

**1. Call to Order**

Jim Steer, Chair, called the regular meeting of the Des Moines County Conservation Board to order at 5.30 p.m. at the Des Moines County Conservation Administration Building.

**Those Members Present:** James Steer, Jim Garnjobst, Angela Vaughan and Cathy Ziglar, LaVon Worley

**Those Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Frances Owen, Chris Lee and Joel Behne

**2. a. Additions and Deletions to Agenda:**

None.

**3. Delegations/Public Input:**

- a. Frances Owen introduced herself and was welcomed by the Board as the newly hired Naturalist for Des Moines County Conservation.

**4. a. Approval of Minutes for April 01, 2015:**

**#35.** Motion by Jim Garnjobst, seconded by Angela Vaughan, to approve the minutes of the April 01, 2015 Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

**5. Approval of Report of Activities for April 2015:**

**#36.** a. Motion LaVon Worley, seconded by Cathy Ziglar, to approve the reports of activity for April 2015. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

**6. Approval of Claims for April 2015:**

**#37.** a. Motion by Jim Garnjobst, seconded by Angela Vaughan, to approve the claims for April 2015. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

**7. Acceptance of Donations**

- a. Witte Foundation. \$2,000 for Earth Day and Keep Burlington Beautiful events.
- b. Walmart (Bentonville AR) \$500 for the Earth Day event.
- c. Tera Rector. Pronged 3/8" T-Nuts for the climbing wall.
- d. Girls Scouts of EII Troop 9641. \$300 for the SCNC Pollinator Garden.
- e. Girls Scouts of EII Troop 9641. \$25.00 for DMC wildlife.
- f. LaVon Worley. \$100 for Prescribed burns.

**8. Committee Reports:**

- a. **Shooting Range:** Jim Garnjobst no report.
- b. **Flint River Trails:** Cathy Ziglar. The access to the Flint River Trail appears to be getting a lot of use. The parking is in a correct and orderly manner.
- c. **Observatory:** LaVon Worley did not have a report; however, he noted that the membership fees given during the past meeting should have been \$20.00 for an individual and \$30.00 for a family.
- d. **REAP:** Director Lee reported that IWILL is out of the Senate and on the floor. The bill is still moving forward. Trust Fund Tuesdays is posted in the internet. Jeremy Yost submitted a letter to the editor. Representative Sands is writing the bill that is in the house and in favor of the bill. Representative Sands is the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

**9. Project Updates: By Director Lee**

**a. Big Hollow:**

- Range Berm work by Edle Construction has been completed.
- Fencing will be completed soon. New sand on the face of the Berms. New targets are being constructed.
- Jeremy is hydro seeding the berms and borrow area at this time.
- There will be a new rock roadway on the 100 yard range. Not, however, on the 300 meter range at this time as the ground is too soggy and the rock would just sink.
- Campgrounds are all busy.
- Cabin is rented every weekend thru mid-August.

**b. Starr's Cave Nature Center Upgrades:**

- The renovation has slowed at this point due to running low on funds.
- Camp sign up was successful. Of the 192 available positions to be filled all but 4 were taken.
- To accomplish having more camps additional staff would be needed. The current cost structure of our camps needs to be reviewed prior to next year's sign-up.

**c. Other: Parks. – Leopold Recreation Area.**

The first open hunting season appears to have been a success. Not complaints of any type. The city will be bringing out wood chips and a temporary parking lot will be built utilizing the wood chips. Rock will be added at a later date when funding is available.

**Flint River and Big Hollow Trails.**

Urban Youth Corp Grant has been approved. We will host a Team leader and three youth for trail work. They will be on-site from mid-June through July.

A lengthy trail meeting was held on this date. Present along with Director Lee were IDNR Representative John Pearson, the Engineer and Regional Planner and the head of the Stat Trails Group and trail foreman.

**Big Hollow.**

Archaeology for Big Hollow lake project is scheduled to be completed by the end of May.

**10. Old Business:**

- a.** None.

**11. New Business:**

**a. Cooperative Agreement: Flint River Bow Club.**

The current agreement was last signed in 2010. Nothing major to change. Some typo's to correct and additional language was discussed. The document will be re-written and brought back for Board signature at the June meeting. A representative from the FRBC will be on hand to answer questions and sign the document at that meeting.

**12. Informational Items/Correspondence:**

**a. YURT. Madison County.**

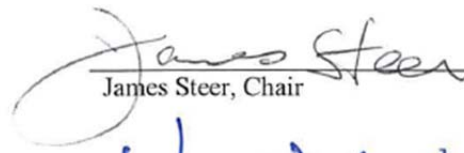
The Board received reports from Director Lee, Natural Resource Manager Yost and Ranger Rogge regarding their recent trip to Madison County to view and stay in one of their two Yurts. Director Lee presented a slide presentation of photo's he had taken during their stay. The 2 Units cost approximately \$20,000 each and are year round structures. Director from Madison County Conservation indicated that if they were to do it over they would have gone with the additional expense of a cabin. They have had no real problems or vandalism during the years they have been on site.


**b. Starr's Cave House.**

- The inspection on the house has been completed. Board chair needs to sign. The Naturalist has moved into the house.
- Sovern Construction is supposed to be completing the roof work very soon. If the funds become available the house will need to be painted sooner than later.

**13. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.**

Next meeting will be held at the Des Moines County Administration Office at 13700 Washington Road in West Burlington, IA. Meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday June 03, 2015. The public is welcome to attend.

  
James Steer, Chair

  
LaVon Worley, Secretary/Treasurer