



MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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

February 17, 2025
Regular Meeting

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Muscatine County Conservation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, February 17, 2025 at the Environmental Learning Center. Chairperson, Julie Jindrich called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

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

Members absent: Karen Hartman and Dakoatah Jacobs

Also present: Katie Hammond and Scott Sauer

Meeting Minutes

Sherry Seright made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2025 meeting. Mike Schulte seconded the motion. Voting aye: Sherry Seright, Julie Jindrich, and Mike Schulte.

Voting nay: none.

Public Participation - None

Special Events Applications- None

Update on Projects

The Director updated the Board on the status of the Carver Grant. Aquatic Ecosystems completed all the work on the enclosures, aquariums, and did a staff training on the new life support system. Work on the Raptor's Mew will begin this spring/summer. No action was taken.

Discussion and Possible action on the Deep Lakes Park Campground

The Board gave direction to the Director to obtain a quote from Triple B Construction for the addition of 6 sites on the 1st phase campground and for paving half of each campsite on the 1st phase of the project. No action was taken since the dollar amount was not available.

A motion was made by Sherry Seright to allow Deep Lakes Park Campground changes orders in the amount of \$5,000 or less to be approved by the Director and Project Manager when it could impede the progress of the project to wait for a Conservation Board meeting. Second by Mike Schulte. Voting aye: Sherry Seright, Julie Jindrich, and Mike Schulte. Voting nay: none.

Discussion and Possible action on the Conservation Budget Amendment

Hammond presented the Conservation Budget Amendment. The main reason for the amendment is to allow for the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust grant. A motion by Mike Schulte included raising the Non-Capital Expenses by \$100,505 to \$125,505. Raising the Hotel Motel Tax from \$0 to \$2,500 and increasing the Building Maintenance and Repair fund from \$25,000 to \$50,000. It also included raising the revenue line item for Donations from \$3,000 to \$103,505 to include the Carver Trust Grant. Second by Sherry Seright. Voting aye: Sherry Seright, Julie Jindrich, and Mike Schulte. Voting nay: none.

The Director gave the Environmental Education report as provided by Naturalist, Michelle Berns, 737 kids & 218 adults, for a total of 955 people were served during 72 programs.

The Director gave the Operations Report written by Kent Kauffman. Staff worked on repairing drywall, displays, and a storage shelf for the aquarium room. Brush was trimmed at Discovery Park and along the Bike Trail at Deep Lakes Park. Interviews were conducted for summer staff, and two Conservation Aide interns were hired. At Saulsbury, staff removed Ash hazard trees in the campground. Snow removal was done in all areas.

Other Items from the Director

The Director inquired about submitting a Delta Dental grant to replace the drinking fountain on the restroom by the playground at Discover Park with a water bottle filling station. She also inquired about reduced rates for government employees or staff at the cabins, shelters, or lodge. The Board felt that our prices are low enough that discounts are not needed.

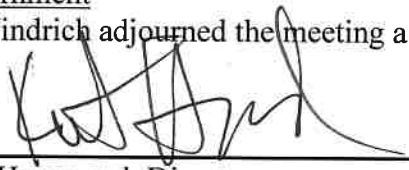
Items from the Board - None.

Claims

Sherry Seright made a motion to approve all claims in the amount of \$9,938.63. Mike Schulte seconded. Voting aye: Sherry Seright, Julie Jindrich, and Mike Schulte. Voting nay: none.

Adjournment

Julie Jindrich adjourned the meeting a 6:44 P.M.



Katie Hammond, Director
Muscatine County Conservation Board