

January 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday January 5th, 2016 in the Board Office located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Bruce Palmburg and Paul Melsha were present from the public.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Claims were reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Board discussed the 2016-2017 fiscal year Budget. The Director will be making adjustments to the waste disposal and phone budget amounts and will report final amounts to the Board at the February meeting. The Director will be ending the internet service at the Harpers Ferry Office and adding it to the Education Center, once the building is operational. Proposed possible expenditure projections for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were presented to the Board. The Director will be asking the Board of Supervisors to help fund road use moneys and to provide \$100,000.00 to the Conservation Board to help support the Education Center. The Director will be addressing these request at the next scheduled meeting with the Board of Supervisors for the 2016-2017 fiscal year budget review and approval meeting.

Updates on all current grants, fundraising and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. The Director will be attending the next CAT Board review meeting on January 13th, 2015 in Des Moines. Work completed on the project included drilling of the geothermal wells, building site excavation, pouring of footings and last wall will be poured January 6th, 2015. The Board reviewed and approved the second contractor claims, totaling \$229,108.34 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builders claim for \$81,453.00 by Clark, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Skyline Construction's claim for \$147,655.34 by Clark, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried. The Director will be making contact with REC and Kerndt Brothers Savings Bank for possible interim financing. The Director will report findings to the Board at the February meeting.

The Board reviewed and approved support towards the "I Will" Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. A motion was made to approve the Boards support towards The Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund by Koenig, second by Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board reviewed and approved the Directors request to apply for the Allamakee County Community Foundation Grant. A motion was made to approve the Director to apply for the Allamakee County Community Foundation Grant by Moody, second by Carroll, all in favor, motion carried.

Field operations and educational program updates were provided to the Board. The progress on posting the Postville Trail Line Property is currently still ongoing. The Director will be attending the REAP Congress January 9th, 2016 in Des Moines.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be February 2nd, 2015 at 1:00 P.M at the Board office located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Carroll; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

February 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday February 4th, 2016 in the Board Office located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Dan Byrnes and Paul Melsha were present from the public.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year account balances were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on all current grants, fundraising and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. The Director will be attending the next CAT Board review meeting on February 10th, 2016 in Des Moines. Less work has been completed this month due to weather conditions, but column pads were placed and still progressing with construction. The Board reviewed and approved the third contractor claim, totaling \$40,307.84 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builders claim for \$40,307.84 by Carroll, second Moody, all in favor, motion carried. The Director made contact with REC and Kerndt Brothers Savings Bank for possible interim financing, no decision has been made on which option to take for interim financing. Dan Byrnes asked the Director if the Board of Supervisors will have to sign for the interim financing. The Director stated that the Board of Supervisors would have to co-sign for the Board to move forward with the interim financing.

The Director will be attending the next Board of Supervisor meeting this coming Monday, February 8th, 2016 to answer questions about the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. The Director asked Dan Byrnes if he would like the Board to address any other items that they may have left out. Byrnes announced that the request for funding of road use moneys and \$100,000 from the Board of Supervisors has not yet be approved or denied.

Field operations and educational program updates were provided to the Board. The progress on posting the Postville Trail Line Property is currently still ongoing. The Director is collaborating with Jill Kistler, Allamakee County Attorney, to finalize public notice. Once the public notice is finalized, it will then be sent to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be March 1st, 2016 at 1:00 P.M at the Board office located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Carroll, second by Moody; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 P.M.

March 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 1st, 2016 in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark and Dennis Koenig. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public were as follows: Dan Byrnes, Natalic Byrnes, Mark Reiser, Gene Averhoff, Bruce Palmborg, Betty Larsen, Mary Keatley, and Tom Fritz.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Claims were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Assistant Director, Jarrod Olson, opened the floor for public comment, no comments were made from the public.

