taking management of the Vet's Club in Waukon and merging some of the military displays from the Old Courthouse Museum into the Vet's Club along other military artifacts that are in the process of being donated to the Historical Society. Other changes may include relocating the genealogy area into the Vet's Club building. The Historical Society is in the process of retaining consultant's for both architectural and interpretive display services.

COVID 19 procedures and recent record exposer rates were discussed by the Board. No significant changes have been made at the Driftless Center to this point. The Director voiced concerns for possible staff exposer due to the number of visitors. The Board discussed the status of other similar County, State, and Federal facilities. The Director informed the Board the majority of facilities were closed or open by appointment. The voluntary use of masks was discussed by the Board. Staff agreed that voluntary mask usage was approximately 95%. After discussion regarding the usage of masks the Board instructed the Director to implement mandatory mask usage. If there are issues from the public regarding mandatory mask usage the Board will consider temporary closure of the Driftless Center. The Board will continue to monitor State of Iowa guidance and make any necessary changes. The Board will also closely monitor area schools and will follow their closure policies.

Informational items discussed by the Board included completing the sidewalk project at Halverson/Kolsrud Park, donated benches at the Driftless Center and Harpers Ferry Landing, permit status on Village Creek Boat Landing dredging project, FEMA small projects being closed, local Fire Department UTV rides, REAP Certification being completed and filed, and the upcoming annual audit. Other informational items discussed included recent hiking trail development in the Lansing area and possible future trail development. The Director will place the item on a future agenda.

The next board meeting will be at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday November 3, 2020.

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 2:35 P.M.

