

Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board meet in regular session at 11:00 A.M. Tuesday April 5, 2011 in the RC&D Conference Room located at 101 East Greene Street Postville, Iowa. The Board conducted the business portion of the meeting at the RC&D Office and then traveled to the west edge of Postville to meet with adjoining landowners on the Postville abandoned rail line. Board members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Dave Carroll, and Bill Moody. Present from the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors was Cloy Kuhse and Conservation Board staff members Jim Janett and Jarrod Olson. Present during the field tour was Mr. & Mrs. Charles Deering and Mr. & Mrs. Neal Horns.

The meeting was called to order in the RC&D Board Meeting Room at 11:00 A.M. and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Fiscal year budget summaries, claims, and possible budget amendments totals were presented and discussed by the Board. The best way to allow for the Fish Habitat Grant for the Columbus Bridge stream bank stabilization project amendment was discussed. The project needs to be completed during low water conditions and the question of whether the project will be completed during the current fiscal year was discussed. The Director had been in contact with the Auditors Office to discuss the best procedure for amending for the grant. The Directors concern was amending for the grant during the current fiscal year and not being able to complete the project until the next fiscal year. This would result in having to amend the budget twice. The Director will further discuss the matter with the Auditors Office.

The two Fish Habitat Grants were discussed and reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by Carroll to approve the grants, second Blocker, all in favor, motion carried.

Village Creek Boat landing was discussed by the Board. Recent communications from the Iowa DNR Parks Division conveyed due to State of Iowa budget short falls, the docks at Village Creek Boat Landing were going to be removed from operation. The Board isn't currently interested in taking over management of the Village Creek Boat Landing, but is willing to assist the IDNR in maintaining the docks to keep the landing in operation for the upcoming season. The Board instructed the Director to make contact with the City of Lansing regarding the possibility of the City assisting with Village Creek maintenance.

Upcoming programs and facility reservations were presented and discussed by the Board.

Other informational items discussed by the Board included the use of inmates, part-time seasonal help, purchasing a computer, truck bids, snowshoe rental revenues, independent audit reports, and upcoming construction projects.

The Board left the RC&D Office and traveled to view the trail line on the west edge of Postville. The Board met with adjoining landowner Mr. & Mrs. Charles Deering and Mr. & Mrs. Neal Horns. The Board viewed the trail line and discussed the ownership of the property, and the encroachment on approximately three hundred yards of the property. The Board discussed with the landowners the procedures the County has to follow when disposing of County Property. The Board indicated to both landowners that the Conservation Board is willing to work on an agreement to allow the adjoining landowners to use the property in the short term, and will be further researching a permanent agreement or method of transferring ownership of the property.

The Board traveled to the Stone Brook Property on the Yellow River north of Postville. The Board viewed property lines and discussed possible development options on the property. The Director informed the Board that Skyline Construction will be completing work for Allamakee County Secondary Roads Department in the near future and that they are willing to complete clearing and shaping when their equipment is on site. The Director will be in contact with Skyline Construction to coordinate the work to be completed and get an estimated cost.

There being not additional business, a motion was made by Blocker to adjourn the meeting, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.