Updates on current grants, fundraising and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. The Director will not be attending the next CAT Board review meeting on March 9th, 2016 in Des Moines. Nicole Shalla, Vision Iowa Boards' Administrator, will be presenting our updates to the CAT Board. Work completed this month would include: elevator shaft to main floor, floor trusses, second level structural steel, and main floor exterior walls. The Board reviewed and approved the fourth contractor claim, totaling \$29,662.80 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made by Carroll to approve Cresco Builders claim for \$29,662.80, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center fundraising updates were provided to the Board. McElroy Challenge due date is April 20th and private fundraising is still ongoing.

Assistant Director asked the Board for approval on the Fish Habitat Grant contract for Clear Creek Park. The Board decided to table the approval and wait for all bids to be submitted before approval.

Field operations updates were provided to the Board. The progress on the posting of the Postville Trail Line Property is still ongoing. The Director is collaborating with Jill Kistler, Allamakee County Attorney, to finalize public notice. Once the public notice is finalized, it will then be sent to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The Assistant Director informed the Board on the preparations for spring projects with Luster Heights Inmates, placing docks back in the water, opening public restrooms, brush clearing at Clear Creek Park, grade work and pouring of the sidewalk approach at Nobles Island restrooms, and dirt work at the Waterville Park.

Ross Geerdes, Allamakee County Conservation Naturalist, provided educational program updates to the Board. He has had multiple snowshoe programs, attend Winter Fest in Lansing, started making bird and bat houses with Jarrod Olson, attended Eagle Days in Prairie du Chen, and had multiple programs with the surround schools. Geerdes is also preparing for the spring by: providing hunter safety class with the Waukon Middle School, hosting a family bird house program, participating in Falcon Days with Iowa DNR Biologist, and continuing school programs.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday April 5th, 2016 at 1:00 P.M at the Board office located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Koenig; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

April 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, April 5th, 2016 in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public were as follows: Bruce Palmborg, and Leigh Rekow.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. The Director will be attending the next CAT Board review meeting on April 13th, 2016 in Iowa City. Work completed this month would include: rafters being set, roof sheeting begun, in floor lower level plumbing and electrical complete, with the pouring of the basement floor to soon follow, elevator shaft completed, exterior sheeting near completion, and culvert work has begun. The Board reviewed and approved the fifth contractor claim, totaling \$187,484.80 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made by Koenig to approve Cresco Builders claim for \$187,484.80, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center fundraising updates were provided to the Board. The Director announced that work still continued on the McElroy grant. There were a few more bank meeting scheduled in the next couple of days, and the Director was very confident that the McElroy Challenge would be completed by the due date of April 20th and private fundraising is still ongoing.

The Director asked the Board to review and approve the bids and IDNR contract for Clear Creek Fish Habitat work. Two bids were received one from Riehm Construction of Waukon for \$24,400.00, and another from David Ryan Construction of Decorah for \$13,858.00. A motion was made by Carroll to approve the lowest bid from Dave Ryan Construction for \$13,858.00 and the IDNR contract for the Clear Creek Fish Habitat work, second Moody, all in favor, motion carried.

The Director asked the Board to have the May Board meeting at Kerndt Brothers Community Center in Lansing, with an onsite tour of the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center to follow after the meeting adjourned. The Board agreed to move the location of next meeting.

Field operations and educational updates were provided to the Board. Upcoming projects would include: burning prairie grass, running Luster Heights Inmates, bridge access inspections, opening public restrooms, brush clearing at Clear Creek Park, grade work and pouring of the sidewalk approach at Nobles Island restrooms, dirt work at the Waterville Park, summer help will be starting in May, and providing multiple educational programs to our surrounding schools. Postville Mayor, Leigh Rekow, was in attendance and expressed interest to the Board about the Postville Trail Line property. The city of Postville would like to obtain the property to incorporate it into their long term recreational/trail plan. The Director would contact Allamakee County Attorney Jill Kistler, to inquire the best way for the city of Postville to submit their interest for the property.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday May 3rd, 2016 at 1:00 P.M at the Kerndt Brothers Savings Community Center Lansing, Iowa. With an onsite tour of the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center to follow once the meeting is adjourned.

