



# MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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December 16, 2024  
Regular Meeting

## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Muscatine County Conservation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, December 16, 2024 at the Environmental Learning Center. Chairperson Sherry Seright called the meeting to order at 4:31 P.M.

Members present: Mike Schulte, Mark Petersen, Sherry Seright, and Julie Jindrich.

Members absent: Karen Hartman.

Also present: Katie Hammond, Scott Sauer, Lori Dietrich, Ryne Brimeyer, Brad Jipp, and James Woepking.

### Meeting Minutes

Mike Schulte made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2024 meeting.

Mark Petersen seconded. Voting aye: Julie Jindrich, Mark Petersen, Sherry Seright, and Mike Schulte. Voting nay: none.

### Public Participation

James Woepking presented a plan to the Board for a 19 Hole Disc Golf Course at Deep Lakes Park. The Board discussed the proposal and asked James to come back to a meeting with a more detailed plan, with ongoing maintenance details, and what the county's funding responsibilities would be.

### Special Events Applications

There were none.

The Director gave updates on current projects. At Deep Lakes Park, the borrow site project is finished. The Triathlon plans are moving forward. At Discovery Park, the Geothermal repairs and programming at the Environmental Learning Center have been completed, but still have a few issues to resolve. There is a traveling Monarch exhibit set up at the Learning Center. The funds from the Carver Grant for the aquatic life support upgrades and animal enclosures has been received. \$35,559.50 has been paid to Aquatic Environments Inc. to get items ordered. Aquatic Environments is expected to get started on the project around the middle of January 2025.

The Director asked for approval of RESOLUTION NO. 2024-2, a revision of RESOLUTION NO. 2024-1 that referred to an incorrect project title. 2024-1 was incorrectly named the Maintenance Building Project, 2024-2 changed the name to the Campground Project. Mark Petersen made a motion to approve RESOLUTION 2024-2. Mike Schulte seconded. Sherry Seright took a roll call vote. Mark Petersen, Aye; Mike Schulte, Aye; Julie Jindrich, Aye; and Sherry Seright, Aye. Karen Hartman was not present.

The Board discussed awarding the recommended low bid from Triple B Construction for the Deep Lakes Park Campground Project. Bolton & Menk recommended the Base Bid amount of \$847,012.50 which included an asphalt road through the campground. Sherry Seright suggested checking with the County Engineer on asphalt verses concrete for the project as there was some concern on the stability and depth of the asphalt. Mark Petersen made a motion to accept the recommended Base Bid and Bid Alternate A of \$1,069,762.50 from Triple B Construction, which was for a concrete road. Mike Schulte seconded. Sherry Seright took a roll call vote. Mark Petersen, Aye; Mike Schulte, Aye; Julie Jindrich, Nay; and Sherry Seright, Aye. The motion passed.

The Board discussed approving the execution of the Notice of Award for the Deep Lakes Park Campground project. Mike Schulte made a motion to execute the Notice of Award after documents are updated. Mark Petersen seconded. Sherry Seright took a roll call vote. Mark Petersen, Aye; Mike Schulte, Aye; Julie Jindrich, Aye; and Sherry Seright, Aye.

The Board discussed proceeding with the contract and receipt of insurance certificates from Triple B Construction for the Deep Lakes Park Campground project. Mike Schulte made a motion to table proceeding with the contract and receipt of insurance certificates. Mark Petersen seconded. Sherry Seright took a roll call vote. Voting aye: Julie Jindrich, Mark Petersen, Mike Schulte and Sherry Seright. Voting nay: none.

The Board discussed approving execution of the Notice to Proceed for the Deep Lakes Park Campground project. Mike Schulte made a motion to approve the Director to execute the Notice to Proceed for the Deep lakes Park Campground project once it was ready. Mark Petersen seconded. Sherry Seright took a roll call vote. Mark Petersen, Aye; Mike Schulte, Aye; Julie Jindrich, Aye; and Sherry Seright, Aye. Karen Hartman was not present.

The Board discussed the amendment to the contract with Bolton & Menk for professional services on design of a force main. No action was taken.

The Board discussed the Muscatine County Conservation Foundation's request on Deep Lakes Park Campground project fundraising. Hammond will calculate the amount of funding still needed for the force main and paving campsites.

The Director gave the Environmental Education report. 1380 kids and 176 adults for a total of 1556 people were served 79 programs last month.

The Director gave the Operations Report. At Saulsbury, brush was cut off the boundary fences, fence was repaired, and dead ash trees were removed. Park areas were prepared for the winter season. Snow plow is ready for winter. At Cedar Bluffs, the boundary fence and parking lot fences were repaired and prairie brush was cut. Trash and dead ash trees were removed from Gedney Lake.

#### Other items from the Director

The Director reported that the FY26 budget was turned in to the Board of Supervisors. Sherry Seright stated we should request an operating transfer from Kala, that is usually done in July.

We received a check for \$1,000 from Bob Sywassink who leases a field at Richardson Wildlife Area. Hammond like to discuss increasing and setting fees for cabins and Deep Lake Park camping at the next Board meeting. There will be multi-lingual Hunter Safety courses held in January.

Items from the Board

Mark Petersen addressed the Board as his term expires December 31, 2024. Mark reviewed some high points of his time as a Board member and thanked everyone.

Claims

Mark Petersen made a motion to approve all claims in the amount of \$48,723.21. Julie Jindrich seconded. Voting aye: Sherry Seright, Mike Schulte, Mark Petersen and Julie Jindrich. Voting nay: none.

Adjournment

Sherry Seright adjourned the meeting at 6:03P.M.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Katie Hammond', is written over a horizontal line.

Katie Hammond, Director  
Muscatine County Conservation Board