

## Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 10:00 A.M. Tuesday November 5, 2013 in the Board Office located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeannie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Bill Moody, and Gary Soper. Present from the public was Paul Melsha. Also present from the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors was Sherry Strub, and Board staff members Jim Janett and Ross Geerdes.

The minutes from the October 8, 2013 Board meeting were read and approved.

Claims and Expenditures were reviewed and approved by the board.

A bill for the wildlife food plot at Waterville Farm 55 was received. It was noted that the cost of having a food plot has continually gone up. Ideas for other options were discussed and the board will be reviewing the food plot in the future.

The Director gave an update on the boat ramp extension project at Noble's Island. The State previously had a completion date of October 31, 2013 for the project. Due to the backordering of materials the project has not been completed. The project should be completed during the month of November.

A copy of the Request for Proposal for engineering, architectural, and interpretive consulting services was provided to the Board. The RFP's had been approved by the IDOT. The Director discussed the RFP selection process and the composition of the review committee. Committee members are as follows: Jane Regan, Dennis Koenig, Dennis Blocker, Laura Olson, and Jim Janett. The RFP's have a tentative return date of December 12, 2013. Once the proposals are reviewed they will be distributed to the review committee members. An interview schedule will be coordinated before December 19, 2013

State of Iowa Fuel Tax reimbursements were discussed by the Board. Recent fuel tax reimbursement's totaled \$1101.64. The reimbursement will be placed into the current fiscal year budget. A budget amendment will be necessary prior to spending the funds.

An update was given by the director on the ongoing flood cleanup. An estimated FEMA reimbursement is approximately \$15,000.00. The director has met with the FEMA representative and has begun the reimbursement process. A cost estimate reimbursement will be used to close out with FEMA. Work that needs to be completed includes work at the Middle Area reshaping and graveling the handicapped fishing access. This will not be completed until the spring of 2014.

The Director informed the Board the Iowa DNR is considering paving Village Creek Boat Landing and placing restrooms. Restrooms at Noble's Island have also been submitted.

IACCB dues have not been paid. The cost of membership has gone up and the Board feels the service has not reflected the change. It is not required that the ACCB pay any or all of the dues. An appeal process is in place, but it was noted that an appeal should not be needed for something that is not required.

The Director discussed attending the ISAC conference.

The grant received from the Allamakee County Community Foundation needs to be used and the grant report must be completed by the end of November. The grant is for hiring a consultant to comply with the Scenic Byways grant. There is also an in-kind requirement for the scenic byways grant that the Community Foundation grant will be used to help with. Upper Explorerland Regional Planning will be available to help with the process as they have experience with Federal grants.

Money from the Fish Habitat grant for phase II of the stream bank stabilization at the Columbus Property was discussed. The Director would like to use a portion of the phase II money for covering any cost over runs on phase I. A District meeting will be held in December and discussed.

Budget work for the FY2014/2015 will begin during the December board meeting.

Board members are asked to report their mileage relating to ACCB activities in the December meeting.

The Allamakee County Attorney is editing the contract between the City of Lansing and the Allamakee County Conservation Board. Once the edit is completed the Director will get on the Board of Supervisors Agenda for their approval and forward onto the City of Lansing.

Supervisor Sherry Strub presented Bill Moody and Gary Soper with plaques acknowledging there 25 years of service to the Allamakee County Conservation Board.

The board visited the Morgan Bridge property and the Stonebrooke property to view recent construction of shelter houses.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be December 3, 2013 at 1 p.m.

With there being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.