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Moody; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

May 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, May 3rd, 2016 at the Kerndt Brothers Community Center located at 391 Main Street Lansing, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public were as follows: Brian Stark, Lyle Tekippe, Dan Byrnes, Joe Papp, Bill O'Conner, Bruce Palmborg, Paul Melsha, Gary Krapfl, Willi Finkral, John Verdon, Gary Galema, and Karen Galema.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. The Director announced that all the McElroy grant conditions were met and private fundraising is still ongoing. The Director will be attending the next CAT Board review meeting on May 11th, 2016 in Winterset. Work completed this month would include: water and sewer hooked up, culvert work completed, interior framing completed, and rough plumbing and electrical has begun, the next steps will be working on the observation decks, roofing, and windows.

The Board reviewed and approved the sixth contractor claims, totaling \$200,506.57 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builders claim for \$88,625.50 by Carroll, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Skyline Construction's claim for \$96,709.57 by Carroll, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Shawver Well's claim for \$15,171.50 by Koenig, second by Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Postville Trail Line bid summary and updates were provided to the Board. The four following bids were received; City of Postville for \$4,000, Neil Horns for \$4,000, Chuck Deering for \$4,000, and Andy Moore for \$6,001.50. The Board of Supervisors public hearing for the sale of the property is set for May 23th, located in the Board of Supervisors board room.

Field operations and educational updates were provided to the Board. Upcoming projects includes: docks set, restrooms opened, and burning brush piles. Iowa's lieutenant Governor, Kim Reynolds, will be visiting the Conservation's public boat landing on May 4th. The Des Moines Register had an article covering bald eagles in Lansing, Iowa, by Mike Kilen. The Conservation staff will be assisting the Iowa Department of Natural Resources with the upcoming Falcon River Day Field Trip for surrounding schools, and multiple educational programs are ongoing to the schools.

Part – time summer position updates were provided to the Board. Hunter Hammel started on May 2nd and Matt Manning and Brody Vanderkolk will be starting on May 23rd.

Other informational items the Board discussed; Dennis Blocker asked the Board if we will allow ATV trailers to be parked at our parks, the Board tabled this item to further discuss at the next Board meeting, Dennis Koenig spoke on his position of the road use dollars, and Brain Stark, from Martin Gardner Architecture, presented to the Board his recommendation for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center exterior color schemes.

The Director asked the Board to conduct the June Board meeting earlier, so all members can be present. The Board agreed to conduct the June meeting May 24th at 1:00 P.M. in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday May 24th, 2016 at 1:00 P.M in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

The Board then traveled to 1944 Columbus Drive to view the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center.

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Carroll; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 P.M.

June 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, June 21st, 2016 at the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public was Bruce Palmborg.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

2015-2016 fiscal year budget ending projections were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. The campaign to build the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center will continue fundraising by moving into the public phase of the campaign. Work completed this month included: exterior stone work continues, insulation the building has begun and continues, and all windows are installed. The Board reviewed and approved the eighth contractor claims, totaling \$271,562.25.84 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builder's claim for \$271,562.25.84 by Clark, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board reviewed and approved the Community Attraction Tourism (CAT) contract. A motion was made by Carroll, second by Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board reviewed and approved the submittal of an Upper Mississippi Gaming Commission Grant. A motion made by Koenig, second by Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board reviewed and approved the submittal of an REAP Grant. A motion was made by Carroll, second by Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Information on the bridge replacement and off road access on South Road near Lansing Clear Creek Park was provided to the Board. No expenditures are expected for this project, IIW Engineers will be sending more information on the project in the near future.

Board member mileage was collected.

The Board discussed their upcoming press conference hosted with the Foundation Board on June 22nd, at 3:00 pm, announcing the Beyond the Plateau campaign to the public.

