

## **Allamakee County Conservation Board Minutes April, 4 2023**

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session April 4, 2023 beginning at 1 p.m. at the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center in Lansing, Iowa. Board members who were present were: Jesse Delaney, Jeanie Carrol, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig and Steve Weymiller. Attending from the public was Mark Reiser. Attending from the Allamakee County Conservation Board staff was Jim Janett, Ross Geerdes and Erin Cubbon.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. and the agenda and minutes from the March 7, 2023 regular board meeting were approved with a motion by Koenig and a second by Carrol with all members in favor.

During public comment time Mark Reiser commented that the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors has passed amendment to limit county employees from taking a county owned vehicle home unless an emergency call out is imminent. Jim Janett thanked the Board for their service during his time with the county and after 34 years April 6, 2023 is his final working day for the Allamakee County Conservation Board.

The Board reviewed and approved claims and revenues with a motion by Weymiller and a second by Koenig. All in favor.

Director Geerdes gave an update to the board on the Volney park shelter project. Kelly concrete has been contacted to complete the concrete portion of the job. They had previously submitted a bid, but it was anticipated that the bid would need to be adjusted. Ashbachers Building Supply has a materials list and is still figuring an updated price for the material. No action was taken.

Brody VanderKolk has been offered the position of Operations Supervisor to begin on April 10, 2023 and Erin Cubbon has been offered the Naturalist position to start immediately. A motion was made by Clark and a second by Carrol to hire VanderKolk and Cubbon for their respective positions. All in favor

With the hiring of Cubbon as the Naturalist the office manager position is vacant for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. Director Geerdes has modified the job description to include Assistant Naturalist in the job description with the hope of building on the regularly scheduled programming that can occur at the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center as well as helping with field trips. The Office Manager/Assistant Naturalist position will be open until the close of business on April 21, 2023. A motion was made to set the salary position at \$34, 920 by Carrol and a seconded by Clark. All in favor.

The board was made aware that the security camera system had been installed by Wrightway Computers and all cameras were working at the time of the install.

Informational items presented to the board included the fish aquarium has been installed and is ready to receive fish. Jim Janett's retirement party planning is ongoing with a date of April 14, 2023 from 2 p.m.-5p.m. at the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. The Village Creek ADA accessible docks have been received from Coulee Region Docks. The Director has updated the Iowa DNR lands inventory. All ACCB managed lands can be found on an interactive map within the DNR's website. The board was notified that the center will be closed for the upcoming Easter weekend. The Director has been approached by River City Paving to place a construction trailer in the Rossville Park area. The trailer will

connect into the power supply at the park with RCP paying for the increase in power use during their time. RCP will also add additional rock to the parking lot and provide pit latrines for employees. The director informed the board that the July meeting will be moved from July 4, 2023 to July 11, 2023

The time and date for the next meeting was set for May 2 ,2023 at 1 p.m. in the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. This will be a joint meeting with the Allamakee County Conservation Foundation, the Allamakee County Conservation Board, and the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors.

With no additional business the meeting was concluded at 1:45 p.m. with a motion by Koenig and seconded by Clark to adjourn. All in favor.