

DRAFT  
Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday July 7, 2022 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 Steve Weymiller. Attending from the public included Dennis Blocker, Dean Anderson, Jamie Cahalan, Kristen Cahalan, Beau Bennet, Larry Rolfson. Attending the meeting via phone during the ATV/UTV agenda item was Dan Kleen. Also attending Mark Reiser from the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors. 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 agenda and minutes from the previous meeting were approved upon a motion by Carroll, second Weymiller, all in favor, motion carried.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year budget summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board upon a motion by Koenig, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. The Board completed the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget with a balance of \$3,685.00 returning to the general basic account.

Members of the Iowa OHV Association Board and Allamakee County ATV/UTV Club continued conversations with the Conservation Board regarding the Club's effort to purchase and develop an ATV/UTV Park in Allamakee County. The ATV/UTV Club Members discussed with the Board funding that is available for the acquisition, development, maintenance, and insurance coverage of the park. The Club would like for Allamakee County to own the park and make a twenty-year commitment to operating the property as an ATV/UTV Park. State of Iowa generated registration fees are available to the Club for the acquisition, development, and operations of the facility. The Club discussed different maintenance options of the property, one option was the Club would reimburse the County for expenses, or they could bill the same expenses directly back to the Iowa DNR. The Club discussed the operations of eight other ATV/UTV Parks in the State of Iowa. There is a standard management agreement document the Iowa OHV Association uses at other ATV/UTV parks in Iowa, the Club will forward a copy to the Conservation Board for County review. The Club discussed with the Board the acquisition was time sensitive and they would like to move on the purchase in the near future. After discussion on the proposal the Board took no action on the ownership or manage of the proposed ATV/UTV Park. A motion was made by Koenig to draft a letter of support for the Club's proposal for purchasing the ATV/UTV Park in Allamakee County second Weymiller, all in favor, motion carried. The Director will draft and forward a letter.

The Director conveyed information to the Board on a possible purchase of land on the Upper Iowa River. The 4.8-acre property would provide for public fishing access and a possible canoe access. The Director informed the Board there would be some grant opportunities to purchase and develop the property. A motion was made by Clark to further research information regarding the possible acquisition of the property, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried.

RAGBRAI limited road access to Village Creek Boat Landing was discussed by the Board. Village Creek Boat Landing in one of the highest use Landings in Pools 9 and 10 with tournaments scheduled for the bike event end day. The Director will coordinate having a person control the entrance of Village Creek Boat Landing at its intersection with County Lansing/Harpers Road to ensure vehicle access to Village Creek Boat Landing.

Updates were provided to the Board regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center being held Thursday August 11<sup>th</sup> between 5:30 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. A social hour will be followed by a brief program and a silent auction. Invited will be mailed this week to donors and Board Members.

Updates were provided to the Board regarding the rail road bridge replacement at Heytman's Boat Landing. The construction plans call for the placement of a concrete pier in the middle of the creek channel providing access to the Mississippi River, the rail road will also rip rap both banks of the channel. Other concerns with the landing besides limiting boat access is not being able to dredge a navigable channel for boat access. The Iowa DNR counsel has been in correspondence with the rail road regarding the matter. The Director will keep the Board informed on any developments.

Department updates to the Board included completing the canoe access at Red Bud Landing, County Home pond restoration, office firewall and security camera repairs being completed, and the contractor moving into the Garrett Property for the streambank stabilization project in the near future.

The next board meeting will be at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday August 02, 2022.

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 2:30 P.M.