Informational items discussed by the Board included IACCB dues, the director invited the Board to tour Split Rock Studios facility in July, Nobles Island restroom is complete and open to the public, Clear Creek Fish Habitat project is currently waiting for permits to continue work on project, Governor, Terry Branstad, visited and toured the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center on June 16th, and Deb MCGeough asked the Director if she may plant a memorial tree at the Waterville Farm 55 Park.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, July 5th, 2016 at 1:00 P.M in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Carroll, second by Koenig; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

July 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, July 5th, 2016 at the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, and Dennis Koenig. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

2015-2016 fiscal year budget ending projections were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. Work completed this month included: exterior stone work continues, insulation the building continues, sheet rock has begun, and glass railing was changed to iron material to save cost.

The Director will be traveling to Split Rock Studios on July 7th to tour the facility and discuss their upcoming contract. The contract will include designs for interpretative displays for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center.

The Board discussed possible taxidermy work to be competed for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. The Board advised the Director to review surrounding taxidermy services and report his recommendations to the Board.

The Board discussed and approved of IACCB dues for 2016-2017. A motion was made to approve IACCB Dues for 2016-2017 by Clark, second by Koenig, all in favor, motion carried.

Field of operation updates and project priorities were provided to the Board. The Director and Assistant Director are very pleased with the summer help thus far, Harpers Slough handicap accessible sidewalk still has work to be completed, Clear Creek Park fish habitat project is still ongoing, and hunter education class is scheduled for September.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, August 2nd, 2016 at 1:00 P.M in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

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

August 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, August 2nd, 2016 at the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Board of Supervisors present were as follows: Dan Byrnes, and Larry Shellhammer. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public were as follows: Paul Melsha, Joe Moses, and Denise Beyer.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. Work completed this month included: underground electrical wiring has begun, exterior stone work, siding, insulation, and sheetrock continue. The Board reviewed and approved the eleventh contractor claim, totaling \$208,862.45 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builder's claim for \$208,862.45 by Clark, second Koenig, all in favor, motion carried. Dennis Blocker asked the Board of Supervisor if they would reconsider funding for a portion of the Columbus Road, if they would switch the material to black top, to lessen the overall cost. The Board of Supervisors stated they would take this under advisement with Brian Ridenour, the County Engineer.

Updates were provided to the Board on the Split Rock Studios agreement, which will be signed by the Allamakee County Conservation Foundation Board, and the scope of work to be completed within the agreement.

The Board discussed with Board of Supervisors on interim finance for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. Jens Kallevang will be assisting the Director with a financial forecast journal showcasing the Foundation's cash flow for the upcoming months. The Board of Supervisors advised the Board to present the opportunity to those banks that donated towards the campaign with a formal letter. The Supervisors asked the Board to report back with their final recommendations for review and approval.

The Board discussed Allamakee County Economic Development reserving the Education and Visitor Center for their annual meeting. With authorization from the contractor, the Board advised the Director to extend the invitation to host the annual meeting, and to inform them that the building is still undergoing construction.

The Board discussed and reviewed the Allamakee County Employee Handbook. A motion was made to approve the Allamakee County Employee Handbook by Clark, second by Carroll, all in favor, motion carried.

Updates were provided on the following media contacts: "Finding Bigfoot" tv-show will be filming at Waterville Farm 55 Park, IPTV will be doing a segment on the Visitor Center, and the Register would like to do a follow up piece on the Visitor Center once it is complete.

