

Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 Tuesday January 3, 2012 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. Attending from the public was Bruce Plomborg. Also present was Board staff members Jim Janett and Jarrod Olson.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 and the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Budget review and preparation for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year Budget was conducted by the Board. Construction projects were discussed by the Board. Construction projects to be included in the next fiscal year budget included stream bank stabilization at Volney Park, construction of a shelter house at Stonebrook Park, pouring handicapped sidewalks for fishing access at Harpers Slough fishing access, and roof replacement on the shelter house at Bluffview Park shelter house. Other items discussed for the budget included increasing the part-time help line item and discussion on adding a fulltime position for the department. The Board instructed the Director to provide a job description for a naturalist position and salary range for the Board to review.

Claims were reviewed and approved by the Board.

The cell phone reimbursement rate for employees set in April of 2011 was discussed by the Board. The Board reaffirmed the rate for the Director at \$50.00 per month and instructed the Auditors Office to pay the claim for the Director for the last eight months of service. If there is issue with the reimbursement rate, the Board will write new cell phone plan at the full rate price. If necessary, Conservation Board Members will make contact with the Allamakee County Auditor to discuss why the claim was not paid.

Information on Board staff attending the January 23-25, 2012 Annual IACCBE Conference was discussed and approved by the Board.

Purchasing items from the current fiscal year budget was discussed by the Board. Items to be purchased included a computer, jointer for the shop, and restroom construction material.

Planning efforts for the Columbus Property was discussed by the Board. Correspondence from the County Engineer and a draft narrative for the variance request for parking on County Right of Way was provided to the Board. The need to have additional work completed by Martin Architecture for the variance request was discussed by the Board. A working design showing the parking changes was suggested by the County Engineer and Mohn engineering. The Director had been in contact with Martin Architecture and the revision should be completed within a few weeks.

The Board discussed the Conservation Board Member vacancy. Conservation Board Members were under the impression that the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors would likely make an appointment that would comply with Gender Balance Legislation recently passed by the Iowa Legislature. Some possible individuals that maybe interested in serving on the Conservation Board were discussed. The Board instructed the Director to make contact with the Board of Supervisors regarding the need to appoint a person to the Conservation Board, and to encourage individuals to let the Board of Supervisors know they are interested in serving on the Board.

The Board discussed different possibilities on resolving the Postville Trail Line ownership issues. The Director had spoke with Attorney Nicole Winke regarding the matter when closing on the Zoll Property. The Director will follow up with Winke Law Office on possible options.

The next Board meeting will be held in the Board Office at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday February 7, 2012. There being no additional business a motion was made by Soper to adjourn the meeting, second by Blocker, all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 P.M.