

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

Those Members Absent: LaVon Worley

Others Present: Chris Lee and Office Manager Behne

2. a. Additions and Deletions to Agenda:

None.

3. Delegations/Public Input:

a. None.

4. a. Approval of Minutes for February 04, 2015:

#19. Motion by Jim Garnjobst, seconded by Angela Vaughan, to approve the minutes of the February 04, 2015 Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

5. Approval of Report of Activities for February 2015:

#20 a. Motion Jim Garnjobst, seconded by Cathy Ziglar, to approve the reports of activity for February 2015. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

6. Approval of Claims for February 2015:

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

7. Acceptance of Donations

a. None

8. Committee Reports:

a. **Shooting Range:** Jim Garnjobst, No report.

b. **Flint River Trails:** Cathy Ziglar, No report.

c. **Observatory:** No report.

d. **REAP:** No report from Chair. Director Lee advised Senate File 357 has been introduced to allow for an increase of a 3/8% tax increase only. More to follow as bill moves thru the Senate.

9. Project Updates: By Director Lee

a. Big Hollow:

Winter weather has staff working in the shop. Preparing wood duck and blue bird boxes for spring. Completing vehicle and equipment maintenance and shop organization.

b. Starr's Cave Nature Center Upgrades:

Project is moving along. Billing for the electrical, plumbing and Moore's Professional Carpentry are starting to come in. Kevin is doing a great job of helping to keep project on time and under budget.

- c. **Other:**
Leopold Recreation Area's Grand Opening. March 19, 2015 at 11:00 at the end of Mill Dam Road. All are invited.

Jeremy Yost, Natural Resource Manager, is working on a Management Plan for LRA.

10. **Old Business:**

- a. None.

11. **New Business:**

- a. **Free Camping Weekend – June 5th, 6th and 7th, 2015**

#22. Motion by Cathy Ziglar, seconded by Angela Vaughan, to approve Des Moines County Conservation's participation in the Iowa DNR Free Fishing Weekend by allowing free camping for all visitors to Des Moines County Conservation campgrounds during the weekend of June 5th, 6th and 7th. Motion approved unanimously by all members present.

- b. **Shooting Range Closure Request from Sheriff's Office:**

Deputy Dave Hamma has requested that the 25 and 50 yard ranges be reserved for their annual Top Gun Competition. This event will be similar to past events and are scheduled for March 27, 2015 from Noon to 8:00 p.m. The request is for the safety of all participants and potential spectators.

#23. A motion by Angela Vaughan, seconded by Jim Garnjobst, to approve the closure of the 25 & 50 yard ranges for the Top Gun Event for 2015 on the dates requested. Motion approved unanimously by all members present.

- c. **Rental Rate & Use Rules for Gahn Recreation Area:**

A rental rate needs to be established for the use of those groups authorized to use the facility as previously agreed upon by the Conservation Board. \$25.00 per day is the suggested rate as it is in line with that charged for the Hickory Group Camp and Shelter House. It is requested that the Director be able to waive the fee as determined by the group and their needs. Reservations will become available on the website as are the other areas once the rate has been officially determined.

#24. A motion by Cathy Ziglar, seconded by Jim Garnjobst, to approve the rate of \$25.00 per day for reservations utilizing the Gahn Recreation Area with the Director having the ability to waive the fee on a case by case basis. Motion approved unanimously by all members present.

- d. **IWILL Resolution of Support**

The IAACB has been working hard on behalf of all 99 Iowa County Conservation Boards for the IWILL Initiative. They have requested that if individual County Boards are in support that they assist with individual Resolutions of Support for the initiative.

The Des Moines County Conservation Board has expressed support for the IWILL Initiative.

#25. A motion by Jim Garnjobst, seconded by Angela Vaughan, to approve a Resolution Supporting the Legislative Bill known as IWILL for Conservation Funding throughout the State of Iowa. Motion approved unanimously by all members present.

- e. **Land Management Agreement for 4th Pump Renewal.**

The current Land Management Agreement for the 4th Pumping Plant expired on December 31st, 2014. The Board for the Two Rivers Levee & Drainage District met on February 18, 2015.

There were only two requests for changes to occur in a new agreement document.

1. Change the current wording of "Drainage District No 4, Des Moines and Louisa Counties, Iowa." To "Two Rivers Levee & Drainage District".
2. Change timeline to a ten (10) year agreement rather than the current twenty (20) year agreement.

#26. A motion by Jim Garnjobst, seconded by Cathy Ziglar, to approve re-writing the Land Management Agreement with the changes suggested by Two Rivers Levee District. Motion approved unanimously by all members present.

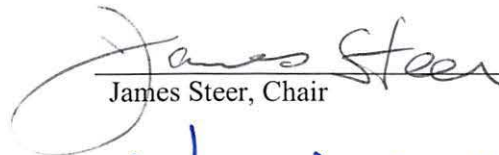
12. **Informational Items/Correspondence:**

- a. Conference Reports, reviewed by all members in their packets.
- b. County Audit Findings, Director Lee discussed his findings into the comments made to the Hawk Eye regarding Conservation not being in compliance. A retraction was made in the paper as well as at a Board of Supervisors Meeting by Auditor Copeland. Conservation was not out of compliance for a budget amendment or lack of one.
- c. Naturalist Vacancy. Director Lee briefed the board on the resignation of Naturalist Katherine Brakeville. Katherine's last day will be April 17th. The position vacancy has been posted in the appropriate areas for potential prospects to review. Applications close on March 6th at close of business day or a March 6th postmark. Director is hoping to have interviews, and an individual selected in time for the new Naturalist to work with Katherine prior to her last day.

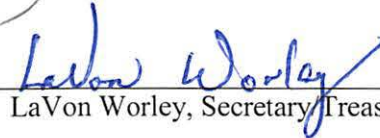
13. **Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.**

- #27. A motion by Cathy Ziglar, seconded by Angela Vaughan, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed unanimously by all members.

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 April 01, 2015. The public is welcome.



James Steer, Chair



LaVon Worley, Secretary/Treasurer