

Minutes for the Lee County Conservation Board

Meeting August 11th 2015

6:00 pm for regular meeting

Heron Bend, 2652 Hwy 61, Montrose, IA 52639

1. Call to order @ 6:00 pm by Sylvester

Roll Call: Whitaker \_x\_ Holland \_A\_ Fullhart-Snyder \_A\_ Sylvester \_\_x\_ Mullan \_\_x\_\_

Staff Present: Buckley, Tebbs, Bulger, Oldfield, Clark-Hudson, Pawling, Johnson

Supervisor Present: Don Hunold

2. Approval of previous minutes as written

MOTION to approve minutes as written

Whitaker/Mullan

Ayes: Whitaker, Mullan, Sylvester,

3. Guests or Special Interests groups -Zach and Emory from SEIRPC

4. Update on Site Development: A Rough Draft of site plan was reviewed covering each section quickly to make any needed adjustments to the draft. At the September meeting, SEIRPC will have the final draft of the plan. Larger maps of the proposed plan will be available for the open house. SEIRPC can attend the open house as well to answer anyone's questions they may have. Minor changes were suggested and the Board and staff agree to accept the plans.. Sept 8 they will present the final plans for the board's approval.

5. Update on building progress: The building is still on track to be completed late September, early October. Fort Madison will be providing the water for the building as soon as permits and contractors are in place. Mediacom will be here next week to run all of the cable in the building for our computers, copies, etc. Hansen is working with the engineer for the septic system process.

6. Approval of Bills

MOTION to approve bills as written

Whitaker/Mullan

Ayes: Whitaker, Mullan, Sylvester

7. Approval of Financials and Revenues

MOTION to approve financials and revenues

Whitaker/Mullan

Ayes: Whitaker, Mullan, Sylvester

8. Foundation Report: Meeting is August 20th @ 4pm. Buckley will discuss with the Foundation that it is time for them to contribute their promised share of \$100,000.00 and will be approached to add the building fund monies as well. Our annual Banquet is set for Sept 26th at the Lake Cooper Events Center.

9. Parks Report: Oldfield reported on park use: 425 Camping nights, 23 cabin nights, 4 shelter rental, 1573 People on the beach.

10. Education Report: Bulger reported on education programs: 366 people served, 41 different programs, canoe and kayak program at another county, Library programs, and Outdoor day with Keokuk Sister City from Japan. Monarch tagging is coming up, Dutch oven cooking, etc.

11. Wildlife Report: Tebbs reported on wildlife projects: Worked the fair board, fishing tourney, Pheasants Forever state meeting, Youth/Dove Mentor hunt planning, Planting fields, Cleaned firearms, CRP, patrolling, Fundraising meeting, Electrical work, and met with land owners.

12. Review/Approve new county open records policy

MOTION to accept counties new open records policy

Whitaker/Mullan

Ayes: Whitaker, Mullan, Sylvester

13. Continue discussion/approve changes to the duck blinds

Changes are as follows: Allow drawing to permit 3 year blind use as opposed to a 1 year blind, Allow factory decoys only, Require persons drawing for blind must have a valid hunting license,

MOTION to accept above changes to duck blind regulations

Whitaker/Mullan

Ayes: Whitaker, Mullan, Sylvester

14. Discussion on policy for use of new Nature Center

What is the emphasis on building? Conservation Education in general. Our events would get priority over others. Conservation related groups and programs would receive priority as well. Reservations for the building use will be on a first come first serve process.. Discussion focused on what events will be free/, what fees will be charged and what will be allowed and not allowed. Determinations need to be made on maximum number time the building will be opened and whether or not to allow alcohol. Buckley will put together policy proposal and have County Attorney Mike Short review the policy for the September meeting.

15. Discuss/Review conservation grid/comparison to state averages on wages.

Buckley feels that there are some employees that are being underpaid when compared to counties of comparable size. The last time wages were review and acted upon was 1997. All the positions need to be reviewed because of added duties and responsibilities beyond the current job descriptions. The Board should consider what fair compensation for the work currently required is. The Board should consider making some of these changes in this budget year and develop a plan that would keep all staff compensated according to the demands of the positions. Hunold suggests we take it to a Supervisor's workshop session when the proper information is prepared. Buckley will continue to work on this and make recommendations to the board..

16. Comments/Questions for the board

17. Next meeting is Sept 8th 2015 @ 6 pm

18. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn at 8:15 pm

Mullan/Whitaker

Ayes; Mullan, Sylvester, Whitaker



Sandra Fullhart-Snyder

LCCB President

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William Mullan

LCCB Secretary