

**1. Call to Order**

Jim Garnjobst, 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:** Jim Garnjobst, LaVon Worley, Cathy Ziglar and James Steer.

**Those Members Absent:** Angela Vaughan

**Others Present:** Director Chris Lee and Office Manager Behne

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

12 e., Informational Items/Correspondence: Resignation

**3. Delegations/Public Input:**

a. None.

**4. a. Approval of Minutes for June 01, 2016:**

#35. Motion Jim Steer, seconded by LaVon Worley, to approve the minutes of the June 01, 2016 Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

**5. Reviewed Reports of Activities for June 2016:**

**6. Approval of Claims for June 2016:**

#36. a. Motion by LaVon Worley, seconded by Cathy Ziglar, to approve the claims for June 2016. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

**7. Acceptance of Donations:**

- a. Michael & Julie Niehaus. \$300.00 for Wildlife rehab.
- b. Wellmark Foundation. \$25,000 grant for the North Gorge Trail Program

**8. Committee Reports:**

- a. **Shooting Range:** LaVon Worley reported that a meeting was held this past June. The berms being completed and drainage throughout the 300 meter range were old topics discussed. The idea of a range on the SCC campus is being explored. There is a lot of interest in a 5 house trap range. If this is to take place SCC will need to take the lead.
- b. **Flint River Trails:** Angela Vaughan, No report.
- c. **Observatory:** Jim Steer. The members are busy with normal summer activities. Member Libby Snipes has placed some very interesting photography from her telescope on her Facebook page.
- d. **REAP/IWILL:** Cathy Ziglar reported that she recently had a conversation with Al Ourth, our local REAP Chair. Not much is happening locally regarding REAP. Mr. Ourth will be in contact when a meeting is needed or required. Cathy indicated that she will be conducting some internet research on her own to determine what, if anything, important is taking place at the State level.

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

- a.
  - The Urban Youth Corps has arrived and started work on July 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - AmeriCorp is scheduled to be on site beginning July 15<sup>th</sup>. Both teams will be working through August 05, 2016.
  - A dinner will be held in appreciation for their work. This dinner celebration will also be the sendoff for Alex Buhmeyer, Operations Supervisor, who has turned in his resignation effective August 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - Grand Opening for the North Gorge Trail will be held on August 5<sup>th</sup>. Alex will be available for that presentation.
  - Designs for Kiosk panels. Once the design has been completed Director Lee will put out an RFP from local companies.
  - The recent work session and tour of Big Hollow and 4<sup>th</sup> Pump were informative. The Hawk Eye did a very nice information write up article on the tour and these two parks.
  - A sewer line at 4<sup>th</sup> Pump was repaired in time for the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Director Lee is working with the CVB – State Tourism grant for Digital Marketing. This grant would include \$7,000 worth of marketing for our cost of \$1,400. This would include a digital billboard on I-80 and advertising in the Iowa Outdoor Magazine.
  - Wapsi Valley Archaeology Inc. has conducted a very preliminary site review within the Hickory Bend area. After walking the area they indicated that this area, if it were ever required, would most probably reveal some interesting history. For now and the immediate future the area should be left undisturbed.
  - Director Lee reported that he would be speaking to the Kiwanis Club on July 7. He will be presenting fundraising handouts with his talk.

**10. Old Business:**

- a. Foundation MOU. It was a consensus to continue working on this document.

**11. New Business:**

- a. None

**12. Informational Items/Correspondence:**

- a. Land acquisition update: The property that has been in recent conversation was withdrawn as the family indicated they are not yet ready to move forward with a sale. When the time comes conservation will be the first to know.

Linder property is being revisited and can be considered a real possibility. Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation is ready to accept the purchase offer on behalf of Des Moines County Conservation.

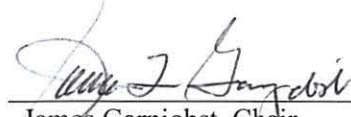
Natural Resource Manager Yost has been working on completing a REAP Grant. That grant application is due August 15<sup>th</sup>. Director Lee will have more information available on this grant for the August Board Meeting.

- b. Land Ethic Leaders training: LaVon requested that this subject be placed on the agenda. He has just recently completed this training and believes that it could be extremely beneficial for our Environmental Education Staff to attend. This is a two day training with a cost of \$225.00 The cost includes a Membership to Aldo Leopold Foundation.
- c. Case Studies of Fire in Prairie: The board reviewed Natural Resource Manager's report.
- d. IACCB Fall Conference: This year's conference will be September 15 thru 17 in Fort Dodge. Director Lee would like a commitment from members wishing to attend.
- e. Resignation: Operations Supervisor has submitted his resignation. Effective August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

13.

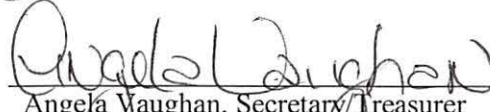
**Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.**

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 August 03, 2016. The public is welcome.



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James Garnjobst, Chair



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Angela Vaughan, Secretary/Treasurer