The Allamakee County Conservation met in regular session at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, December 6th, 2016 at 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: James Janett, Jackie Jellings, and Jarrod Olson. Present from the public was Bruce Palmborg.

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

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

Updates on current grants, fundraising, and construction for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were provided to the Board. Work continues in the Visitor Center with flooring, electrical wiring on second level, phone lines, security cameras, and final cleaning. Building inspection for the elevator, alarm, and sprinklers is set for December 12th and inspection with the state fire marshal is set for January 3rd, 2016. The Board reviewed and approved the thirteenth contractor claim, totaling $257,409.47. A motion was made to approve Cresco Builder’s claim for $117,938.20 by Carroll, second Moody, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Skyline Construction claim for $129,739.47 by Clark, second Carroll, all in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to approve Shawver Well Company claim for $9,731.80 by Carroll, second Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Communication service needs and options for the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center were discussed with the Board. Century Link’s temporary lines are set as of now, with permanent lines to follow. Fiber optic lines will be compatible to run all telephone & internet wires.

The Board discussed the upcoming Conservation Board Member appointment. A motion was made by Moody to submit a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors to recommend the reappointment of Dennis Blocker, second by Clark, all in favor, motion carried.

Board Member mileage was collect for reimbursement.

The Board discussed the 2017-2018 fiscal year budget and will complete the budget during the January meeting.

Field operations and education programming updates were provided to the Board. The Visitor Center has booked its first reservation with the R.J McElroy Trust in September of 2017, the 2008 Ford truck is in for repairs, and the Board of Supervisors approved the construction easement for the City of Lansing for temporary construction at Clear Creek Park.

The Board traveled to view the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center.

The next meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, January 10th, 2017 at 1:00 P.M., in the Board Office, at the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center. There being no additional business a motion to adjourn was made by Clark, second by Moody; all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.