

DRAFT

Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday May 4, 2021 in the Board Office located at 1944 Columbus Rd. Lansing, Iowa. The May meeting was the annual joint meeting with the Allamakee County Conservation Foundation. Board members present were as follows: Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Jesse Delaney, and Dennis Koenig. Additional Foundation members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Dave Duncklee, Gary Krapfl, Clem Schulte, and Jane Regan. Attending from the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors was Mark Reiser and Larry Shellhammer. Attending from the public was CEO Tom Hazelton from the Iowa County Conservation Board System, Bruce Palmborg, Steve Casterton, Raleigh Buckmaster, Val Reinke, and Ric Zarwell. 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., the agenda along with the minutes from the previous meeting were approved upon a motion by Carroll, second Koenig, all in favor, motion carried.

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

There were no comments during public comment.

The Board reviewed the temporary part-time positions to be hired for the upcoming season. A motion was made by Carroll to approve the following temporary part-time positions at the rate of \$12.00 per hour: Gary Krapfl, Brody Vanderkolk, Andrew Osmonson, and Charles Waters, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board discussed pricing for replacing the Kubota zero turn mower. Jarrod Olson provided the Board with models and pricing of a John Deere and Kubota zero turn mower. Pricing was as follows: John Deere Z994 \$8,500.00 and Kabota ZD \$8,900.00. After discussion on the mower purchase, a motion was made by Delaney to purchase the Kabota ZD for \$8,900.00 along with the current Kabota zero turn mower as a trade, second Koenig, all in favor, motion carried.

Items discussed by the Foundation and the Conservation Board included financial statements, insurance status for the Foundation, State of Iowa Permits, and tax preparation. Other discussions included the intent of the Foundation to maintain the original plan to allow the Foundation Endowment to remain with the Greater Dubuque Area Foundation and to let it grow to maximize future returns. A question presented from a donor asked if there were plans on transferring funds from the Foundation to the Allamakee County General Basic account, the Foundation responded there was not a plan to transfer any funds from the Foundation. It was noted that donors would not be supported of transferring any funds and it wasn't the intent of donors when they made past or future donations.

Tom Hazelton CEO from the Iowa County Conservation System presented information to the Board's about the County Conservation Board System in the State of Iowa, and the relationship between the Conservation Board and Conservation Foundations or Friends Groups. Hazelton's presentation included the history of the County Conservation Board system in the State of Iowa how it was the first in the nation and how Iowa's program was used to shape other County Conservation Systems though out the nation. Other items discussed included the economic impacts of outdoor recreation in Allamakee County and the State of Iowa.

Updates were provided to the Board by Ross Geerdes on education programs and scheduled field days at the Ed. Center.

The Board discussed Covid 19 updates, activities at the Driftless Center were nearly back to normal with masks usage being encouraged. New guidance from the State of Iowa is expected soon.

Informational items discussed by the Board included new docks being delivered to Village Creek the first part of the month, New Albin restroom mechanical issues, Stone Brook Park flag pole and swing set donations.

The next board meeting will be at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday June 1, 2021.

There being no additional business a motion was made by Koenig to adjourn the meeting, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M.