

# LEE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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## MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2011 MEETING OF THE LEE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** William Mullan, Gary Johnson, Alexandra Helmick, Rodger Whitaker

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kevin Taylor

**EMPLOYEES PRESENT:** Tom Buckley, Diana VerDught, Clint Oldfield, Ross Geerdes

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chair, Rodger Whitaker at 6:04 pm in the Board's Office at Heron Bend Conservation Area, 2652 Highway 61, Montrose, Iowa 52639

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** Johnson/Mullan  
Accept minutes of the February meeting as presented.

Aye: Mullan, Johnson, Helmick, Whitaker

**GUESTS OR INTEREST GROUPS:** Ernie Schiller, Lee County Board of Supervisors

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:** Buckley explained the bills.

**MOTION:** Johnson/Mullan  
Accept bills as presented

Aye: Mullan, Johnson, Helmick, Whitaker

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL/REVENUE:** Buckley went over the Financial and

Revenue reports with the Board and asked the Board if they had any questions.

MOTION: Mullan/Johnson  
Approve as presented

Aye: Mullan, Johnson, Helmick, Whitaker

**PARKS REPORT:** Buckley informed the Board that work continues on the cabins and he is hoping for dryer weather so staff can landscape around the exterior of the cabins.

Buckley told the Board that he had to have a private contractor remove a log from the creek at Burks Run before the spring flooding to assist in minimizing any flood damage to neighboring properties.

Buckley told the Board that 2 areas are still flooded and that he would pursue clean up after the water lowers.

**FOUNDATION UPDATE:** Buckley informed the Board of the donations received since the December 2010.

**APPROVAL OF ROSS GEERDES FOR ASSISTANT NATURALIST:** Buckley introduced Geerdes to the Board and Geerdes informed the Board of his degree in Recreation, Parks and Tourism Administration and his employment background.

MOTION: Mullan/Johnson  
Approve hiring Ross Geerdes as new Environmental Program  
Administer I starting at Class 5, Step 1 @ 14.59 per hour

Aye: Mullan, Johnson, Helmick, Whitaker

**BEGIN REVIEW OF CCB PERSONNEL POLICY:** Buckley told the Board that we have struggled with this for years because of the confusion it has caused. Buckley told the Board that Whitaker and he held a workshop last Friday. A lengthy discussion took place while the Board went through the policy. Buckley told the Board that he would like to have a smooth transition that would become effective July1, 2011.

**CONSIDER POSTING HERON BEND OFFICE PROHIBITING FIREARMS:** A discussion took place. Mullan stated he would like to see what happens in other cities and

county levels before making any decision.

MOTION: Mullan/Johnson  
To table discussion

Aye: Mullan, Johnson, Helmick, Whitaker

**UPDATE ON JOINT BUILDING STUDY AND CABINS:** Buckley informed the Board that the study has been completed and told the Board that he has a meeting tomorrow to discuss funding and architect recruitment.

**UPDATE ON POLLMILER PROJECT:** Buckley explained to the Board that this concerns a private contractor who was awarded a bid where work has been delayed which was to be completed by March 1. Buckley and Oldfield explained to the Board their concerns of the delay and possible damage to roadways and ground because the ground no longer has sufficient frost to accommodate the weight of the equipment or trucks hauling material needed for this job on the existing roadways or the damn itself. Buckley and Oldfield explained that the material for this job was donated by Geode State Park and must be removed from there by April 15, stating that if we can not meet this deadline the project will incur additional costs. The Board instructed Buckley to have the County Attorney send a letter to the contractor to inform him of what will be needed to complete the project.

**PROJECT REPORTS / UPDATE:** The Board looked over the projects completed and the upcoming projects.

**CLOSED SESSION ACCORDING TO IOWA CODE 21.5(j) TO DISCUSS REAL ESTATE:**

MOTION: Johnson/Mullan  
To go into closed session at 8:25 pm to discuss real estate according to Iowa Code 21.5 (j)  
Aye: William Mullan, Gary Johnson, Alexandra Helmick, Rodger Whitaker

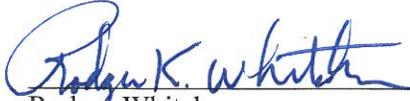
MOTION: Johnson/Mullan  
Send letter of thank you with a polite decline  
Aye: William Mullan, Gary Johnson, Alexandra Helmick, Rodger Whitaker

**NEXT MEETING:** April 12, 2011 exact time to be announced.

**ADJOURN:**

MOTION: Johnson/Mullan  
To adjourn 8:40 pm

Aye: Mullan, Johnson, Helmick, Whitaker

  
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Rodger Whitaker  
LCCB President

  
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Gary Johnson  
LCCB Secretary