



MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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

June 16, 2025
Regular Meeting

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Muscatine County Conservation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, June 16, 2025 at the Environmental Learning Center. Chairperson, Julie Jindrich called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

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

Board Members absent: Karen Hartman

Also present: Katie Hammond and Scott Sauer

Meeting Minutes

Mike Schulte made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2025 meeting. Sherry Seright seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Julie Jindrich, Sherry Seright. Voting nay: none.

Public Participation – None.

Special Events Applications

The Director provided two Special Event Permits that had been submitted. The Kruse Wedding was requesting a permit for their wedding on 9/13/25 at Discovery Park Shelter #1. The Trinity Muscatine Friends were requesting a permit to hold their annual used book and puzzle sale on 9/18/25 at Discovery Park Shelter #1. A motion was made by Sherry Seright to approve both events. Second by Mike Schulte. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Julie Jindrich, Sherry Seright. Voting nay: none.

Update on Projects- Projects will be updated during the next discussions on the agenda.

Discussion and action for FY2025-2026 salary increases for staff.

A motion was made by Sherry Seright to give conservation staff a similar raise to other county employees as provided by the Administration Office. Staff will receive a 3% raise on July 1, 2025 and a 2% raise on January 1, 2026. Seconded by Mike Schulte. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Julie Jindrich, Sherry Seright. Voting nay: none.

Discussion and possible action on the Muscatine County Conservation Foundation Fish Fry at the Environmental Learning Center

Katie Hammond asked the Board for approval to utilize the ELC classroom for the Foundation's Fish Fry. No action was taken although all Board Members were in favor of hosting the event as part of the 20th Anniversary Celebration.

Discussion and possible action on the Deep Lakes Park Campground Project

Katie Hammond shared an idea and cost estimate to place either black dirt or rock in the sandy areas between campsites. No official action was taken; however, the discussion and decision were to stick with the original plan and backfill with sand between the sites.

The Director gave the Environmental Education report. 990 kids & 449 adults, for a total of 1439 people were served during 70 programs since the last meeting. Summer Externs are onsite and working. They are doing a fantastic job!

The Director gave the Operations report. Dash Wiseman completed his Eagle Scout Project by landscaping around the entrance rock/sign at Discovery Park. The maintenance crew has completed quite a bit of invasive species removal and spraying. All food plots have been planted. They are also working on improvement projects and painting in anticipation of the 20th anniversary celebration later in July.


Other Items from the Director

Katie Hammond updated the Board on discussions with the Disc Golf group wanting to install a course at Deep Lakes Park. Discussion was also held on replacing the switches on the basement water pumps, and hiring Kellor & Kellor to help with a major weeding project. Sherry Seright also suggested checking with the Jail diversion program for additional help.

Items from the Board – Scott Sauer shared an idea of using a tree spade to move some donated trees from his farm to Deep Lakes Park, after campground construction is complete. This will allow us to plant larger trees to provide shade for campers. Sauer and Hammond will work on finding a tree spade and work with the District Forester to be sure we are getting trees that will survive in the sandy soils.

Claims - Mike Schulte made a motion to approve all claims in the amount of \$53,134.98. Plus, an additional claim to be paid to Triple B by Admin for the Campground project in the amount of \$209,937.12. Sherry Seright seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Julie Jindrich, Sherry Seright. Voting nay: none.

Adjournment - Chairperson, Julie Jindrich adjourned the meeting at 7:15 P.M.



Katie Hammond, Director
Muscatine County Conservation Board