

Minutes of the Allamakee County Conservation Board

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday December 1, 2015 in the Board Office located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, 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. Bruce Palmburg was present from the public.

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

Claims, revenues, and fiscal year account balances were reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Director collected Board Members mileage.

Jane M. Regan addressed the Board on the importance of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission Corridor Management Plan. A motion was made on supporting the Mississippi River Parkway Commission Corridor Management Plan. Motion made by Carroll, seconded by Koenig; all in favor, motion passed to use the Mississippi River Parkway Commission Corridor Management Plan.

The RC&D Office is looking at possible locations to place information kiosks along the Driftless Area Scenic Byway. The Board reviewed and approved placement of a Driftless Area Scenic Byway information Kiosk, at Bluffview Park. Cost for installation is covered by the Driftless Area Scenic Byway.

The Board reviewed and discussed the posting of the Postville Trail Line Property for sale and discussed possible minimum amounts for the property. A motion was made by Clark to set minimum sale price of the Postville Trail Line Property at \$4,000.00, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried. The price was established by the amount of acreage and the costs associated with completing the sale.

Updates on fundraising and grants for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. The Director and Jane M. Regan would be attending the next CAT Board review meeting on December 9th, 2015 in Des Moines. Work completed on the project included drilling of the geothermal wells, building site excavation, and pouring of footings and walls. The Board reviewed and approved the first contractor claims, totaling \$114,808.94 to be reimbursed by the National Scenic Byway Grant. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builders claim for \$32,803.50 by Koenig, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Skyline Construction's claim for \$40,515.44 by Clark, second Moody, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Shawver Well's claim for \$41,490.00 by Clark, second by Carroll, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board reviewed the upcoming contract from Split Rock Studios. It included design, development and pre-production for interpretive displays in the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. No action was taken on signing the contract.

The Director will be making contact with the surrounding banks for possible interim financing. The Director will report findings to the Board at the January meeting.

Field operations and educational program updates were provided to the Board. Nobles Island has ongoing construction on the new restroom. Restrooms have been winterized for the season, the shelter

house at Halverson Park is complete, Luster Heights residents are done for the season, and docks have been pulled for the season.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be January 5th, 2015 at 1:00 P.M at the Board office located at 427 North First Street Harpers Ferry, Iowa.

There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Moody; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.