

Draft
Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session Tuesday June 9th, 2015 at 4P.M. in the Board Office at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board Members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Jeanie Carroll, Marylin Clark, Dennis Koenig, and Bill Moody. Present Conservation Board staff members were Jim Janett, Jarrod Olson, Jackie Jellings and Ross Geerdes. Present from the public was Paul Melsha, Gary Krapful, Val Reinke and Jane Regan. Present from Amperage were Justin Tolin and Kelly Myers.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 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.

The Director presented a projected 2014-2015 Fiscal Year Budget ending balance of \$26,128.00 to the Board. A list of current expenditures was provided to the Board. The amount of funds to be returned to the County General Basic Account was discussed. The Director projected \$4500-\$5,000 going back into General Basic. The Board instructed the Director to make the necessary expenditures to close out the fiscal year.

Board Members submitted mileage from January – June 2015.

The use of personal cell phones for Department employees was discussed. Employees had been purchasing their own phones and plans. The Board has been reimbursing staff a total of \$80.00 per month for cell phone usage. The cost of cell phone service will be approximately \$240.00 per month plus the purchase of phones. The Board instructed the Director to write three cell phones for the department and to check on the land line long distance cost of making calls for the office manager. It was noted that an additional cell phone line could be added in the future if necessary

Jarrod Olson discussed mower replacement prices for a zero turn mower. Waukon Implement and Gary's Tractor had submitted prices. The Board would be trading a Kubota BX2350 Diesel mower with trade in values ranging from \$5000.00 to \$10,000.00. After discussion, purchasing the Kubota ZD326H with a balance of \$5,313.60 was deemed the value. A motion was made by Dennis Koenig to purchase the Kubota ZD326H and trade the Kubota BX2350 Diesel mower, second by Bill Moody, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board was updated on field operations and construction projects. Ross Geerdes updated the Board on various education programs. The average number of monthly program contacts was 450 individuals. Information was provided on the successful bat

house distribution program. Having the School Districts in Allamakee County participate in the manufacturing of the various types of nesting boxes was discussed as opportunity to expand the program. More adult programs have been scheduled for the summer. Office Manager Jackie Jellings updated the board on creating a new website for the Conservation Department and her role and responsibilities as office manager.

The Director gave the Board an update on the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. Board Member Dennis Blocker and the Director recently attended a meeting with the Engineer and Architect. All planning documents were nearing completion and should be ready for a bid letting contingent on State and Federal bid specification approval. The bid opening process was also discussed and should be completed at a regular or special meeting of the Conservation Board. The Board will have thirty (30) days to approve the bids. Justin Tolin from AMPERAGE Fundraising informed the Board the video and case statement were nearly complete. Tolin also suggested applying for a USDA grant besides a CAT and REAP grant.

There were no other items or old business to discuss.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be July 7th, 2015 at 4:00P.M in the Board Office at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.