

MINUTES OF THE ALLAMAKEE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday January 4, 2011 in the Board Office located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa. Board Members present were as follows: Dennis Blocker, Dave Carroll, Bill Moody, and Gary Soper. Present from the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors was Cloy Kuhse, and Conservation Board Staff members Jim Janett and 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 Soper, second Blocker, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board discussed the proposed 2011-2012 Fiscal Year Budget. Items discussed included salaries, possible request for a full time person, and truck replacement. The Director will complete a draft budget and forward to the Board prior to the next Conservation Board meeting being held January 27, 2011 at 1:00 P.M. in the Board Office.

Information on the recent scoring of Fish Habitat Grants was presented to the Board. Allamakee County Conservation Board's two grants were funded totaling \$50,000.00. The projects included funding for the purchase of property on the Yellow River from Stone Brook LLP, and the stream bank stabilization and fishing access improvements at the Columbus Bridge Property on Village Creek. The Director noted to the Board that permits needed to be filed for the stream bank work on the Columbus Bridge Property and Quest Phone will need to relocate underground utilities prior to beginning the project.

Information was provided to the Board on the Snow Mobile Safety Class being held on January 8, 2011.

Upcoming Conservation Board Member Appointments were discussed by the Board. Conservation Board Member Gary Soper is up for appointment. Soper informed the Board that he would accept another appointment to the Conservation Board. The Director was instructed to contact the Board of Supervisors to ask approval for Gary Soper's reappointment to the Allamakee County Conservation Board.

Producing a map of Allamakee County for the Conservation Board was discussed. Items included getting assistance from the County GIS Coordinator, listing of Conservation Board areas, possible listing of State and Federal Lands, roads, and possible Historical locations. Usage of the map by the public and being placed on information Kiosks was discussed. Board staff will coordinate a meeting with the GIS Coordinator to find out what features and options would be available.

The procedure for selling County Property was discussed by the Board. Three options are available; Public Auction, Sealed Bids, and Land Trade. The Director will set a meeting with Palmer Abstract to further discuss ownership issues on the Postville Trail Line.

Submitting an application from the Conservation Board to the Allamakee Community Foundation Grant Program was discussed by the Board. The grant would be submitted for development planning on the Columbus Bridge Property. Planning funds would be used for architectural and engineering work relating to the building design and a septic system. A motion was made by Carroll to proceed with the Allamakee Community Foundation Grant for the maximum allotment of \$10,000.00 for the Columbus Bridge Property, second Blocker, all in favor, motion carried.

The next meeting was discussed by the Board. Due to scheduling conflicts, the Board will change the meeting date for February to January 27, 2011 at 1:00 P.M. in the Board Office.

Updates were provided to the Board on the Stone Brook LLP land acquisition and the possible acquisition from the Chet Spinner Estate. The Stone Brook LLP purchase had been waiting for the estate to close. This recently had been completed and the plate had been submitted to the plate review committee. The property should be closed within the next two months. The Board recently received funds from the Fish Habitat Grant Program to purchase the property. The Director had been in contact with Executor of the Chet Spinner Estate. The Executor of the Estate is interested in conveying the property to the Conservation Board. The Estate will be closed in four months at the earliest. The Executor indicated he would be in contact with the Director.

There being no additional business, a motion was made by Blocker to adjourn the meeting, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was called to order at 3:15 P.M.