

1. Call to Order

Julie Solinski called the regular meeting of the Des Moines County Conservation Board to order at 5:30 p.m. on the third floor of Starr's Cave Nature Center.

Those Members Present: Ron Helling, Julie Solinski, Dan Hockett, Kathy Wunderlich (via Zoom) and Terry Davis.

Those Members Absent: None

Others Present: Director Lee, Administrative Assistant Breuer, Tom Brockett

2. Additions and Deletions to Agenda:

- a. None

3. Delegations/Public Input:

- a. None

4. Board Member Agreement & Oath of Office:

- a. Julie Solinski read the Oath of Office for the record and signed the Board Member Agreement.

5. Election of Officers & Committee Assignments for 2026:

#1 a. Motion by Dan Hockett, seconded by Ron Helling to approve the 2026 Officers.
Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

Chairman - Ron Helling

Vice Chair - Dan Hockett

Secretary / Treasurer - Kathy Wunderlich

Member - Terry Davis

Member - Julie Solinski

Committee Appointments:

b. The 2026 Committee Appointments:

Foundation - Ron Helling

Observatory - Terry Davis

Legislative - Julie Solinski

Water Quality - Kathy Wunderlich

Shooting Range - Dan Hockett

6. Approval of Consent Agenda:

#2 a. Motion by Julie Solinski, seconded by Terry Davis to approve the Consent Agenda.
Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

7. Acceptance of Donations

- a. Allen Grooms - \$20 for EE Programming.
- b. William & Patricia Dahlsten - \$100 in memory of Jack Dahlsten.
- c. Linda Blint - \$100 for SCNC Trivia Night.
- d. Dennis Wilson - \$10,000 for Big Hollow.
- e. Jon Hart - \$150.
- f. Standard of Beaverville - \$300 for EE Sponsorship.
- g. Terry & Jean Davis - \$300 for Big Hollow.
- h. Anderson Service Center - \$300 for EE Sponsorship.
- i. Eastern Iowa Light & Power - \$300 for EE Sponsorship.

8. **Committee Reports:**
a. **Foundation:** Jeff will take over financial reporting for the Foundation. The Banquet is in April.

b. **Observatory:** No Report.

c. **Legislative:** No Report, however the legislative season starts Monday.

d. **Water Quality:** Working on the Federal reporting for 2025 now. Two days of training were recently held with a couple of more coming up.

9. **Project Updates:**
All staff evaluations are done. The DNR inspected the dam at Big Hollow. It passes with a couple of minor maintenance recommendations.

10. **Old Business:**
#3 a. **Approve FY 2027 Budget Request:**
Motion by Julie Solinski, seconded by Terry Davis to approve the FY2027 Budget Request.
Motion passed 3-1. Yay - Terry Davis, Julie Solinski & Kathy Wunderlich. Nay - Dan Hockett.

b. **County Renewable Energy Ordinance Recommendations:**
No new discussion held.

11. **New Business:**
#4 a. **Approve Mowing Contract:**
Motion by Terry Davis, seconded by Dan Hockett to approve the mowing contract.
Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

#5 b. **Approve Administration Services Agreement with Partners for Conservation Foundation:**
Motion by Dan Hockett, seconded by Terry Davis to approve the agreement.
Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

#6 c. **Approve updated Burlington Model Airplane Club Agreement:**
Motion by Terry Davis, seconded by Julie Solinski to approve the agreement.
Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

#7 d. **Approve Request by EE Staff to Take County Vehicle out of State:**
Motion by Terry Davis, seconded by Dan Hockett to approve taking the van out of state. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

#8 e. **Approve Bat Box Agreement with Magnolia LLC:**
Motion by Julie Solinski, seconded by Kathy Wunderlich to approve the agreement.
Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

#9 f. **Big Hollow Shooting Range SOP 2026:**
Motion by Dan Hockett, seconded by Julie Solinski to approve the SOP.
Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

#10 g. **Approve Bylaws for 2026:**
Motion by Terry Davis, seconded by Julie Solinski to approve the bylaws.
Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

h. **Director Review:**
The board will meet prior to the next meeting on February 4 to discuss the annual director review.

12. **Informational Items/Correspondence:**
a. **Budget Hearing:** January 14, 2025 9:00 a.m. - Second floor of the Courthouse.

13. **Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.**
Next meeting will be held at Starr's Cave Nature Center at 11627 Starr's Cave Rd. in Burlington, IA.
Meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday February 4, 2026. There will be a Work Session one hour prior to discuss the Director's annual review.
The public is welcome.

Ron Helling
Ron Helling, Chair

Kathy Wunderlich
Kathy Wunderlich, Secretary/Treasurer