Field of operation updates and project priorities were provided to the Board. Summer help will be leaving in the middle of August, IIW Engineering Firm will be undertaking construction work on the bridge by Clear Creek Park and within that project they will construct better off road

access to Clear Creek Park, easement for bus turn around for the Visitor Center is ongoing, the Upper Mississippi Gaming Commission Grant and REAP Grant applications will be submitted this month, ¾ ton dodge truck is in for repairs, Army Corps of Engineers will be using the Harpers Ferry Public Boat Landing to stock pile material for restoration work at Harpers Slough, Village Creek Boat Landing will be letting out for pavement of parking area this fall, the Director was notified that property of former Girl Scouts Camp Tahigwa property is coming up for sale, Dan Gable will be releasing a letter of support to the local newspaper, and work continues on Harpers Slough Handicap Fishing Access.

No other informational items or old business were discussed.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, September 6th, 2016 at 1:00 P.M in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Moody; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

September 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, September 6th, 2016 at the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public were as follows: Paul Melsha, Gary Krapfl, and Bruce Palmborg.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. The Director announced the Board of Supervisors approved the motion to fund \$159,000.00, of the secondary road funds, for mainline paving of Columbus Road by the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. Work completed this month included: main level and second level sheetrock, main level mudding, main entrance doors installed, lower level decking material installed, and geothermal wells set. Work continued this month included: exterior stone work, second floor mudding, elevator installation, HVAC installation, lower level decking material, and painting. Work to be expected this upcoming month would include: landscaping, upper level painting, retaining walls, guard rails, and geothermal piping on upper level. The Board reviewed and approved the eleventh contractor claim, totaling \$321,936.62 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builder's claim for \$321,936.62 by Carroll, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Updates were provided to the Board on the Alliant Energy placing overhead power lines underground on Columbus Road to connect electrical power to the Visitor Center. With this addition to the project, West Union Trenching will be boring approximately 700 feet.

The board discussed the possibility of joint purchasing the Tahigwa Girl Scouts Camp with the Local DNR Wildlife and Fisheries divisions. The Director will be gathering more information on this opportunity and will report back to the Board on his recommendation on pursuing this piece of property.

The Board discussed a possible land management agreement with the Iowa DNR for the Village Creak Boat Landing property in Lansing, Iowa. Improvements being made, by the Iowa DNR, to this property would include: paving of parking lot, new restrooms, transfer site, and ramp extensions. With the Board of Supervisors approval, the land management agreement responsibilities for the Board would include: partial snow removal, cleaning restrooms, and adjusting docks.

The Director invited both the Conservation Board and Foundation Board to an upcoming meeting, on September 22nd, 2016 at 11:00 a.m., with Split Rock Studios. Split Rock Studios will be presenting the first draft designs for the interpretive displays in the Visitor Center.

Field operation updates and project priorities were provided to the Board. Assistant Director, Jarrod Olson, presented his thoughts on the two taxidermists to use for the black bear, Middle Slough handicap sidewalk project is still ongoing, a local community member will be doing 20 hours of community service, and the Board will be running Luster Heights inmates this month.

No other informational items or old business were discussed.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, October 4th, 2016 at 1:00 P.M in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

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

October 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, October 4th, 2016 at the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, and Jackie Jellings. Present from the public were as follows: Bruce Palmborg.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. Work has been continuing on the Center with trim work, sanding, painting, electrician work, retaining walls, interior doors, extension on gutters, and elevator installation. The Board reviewed and approved the twelfth contractor claim, totaling \$185,761.10, to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builder's claim for \$185,761.10 by Clark, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board reviewed and approved of interim finance rates from local banks to be presented to the Board of Supervisors. A motion was made to present interim finance rates from local banks to the Board of Supervisors by Carroll, second by Moody, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board reviewed and approved of additional sidewalk paving on ground floor of the Visitor Center. A motion was made to approve of additional sidewalk paving on ground floor of the Visitor Center by Moody, second by Carroll, all in favor, motion carried.

Field operation updates and project priorities were provided to the Board. Wilds Landing and Clear Creek flood damage work was reported to FEMA, the Director sat in on a meeting discussing Big Slough debris removal, luster height inmates will continue work for a couple more weeks, and Middle Slough Area work is stagnant due to water level. Ross Geerdes, ACCB's Naturalist, updated the Board on his ongoing and upcoming education programs with the local schools.

