

## Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 11:00 A.M. Tuesday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 at the Columbus Property located at 1944 Columbus Road 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: Ross Geerdes, James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Seventy community members were present from the public.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 A.M. and the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center began. Speakers for the ceremony were as follows: Director James Janett, Foundation Board Member Jane M. Regan, Chairman of the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors Larry Shellhammer, Lansing Mayor Mike Brennan, and Honorary Campaign Chair Member Msgr. Ed Lechtenberg. The ceremony had the following agenda: welcome, introduction of Conservation and Foundation Board Members, supportive speeches by Janett, Regan, Shellhammer, Brennan and Msgr. Ed Lechtenberg blessed the ground and the project. Kee High School students performed the ground breaking for the Center. A large group picture was taken.

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 gave an update on all Grant and fundraising efforts. The Director, Jane M. Regan, Mike Brennan, and Larry Shellhammer will be presenting at the upcoming meeting with the CAT Grant Board, on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

The Board discussed the potential options for interim financing. The Board advised the Director to make contact with the surrounding banks for possible interim financing. The Director will report findings to the Board at the December meeting.

Field operations and educational program updates were provide to the Board. Construction is underway on the new shelter house at the Halverson addition of the Kolsrud Park, kiosk repair at Volney and Kolsrud Park, and well digging for the geothermal at Columbus. Winterization of facilities has also begun. Ross Geerdes will be attending Iowa Association of Naturalist training November 18<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>. The Staff has also been running a couple of residents from Luster Heights to help out with remaining fall projects.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be December 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 Koenig, all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 P.M.