

Des Moines County Conservation Board Meeting Minutes

8/7/2024
~~July 03, 2024~~

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 Starr's Cave Nature Center.

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

Those Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Director Lee, Administrative Assistant Breuer, BoS Shane McCampbell via Zoom.

2. Additions and Deletions to Agenda:

a. None.

3. Delegations/Public Input:

a. None.

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

#21 a. Motion by Julie Solinski, seconded by Ron Helling to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

5. Acceptance of Donations:

- a. **Bickel's Cycling & Fitness** - Four Discraft Frisbees for disk golf event - \$17.99 / ea.
- b. **Delta Dental** - \$13,485.00 - New outdoor water fountain / bottle filling station for Starr's Cave.

6. Committee Reports:

- a. **Foundation:** No report.
- b. **Observatory:** There is a meteor shower this week.
- c. **Legislative:** There was an ICCS meeting today. REAP CEP has been paused while the administrative rules are reviewed.
- d. **Water Quality:** The new watershed coordinator is Tom Brockett and he has started..

7. Project Updates:

We had an A/C failure on the third floor of the Nature Center. A custom part had to be fabricated. The washer at the Ranger Cabin has failed, but we believe we have it going again. The Flint River Trail is kind of a disaster with rock problems, erosion and overgrowth. The field team will focus on that next month. We have been awarded a grant from the Murray Foundation for ADA improvements at the Nature Center. We are looking at alternatives for funding the CORES position to keep it going.

8. Old Business:

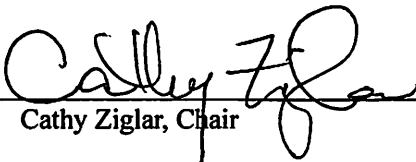
a. **Chautauqua Park Management:**

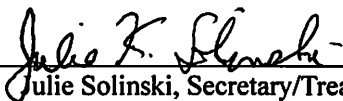
Chris had a public event to discuss the park. Many people desired the newly established prairie to be cut back from the road a bit and to establish some walking trails.

#22 b. **2025 Camping Fee Increase**

Motion by Julie Solinski, seconded by Ron Helling to approve the camping fees for 2025. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

9. **New Business:**
- a. **Boat Ramp Use Fee at Big Hollow:**
After reviewing the grant that paid for 75% of the boat ramp reconstruction, we would have to pay back those funds to charge a boat ramp fee. No action was taken.
 - b. **Other Revenue Generating and / or Cost Cutting Options:**
The Board discussed other avenues for cost savings and revenue generation.
 - c. **Annual Report Presentation:**
The Board reviewed the facts and figures from FY23/24. The full report will be available at the next meeting.
10. **Informational Items/Correspondence:**
- a. **Volunteer Dinner will be held August 8, from 5-8pm at Starr's Cave Nature Center.**
11. **Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.**
Next meeting will be held on the third floor of Starr's Cave Nature Center, located at 11627 Starr's Cave Road in Burlington, IA. Meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday September 04, 2024.
The public is welcome.


Cathy Ziglar, Chair


Julie Solinski, Secretary/Treasurer