Upcoming events and activities were discussed by the Board. October 13th the Director will be giving a tour of the Visitor Center to the Economic Development's Annual meeting attendees. Upcoming matters for the Board to discuss for the Visitor Center; communication system, road signage, taking bids for interior furnishings, volunteer program, and the Director recommended ACCB's employees and volunteers to do exterior landscaping to save costs on landscaping

Other informational items discussed by the Board. Reimbursement from the city of Lansing for water hook up to the Visitor Center is yet to be received and the Director invited the Board to view Girl Scout Camp Tahigwa on October 20th, 2016 at 2:00pm.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, November 1st, 2016 at 1:00 P.M in the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

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

November 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, November 1st, 2016 at the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public were as follows: Bruce Palmborg and Paul Melsha.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. Work continues in the Driftless Center with exterior cement pouring for sidewalks, trim work, baseboard heaters, electrical work, main road grading, elevator installation, and bus turn around area. The first building inspection is set for December 9th, 2016. The Board reviewed and approved the twelfth contractor claim, totaling \$176,777.99, to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builder's claim for \$76,528.20 by Clark, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Skyline Construction claim for \$100,249.79 by Carroll, second Koenig, all in favor, motion carried.

REAP funding updates were provided to the Board with \$14,322.00 received for 2017 Fiscal year.

FEMA declaration updates were provided to the Board. Project repairs have been submitted to FEMA for the following flood damaged parks: Wilds, Kumpf's, and Clear Creek Bridge.

The Director gave his review and updates from the tour of Camp Tahigwa. Camp Tahigwa has the following structures: restrooms, cabins, shelters, lodges, and horse barn. The Director will continue to update the Board on this property.

2017-2018 budget preparation time were provided to the Board. Reviews will be held in December and approval to follow in January.

Field operation updates were provided to the Board. All park restrooms are shut down for the winter, Split Rock Studios will be meeting on November 16th to compile artifacts for the Visitor Center, the Director will be preparing a draft management agreement for Village Creek Landing, the campaign fundraising mailer will be sent out to Allamakee County and surrounding towns in November, and reimbursement for utility work in the Visitor Center has yet to be received from the City of Lansing.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, December 6th, 2016 at 1:00 P.M in the Board Office. There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Moody; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

December 2016 Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, December 6th, 2016 at the Board Office, located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Conservation Board staff members present were as follows: James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public was Bruce Palmborg.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. Work continues in the Visitor Center with flooring, electrical wiring on second level, phone lines, security cameras, and final cleaning. Building inspection for the elevator, alarm, and sprinklers is set for December 12th and inspection with the state fire marshal is set for January 3rd, 2016. The Board reviewed and approved the thirteenth contractor claim, totaling \$257,409.47. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builder's claim for \$117,938.20 by Carroll, second Moody, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Skyline Construction claim for \$129,739.47 by Clark, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Shawver Well Company claim for \$9,731.80 by Carroll, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Communication service needs and options for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were discussed with the Board. Century Link's temporary lines are set as of now, with permanent lines to follow. Fiber optic lines will be compatible to run all telephone & internet wires.

The Board discussed the upcoming Conservation Board Member appointment. A motion was made by Moody to submit a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors to recommend the reappointment of Dennis Blocker, second by Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Board Member mileage was collect for reimbursement.

The Board discussed the 2017-2018 fiscal year budget and will complete the budget during the January meeting.

Field operations and education programming updates were provided to the Board. The Visitor Center has booked its first reservation with the R.J McElroy Trust in September of 2017, the 2008 Ford truck is in for repairs, and the Board of Supervisors approved the construction easement for the City of Lansing for temporary construction at Clear Creek Park.

The Board traveled to view the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, January 10th, 2017 at 1:00 P.M, in the Board Office, at the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Moody; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.