

**1. Call to Order**

Cathy Ziglar 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:** Cathy Ziglar, James Garnjobst, Dan Hockett, Ron Helling and Julie Solinski via Zoom.

**Those Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Director Lee, Administrative Assistant Breuer, Conservation Technician Derek Hester, Kim Perlstein.

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

- a. None

**3. Delegations/Public Input:**

- a. Derek Hester and Kim Perlstein addressed the board about the possibility of renting the ranger house.

**4. Consent Agenda: Approval of Minutes from January 03, 2024 and January 2024 Claims:**

- #6**
- a. Motion by James Garnjobst, seconded by Ron Helling to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

**5. Acceptance of Donations:**

- a. Alliant Energy - Match donation - Ed Schrock Memorial for Big Hollow Master Plan.

**6. Committee Reports:**

- a. **Foundation:** Banquet will be held April 4, 2024. Tickets are available online for \$40.
- b. **Observatory:** Next meeting is in March.
- c. **Legislative:** The session is in full swing. It has been an active week. We are tracking several bills.
- d. **Water Quality:** Chris met with the Big Hollow Watershed Coordinator. There will be a landowner meeting in March.

**7. Project Updates:**

The flood-plane permit process for Starr's Cave Nature Center is still in process. We are finalizing RFP's for Big Hollow concrete and electrical expansion, FEMA boat ramp work and custodial work for the Big Hollow Ranger cabin. Chris and Marcus are putting together a funding request to Kiwanis for additional Nature Center staff. We have requested funds from the Murray Foundation for Starr's Cave Nature Center ADA upgrades. There will be a ribbon cutting and open house at the Ranger cabin next Thursday. We have discovered a campsite set up along the Flint Creek at Starr's Cave. It has been removed.

**8. Old Business:**

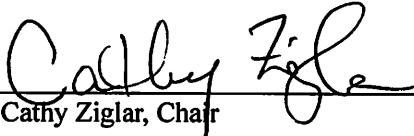
- a. None

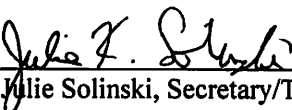
**9. New Business:**

- a. **Conservation Easement on Alliant Property:**  
Discussed the possible addition next to Sullivan Slough where we would manage a bat mitigation site provided we could offer it as public hunting ground.

10. **Informational Items/Correspondence:**  
a. **Winterfest Reports.**

11. **Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:56 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 March 06, 2024.  
The public is welcome.

  
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Cathy Ziglar, Chair

  
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Julie Solinski, Secretary/Treasurer