

MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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October 20, 2025 Regular Meeting

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Muscatine County Conservation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, October 20, 2025 at the Environmental Learning Center. Chairperson Julie Jindrich called the meeting to order at 5:58 P.M.

Members present: Julie Jindrich, Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, Karen Hartman and Jeff Snyder.

Members absent: None.

Also present: Katie Hammond, Scott Sauer, and Eric Furnas.

Meeting Minutes

Mike Schulte made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2025, meeting. Sherry Seright seconded. Voting aye: Julie Jindrich, Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, Karen Hartman and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Public Participation - None.

Special Events Applications - None.

<u>Update on Projects-</u> Katie Hammond gave updates on four projects. The Campground at Deep Lakes Park is nearing completion. The main things left to complete are running the electricity, testing the well, water lines, and water quality, installing the septic alarms, and installation of the camp pedestals. Staff are planning to meet with the Disc Golf group soon to finalize plans. After discussions between Eric Furnas and the County Attorney a formal agreement isn't needed since the Muscatine Disc Golf Group is not an organized group, recognized by the state. The Maintenance Staff has done a fantastic job with the new Raptor Mew that is part of the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust. They will be moving the birds over soon and then rehabbing the old Raptor Mew. Julie Jindrich suggested using a nice-looking fence if feasible to help keep people back from the side of the Raptor Mews. Horizon Architecture is working on final plans for the Deep Lakes Park Maintenance Shop. There should be updated, more detailed plans available to view by the November Meeting.

<u>Discussion and action on Muscatine County Conservation Board FY25 Annual Report</u>
Mike Schulte made a motion to approve the FY25 Annual Report. Sherry Seright seconded.
Voting aye: Julie Jindrich, Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, Karen Hartman and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Discussion and affirmation on Change Order #7 – Pre-approved by Eric Furnas and Katie
Hammond – for building overflow parking lot and cutting the asphalt straight along the road, in
the amount of \$3,020.85. The Board discussed Change Order #7 and viewed photos of the
described changes presented by Katie Hammond. Jeff Snyder made a motion to approve Change
Order #7 in the amount of \$3,020.85. Karen Hartman seconded. Voting aye: Julie Jindrich, Mike
Schulte, Sherry Seright, Karen Hartman and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

<u>Discussion and possible action on the cost of camping at the new Deep Lakes Park Campground.</u> The Board discussed possible camping fees for the new Deep Lakes Campground. Julie Jindrich made a motion to charge \$40 per night for camping at the Deep Lakes Park Campground and not to offer free Wednesday camping. Mike Schulte seconded. Voting aye: Julie Jindrich, Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, Karen Hartman and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

The Director gave the Environmental Education report. 1460 kids & 639 adults, for a total of 2099 people were served during 67 programs since the last meeting.

The Director gave an Operations update. Besides daily maintenance and some invasive species control, staff have been busy daily building the new Raptor Mew behind the Environmental Learning Center.

Other Items from the Director

The Director informed the Board that three bids were sought to repair the Sprinkler System deficiencies that were found at the annual inspection. 2 bids were received. Ahern - \$3,363.00 and Tri-State Automatic Sprinkler - \$1,975.00. The low bid agreement from Tri-State was approved and signed under the Director's spending authority to get the deficiencies mitigated. Hammond requested permission to submit a grant to the Iowa Prairie Network for Shield Prairie Restoration. The grants can only be submitted for up to \$3,000. The grant may include things such as drone spraying the woody vegetation; cutting or forestry mulching; and prescribed burning.

Items from the Board

Sherry Seright suggested we ask the Supervisors to allow some of Conservation's unspent money at the end of fiscal year to be used towards equipment.

Jeff Snyder complimented the Environmental Education staff, campers, and maintenance staff on a job well done at the Halloween Drive through at Saulsbury.

Claims

Mike Schulte made a motion to approve all claims in the of \$23,426.10. Karen Hartman

seconded. Voting aye: Julie Jindrich, Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, Karen Hartman and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Adjournment

Chairperson, Julie Jindrich adjourned the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Katie Hammond, Director - Muscatine County Conservation