



# MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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October 21, 2024  
Regular Meeting

## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Muscatine County Conservation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, October 21, 2024 at the Environmental Learning Center. Chairperson Sherry Seright called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Members present: Sherry Seright, Mike Schulte, Mark Petersen, Karen Hartman and Julie Jindrich. Also present: Katie Hammond, Scott Sauer, Lori Dietrich, Kim Schneider and Emily Naylor.

### Meeting Minutes

Mike Schulte made a motion to approve the September 16, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Julie Jindrich seconded. Voting aye: Sherry Seright, Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman, Julie Jindrich and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none.

### Public Participation

Emily Naylor, County Conservation Development Director for Bolton & Menk, Inc. gave an overview of the Deep Lakes Campground Phase One plan.

### Special Events Applications

Todd Stammer – Application for Special Event, Thursday-Sunday, May 15-18, 2025- Pearl City Rendezvous at Discovery Park #1 Large Shelter. Open to the public, vendors, & displays. 100-1500 people could be attending. Mark Petersen made a motion to approve the Pearl City Rendezvous application, with the stipulation that the \$25.00 administration fee is paid, a current certificate of liability insurance is received and a proper fire permit is obtained and received. Karen Hartman seconded. Voting aye: Sherry Seright, Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman, Julie Jindrich and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none.

The Director gave the updates on projects. At Deep Lakes Park, they are finishing up at the sand borrow site. There will be an area to potentially build a parking lot, or could also be an off leash area for dogs. A public unveiling of the campground project was held prior to this meeting. We have received the first donations towards this project. Project bids will go out 11/11/2024 and will be due 12/11/2024. The ARPA funds designated for the campground project have been moved to Capital Projects to allow for more time to get the building process going and remove the deadline to have the funds spent. A meeting about the 2025 Triathlon at Deep Lakes Park will be held on October 22, 2024 at 9:00A.M. The Conservation Foundation voted via email to be the fiscal agent for the Triathlon. Julie Jindrich will be on the planning committee and Katie Hammond will be on the Board for the Triathlon.

The closing for the property at 2570 Pettibone Avenue, Muscatine, IA, is set for this Wednesday, October 23, 2024. The time is to be determined. Mark Petersen will attend. The Board discussed the proposed agreement from Horizon Architects for designing a plan to renovate the building for use as a maintenance building. The Director will contact contractors for estimates on roofing, siding, adding a bathroom, office and other updates. At Saulsbury Bridge Recreation Area, the camping is slowing down, and campground will be closing soon for the season. At Discovery Park, we are officially the newest Interpretive Center along the Great River Road. The Parkway Commission will be sending a sign to display, we will be adding the logo to our website and the Iowa Tourism website. We have not heard back from the Carver Trust yet, about our grant request. The thermostats are on back order for the Geothermal fix at the Environmental Learning Center. We received \$950.00 off of our MPW bill for light rebates that were submitted and also a \$341.68 lighting rebate check from 3 years ago, that apparently was lost in the mail and we never received.

The Board discussed an email request from Melissa Morgan/Janie Morgan for a refund on a Cabin rental fee. There was an emergency situation, a few days prior to their stay and they were not able to use the cabin. Mark Petersen made a motion to approve the refund of \$250.00 rental fee to Janie Morgan. Julie Jindrich seconded. Voting aye: Sherry Seright, Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman, Julie Jindrich and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none.

The Director gave the Environmental Education Report. 1352 kids and 628 adults for a total of 1980 people were served with 54 programs last month.

The Director gave the Operations Report. Discovery Park, staff installed and retrofit lights along the sidewalk around Environmental Learning Center. Treated a Willow tree and planted a replacement Oak tree. Staff fixed roofing on Raptor display. Applied fresh staining on the outside of the Environmental Learning Center. At Saulsbury the trenches were leveled in the campground.

#### Other items from the Director

The Director informed the Board that the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation asked about help with maintaining a part of the Iowa Hoover Trail. All seasonal staff is gone with the exception of Trinidad Martinez, and he will continue to work as long as there is work for him to do.

#### Items from the Board

Mark Petersen asked about an ammo purchase in the claims and wanted to know the guidelines, and if the staff had fresh ammunition or regularly changed out their ammunition. The Director stated she was sure they were following guidelines and would check.

#### Claims

Mike Schulte made a motion to approve all claims in the amount of \$426,102.36. Karen seconded. Voting aye: Sherry Seright, Mike Schulte, Karen Hartman, Julie Jindrich and Mark Petersen. Voting nay: none.

#### Adjournment

Sherry Seright adjourned the meeting at 7:11 P.M.

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Katie Hammond, Director  
Muscatine County Conservation Board