



MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

3300 Cedar Street P.O. Box 109 Muscatine, IA 52761 (563) 264-5922 email: conservation@muscatinecountyia.gov

August 19, 2024
Regular Meeting

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Muscatine County Conservation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, August 19, 2024 at the Environmental Learning Center. Acting Chairperson Mike Schulte called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Members present: Mike Schulte, Mark Petersen, Karen Hartman.

Members absent: Sherry Seright, Julie Jindrich.

Also Present: Katie Hammond, Scott Sauer, Lori Dietrich, Kim Schneider.

Meeting Minutes

Mark Petersen made a motion to approve the July 15, 2024 meeting minutes as presented.

Karen Hartman seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman and Mark Petersen.

Voting nay: none.

Public Participation

Kim Schneider was present and stated she was running for County Supervisor and was here to observe.

Special Events Permits

Kyrah Anderson- Application for Special Event-Saturday, October 26, 2024- Discovery Park #1 Large Shelter. Wedding Ceremony. From 11-4PM. Approximately 50 people. Paid for Shelter rental. Karen Hartman made a motion to approve the Anderson Special Events Permit Application. Mark Petersen seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none.

The Director gave the updates on projects. At Deep Lakes Park, the sand removal is still going on. The Bolton & Menk agreement needs to be changed from just sewer and water to the plan with the well and septic system and the Board of Supervisors needs to approve this agreement. The Conservation Foundation will be sending out a letter and brochure to raise additional private funds needed for the Campground project. The Phase 1 Environmental & Feasibility/ cost opinion is being done by Mike Nolan. At Saulsbury the campground is back open for camping. In Discovery Park some Ash trees were broken by the winds and are being cleaned up by staff.

The Board discussed the contract presented for professional services on the Deep Lakes Park Campground project from Bolton & Menk, which includes \$175,000.00 for the design phase engineering and "Not to exceed", \$45,000.00 for the construction phase engineering. Mark Petersen made a motion to accept the contract for professional services on the Deep Lakes Park Campground Project from Bolton & Menk for \$175,000.00-design phase engineering and "Not to exceed" \$45,000.00-construction phase engineering, with the stipulation that the Boards counsel agrees with the contract. Karen Hartman seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none.

The Board discussed bids received from 3 local electricians for the outdoor electrical work that needs to be done at the Environmental Learning Center. Hackett Electric-\$2,900.00, Nelson Electric-\$2,886.32 with a possible additional amount of \$815.00. Kauffman Electric-\$1,255.00 and bid was submitted 1 day late from deadline. Karen Hartman made a motion to accept the low bid of \$2,886.32, with a possible additional amount of \$815.00 from Nelson Electric. Mark seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none.

The Board discussed the problem of the Geothermal system not working in the Environmental Learning Center. Mark Petersen made a motion that we do not solicit additional bids for the Geothermal at the Environmental Learning Center based on the belief that we are best served by using the same HVAC serving the other county buildings. Karen seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none. Karen Hartman made a motion to approve the bid from Winona Controls for, not to exceed \$25,000.00 to fix the Geothermal system in the Environmental Learning Center. Mark Petersen seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none.

The Board reviewed and discussed the FY24 Annual Report and agreed to accept it as presented.

The Director gave the Environmental Education Report. 827 kids and 559 adults for a total of 1386 people were served with 54 programs last month.

The Director gave the Operations Report. At Saulsbury, the flood clean-up is complete, storm damaged trees on the trails and in campground were cleaned up. Patched roads. Staff cut tree that was hung up on Saulsbury Bridge and repaired the railing. McKeown Bridge, boat ramp clean-up from flood. At Nye Cemetery- staff removed a downed Ash tree. In Discovery Park staff installed a cement pad and donor bench.

Other Items from the Director

The Director presented a list of possible large projects for FY25. (See attached). The Board Suggested the focus should first be on the Geothermal system in the Environmental Learning Center and the Campground Project, and possibly in October present to the public about the Campground plans.

Items from the Board

None.

Claims

Mark Petersen made a motion to approve all claims in the amount of \$8,812.68. Karen Hartman seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none.

Adjournment

Mike Schulte adjourned the meeting at 7:03 P.M.



Katie Hammond, Director
Muscatine County Conservation Board