



LEE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 10, 2010 MEETING OF THE LEE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Johnson, William Mullan, Larry Dusanek, Rodger Whitaker

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Chris Lindner

EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Tom Buckley, Diana VerDught, Clint Oldfield, John Pawling

GUESTS OR INTEREST GROUPS: Ernie Schiller, Board of Supervisors, Ted Neal, University of Iowa Tyler Lorenzen, Fort Madison High School

The meeting was called to order by Secretary, Gary Johnson at 7:08 pm in the Board's Office at Heron Bend Conservation Area, 2652 Highway 61, Montrose, Iowa 52639

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

MOTION: Whitaker/Dusanek
To approve minutes as presented

Aye: Dusanek, Whitaker, Johnson

GUEST OR INTEREST GROUPS: Buckley introduces Neal and Lorenzen to the Board

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Buckley informed the Board members of the office equipment that had to be replaced due to the building being struck by lightning. A discussion continued of other items on the list of bills. Whitaker asked that a running list of bills for building the Cabins at Wilson Lake be kept so the Board will know what it costs for building in the future.

MOTION: Dusanek/Whitaker
To approve bills as presented

Aye: Dusanek, Whitaker, Johnson

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL/REVENUE REPORTS: Buckley explained to the Board that LCCB is running ahead in its budget due to building the cabins at Wilson Lake, the fish kill at Trumpeter Marsh and the lightning strike at Heron Bend Conservation Area, however the Board of Supervisors will be reimbursing LCCB for the cabin project and assisting us with the cost of the fish kill, and we will be receiving a check from FEMA for the Boat Ramp at the Skunk River Access.

PARKS REPORT: Buckley told the Board of the lightning strike and the damage it had done, how 2 of the departments are still without communications due to the lines that are burnt, Buckley told the Board that if the County Maintenance department were not able to fix it by Wednesday, August 18th LCCB will be contacting a private contractor to complete the work.

Buckley informed the Board that the electricity was out at Pollmiller Park, and the West Point Utility Company was in the process of trenching a new line into the park.

Buckley told the board that he had met with FEMA last week and there are 5 LCCB areas affected by flooding.

Buckley told the Board that the Survey crew is finishing up a project and will be getting back to the newly acquired area on the Mississippi River.

FOUNDATION UPDATE: Buckley informed the Board that the Foundation would be meeting August 19, and that there is an opening on the Board due to a resignation. Buckley went on to tell the Board of the donations received since the July meeting.

Mr. Mullan joins the meeting, late due to flooding.

PRESENTATION BY TYLER LORENZEN OF EXTERNSHIP PROJECT AT HERON BEND CONSERVATION AREA: Buckley introduced Tyler Lorenzen; Biology Teacher at Fort Madison High School Lorenzen stated that after graduating from U. of I. he looked for an opportunity to help himself in the classroom and assist in teaching the kids to employ ability skills, get the kids excited and get them outdoors. Lorenzen had spent the summer at Heron Bend Conservation Area inventorying wildlife. A lengthy discussion went on with questions from the Board. Ted Neal an employee of U. of I. assists in bringing a business and a teacher together explains that together with the Iowa Math and Science Partnership 2008, he hopes to have more teachers out there next year. Lorenzen will be taking the data collected at Heron Bend Conservation Area and making a brochure.

APPROVAL OF REAP GRANT FOR WILSON LAKE IMPROVEMENTS: Buckley informed the Board that he has a grant ready to submit for improvements at Wilson Lake, 12 new campsites, 9 electric and 3 primitive, a 10'9" x 25'2" shower/restroom facility, a 40' x 40' Pavilion which will be located in the center of the Campground, and to replace 13 campsites with 50 amp breakers. Buckley passed around pictures of the future campsite locations and informed the Board that if this is something you want to do, we will need a motion and signature

MOTION: Dusanek/Whitaker
To approve the reap grant for Wilson Lake camp area

Aye: Mullan, Dusanek, Whitaker, Johnson

CONSIDER CONTEST TO NAME NEW PROPERTIES: Buckley told the Board we have gone almost a year now calling it the former Ameren property. Buckley told the Board when we purchase this property for the Office; we had a contest and gave a \$50.00 savings bond to the winner. Buckley suggested to the Board that we should have two (2) names.

MOTION: Whitaker/Mullan
To set up contest to name new properties.

Aye: Mullan, Dusanek, Whitaker, Johnson

Board members and LCCB staff are not eligible for prizes; the prize will go to the second decision of the Board at the November meeting.

DESCUSSION ON INCREASE TO IACCB DUES: Buckley informed the Board that on the agenda of the IACCB Fall Conference is a discuss to increase the annual membership dues Buckley went on to explain to the Board why IACCB is asking for the increase, what is included in the increase, and how cost of the increase is based on population per county. Buckley explained to the Board this is where we get our legislative information; receive free legal advice, and obtain information of Iowa County Conservation procedures.

DISCUSSION ON AGRICULTURAL LEASES WILDLIFE FOOD REQUIREMENTS: Buckley turned the meeting over to Johnson. Johnson explained he had hoped that Lindner would be here for this discussion, because of Lindner's background in renting. Johnson went on to inform the Board of the average cost of planting an acre of crop in Iowa. Johnson told the Board that LCCB require the renter to leave one (1) acre of land for the wildlife. Johnson told the Board that it is costing the renter approximately \$400.00 to \$500.00 dollars an acre, stating that if we did not require them to leave an acre LCCB could maybe get more money per acre with the agricultural land LCCB rents out. Dusanek stated he did not believe it would make a bit of difference, Buckley told the Board these are Wildlife Areas and LCCB management responsibilities are to wildlife.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SEPTEMEBER 16-18 AT COUNCIL BLUFFS: Buckley told the Board that the Annual Conference will be a few days after the next Board meeting and informed the Board that they will be enlightened on what other counties are doing.

PROJECT REPORTS AND UPDATES: Buckley told the Board that Administration is still in progress of getting communications back to 100%. Maintenance has been working on the cabin project and pulling our parks out of flood waters, the Education and Wildlife departments are in the middle of Adventure Camp, and Buckley told the Board that if they have never experienced the camp with the kids, they still can make it there in the next couple days, Buckley told the Board that pasted Board member Evelyn Husted is a chaperone this year.

COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM THE BOARD: Johnson told the Board that his family had recently rented the large shelter at Wilson Lake and he had noticed they had put some steps at the end of the parking lot going to the Shelter, stating he was worried about the elderly and the steps, asking if there should be a hand rail there, Buckley told the Board that the code is 4 steps or more, a discussion continued. Dusanek asked that the steps be painted orange instead of yellow and Whitaker agreed, stating that even if it is not the law, I think we should do it.

NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 14, 2010 AT 7:00 PM: Buckley informed the Board that Evelyn would like to be put on the agenda next month to discuss Adventure Camp.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: Whitaker/Dusanek/
To adjourn @8:55 PM

Aye: Mullan, Dusanek, Whitaker, Johnson



Chris Lindner
LCCB President



Gary Johnson
LCCB Secretary