

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 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 on the Driftless Center with trim work, sanding, painting, electrical work, retaining walls, interior door installation, extension of gutters, and elevator installation work. 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 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 additional paving on ground floor of the Visitor Center. A motion was made to approve the additional 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. Area damage was reported to the Board and FEMA, the Bridge at Clear Creek had been washed down stream during the early September storm events, a meeting addressing the Big Slough debris removal had been conducted, and water levels have prevented the completion of the Harpers Slough Fishing Access project. Luster Height residents will continue working until the first part of November. 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. Future Board discussion for the Driftless Center will include the following: communication system, road signage, design and pricing of interior furnishings, and developing a volunteer program.

Other informational items discussed by the Board included reimbursement from the City of Lansing for utility work for the Center and an invitation from the Girl Scouts to view 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. 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.