Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday February 5th, 2019 in the Board Office located at 1944 Columbus Rd. Lansing, Iowa. Board members present were as follows: Jeanie Carroll, Marilyn Clark, Jesse Delaney, Dennis Koenig and Bill Moody. Attending from the public was Bruce Palmborg. Also attending was Conservation Board staff member Jarrod Olson.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved upon a motion by Koenig, second Delaney, all in favor, motion carried.

There were no public comments during public comment time.

Claims, revenues, and the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget summaries were reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Board reviewed a work outline of projects they hoped to complete during the upcoming season. Items on that outline included final work/repair at the Clear Creek Park. Order and install signage for the DAEVC and several other parks. Finalize the filming of the barge video with Iowa public Television. Work with the Iowa DNR to replace Village Creek docks and install a kayak launch. Monitor the construction of the handicapped loading station at Village Creek Boat Landing. Construct roadway and small parking area to and by already constructed shelter at Kolsrud/Halverson Park, complete sidewalk work around shelter also. Conduct spring prairie burns at County Home, Halverson, Farm 55 and Bluffview parks. Removal of the buildings on the Quandahl property, construct a small shelter and kiosk, and install historical signage. Install memorial benches at Nobles Island and Kolsrud parks. Install donated bird feeder at the DAEVC. Repaint parking lines at the DAEVC. Work with Secondary Roads to remove camper frame from the Upper Iowa River below Kumpf’s Bridge. Repair Kiosk at Nobles Island entrance.

Program and event summaries were provided to the Board. Numerous school programs had been completed in the area schools, more winter hikes would be coming up and Board staff would be partnering with the Harpers Ferry Booster Club to put on the kids ice fisheree at Nobles Island.

Informational items included an update on the DAEVC lift station repair, with repairs to be complete the week of February 11th. The submittal of a grant to the Allamakee County Community Foundation for the Kayak Project.

Under old business Dennis Koenig discussed the motion of a 5% salary increase made at the last Board meeting. Koenig advised that if the Conservation Board wanted to proceed with the 5% salary increase for the four full-time Conservation Board staff members, the Board of Supervisors would like to see the Conservation Board reduce its operations budget to meet that percentage. The amount of the operations budget decrease would be dependant on the salary increase approved for all county employees by the Board of Supervisors. If the Board of Supervisors were to
approve a 3% salary increase for all employees, than the Conservation Board would need to reduce their operations budget by an amount to equal the additional 2% salary increase. A motion was made by Delaney to reduce the Conservation Board’s Operations budget by an amount to move Conservation Board salaries from whatever the Board of Supervisors approved to 5%, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

The next Board meeting will be held Tuesday March 5th at 1:00 P.M. There being no additional business a motion was made by Koenig to adjourn, second Moody, all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 P.M.