

## Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 10:00 A.M. Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Board Office, 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. Present from the public was as follows: David Bourassa, Brain Stark, Paul Melsha, 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. Final items yet to be completed at the Visitor Center include: installation of wall lighting in stairwells, permanent phone lines, exterior grading, landscape, paving of main line road and parking area, and installation of educational displays. The Board reviewed and approved the fourteenth contractor claim, totaling \$96,998.64. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builder's claim for \$96,998.64 by Clark, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried.

The Director informed the Board that the Board of Supervisors reappointed Dennis Blocker to the Conservation Board. A motion was made by Clark to have Dennis Blocker serve as Chair Person, second Moody, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Koenig to have Jeanie Carroll serve as Vice Chair Person, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board discussed equipment, furnishing, and transitional activities for moving into the Visitor Center. The following items were being worked on; email address, stationary, set up new PO Box, custodial supplies, and permanent phone and internet.

The Board discussed options for donor recognition to the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center campaign. This publication will be posted in the Center as well as sent to every donor that participated in the Campaign.

The board reviewed and approved the draft 2017-2018 fiscal year budget. The draft budget will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for consideration.

Updates were provided to the Board on scheduled activities for the Driftless Center Visitor Center. They included Lansing Ragbrai Committee meeting, CAT Board, McElroy Trust, IACCB District meeting and The Mississippi Parkway Commission Annual Nation meeting.

Field operations and educational programming updates were provided to the Board. Projects for the spring include: finishing Harpers Slough handicap fishing access, correct fence line location on the south end of Farm 55 Park, set road way to connect to new shelter house at Halverson Park, and continue work for Clear Creek stream bank stabilization project and bridge resetting.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 12:40 P.M.