

1. Call to Order

Cathy Ziglar, Chair, called the regular meeting of the Des Moines County Conservation Board to order at 5:34 p.m. at the Des Moines County Conservation Administration Building.

Those Members Present: Cathy Ziglar, Angela Vaughan, James Steer, Jim Garnjobst and LaVon Worley

Those Members Absent: None

Others Present: Alex Buhmeyer, Chris Lee and Office Manager Behne

2. a. Additions and Deletions to Agenda:

None

3. Delegations/Public Input:

- a. Alex Buhmeyer, Operations Supervisor, was introduced to the Board Members. Members welcomed Alex to Des Moines County Conservation.

4. a. Approval of Minutes for October 01, 2014:

#87. Motion by Jim Steer, seconded by Jim Garnjobst, to approve the minutes of the October 01, 2014 Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

6. a. Approval of Report of Activities for October 2014:

#88 a. Motion by LaVon Worley, seconded by Angela Vaughan to approve the reports of activity for October 2014. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

7. a. Approval of Claims for September 2014:

#89. a. Motion by Jim Garnjobst, seconded by Jim Steer, to approve the claims for October 2014. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

8. Acceptance of Donations

- a. Tim Marshall. \$1,206.00 Memorial in the name of Tim's brother "Robert David Marshall". A Sweet gum Tree has been planted in Area E in front of Large Hickory Shelter House.
- b. Standard of Beaverdale. Painting Supplies for the Nature Center "Barn Painting" valued at \$100.00
- c. LaVon Worley. Multiple donations of cat food and wildlife supplies. Valued at \$100.00.
- d. Kent Selter. \$10.00 to be used for Welter Recreation Area improvements.
- e. Walmart, Bentonville, AK. \$300.00 to be used towards Nature Center Restoration
- f. Rich Yotter, Time & Labor w/mini excavator at 4th Pumping Station to assist in replacement of faulty water hydrant \$300.00
- g. Diamond Vogel. Paint for the Nature Center. Estimated value \$1,021.20.

9. Committee Reports:

a. **Shooting Range:** Jim Steer – An advisory board meeting was held. Minutes sent to Board Members. Reviewed SOP.

b. **Flint River Trails:** No report.

c. **Observatory:** LaVon Worley – SEIAC member Dean Moberg's family has organized a "Surprise! Show the Love Party!" this Saturday, November 8th. They will be having a cathartic bonfire at 4 PM at the Big Hollow Recreation area. Carl and Libby have volunteered to help out and have the observatory open for viewing at dark. It would mean a lot to Dean to have his astronomy club family there. Members are invited. Come mingle, then help out as needed at the observatory.

- d. **REAP:** Cathy Ziglar. – New plates a Buck deer head and Trout are available to purchase.

10. Project Updates: By Director Lee

- a.. Leopold Recreation Area. County Conservation is in the process of making the purchase of this property a reality. A budget amendment will be submitted so the payment and formal processing might be soon completed.

- b. Big Hollow.

The lake dam was has a valve that is, by manufacture specifications, required to be opened and closed on a yearly basis. This procedure is to maintain the working condition of the dam gate valve. This opening was conducted over the past week. As a result the water from the lake bottom that moved downstream turned the plunge pool and creek to an almost “Milk” white. EPA and IDNR were contacted by downstream residents. The source from the lake that is white is unknown at this time. Water samples have been sent to Iowa State Labs for testing. Director Lee will contact the manufacturer and IDNR to determine how to proceed with the mechanical requirements of the dam gate for the future. A policy can then be written for future required actions.

- c. DNR Diversity Grant.

The funding invoice will be sent to close out this grant. Director Lee has submitted a new grant application to continue the process that has been started.

Director will be submitting a grant for a species survey on the Leopold Recreation Area property to determine what is currently on site. Then a future survey will be conducted to determine what impact the management of this property has on existing species and what species may be new to the area as a result of good management.

- d. Starr’s Cave Nature Center.

Director Lee and EE Manager Rector will be meeting with IDNR Staff to review the current floor plan and proposed plan changes for the office upgrade. Early indications from IDNR contacts do not seem to pose any problems with the upgrade to the building.

11. Old Business: None

12. New Business:

- a. **Park Ranger – Law Enforcement Certification**

John Mercer has been signed up for the January 2015 ILEA Basic Training Class. This will be a month prior to his normal probation period. Director Lee requested that he be allow to waive that last month of probation so that Mercer can attend without being on probation.

- #90. A motion by Jim Garnjobst, seconded by LaVon Worley, to waive the final months’ probation in order to send Mercer to the ILEA. Motion passed unanimously by all members present.

- b. **Leopold Recreation Area Purchase – Area Rules**

The Leopold Recreation Area now has the paperwork and funding available to finalize the purchase of the property.

- #91. A motion by Jim Steer, seconded by Angela Vaughan, to approve Director Lee to complete the purchase of the Leopold Recreation Area. Motion approved unanimously by all members present.

c. Leasing FEMA Properties

Tabled until the December Board Meeting.

#92. A motion by Angela Vaughan, seconded by LaVon Worley, to table this item until December's meeting. Motion approved unanimously by all members present.

d. Request for Beer/Wine, Nature Center Perlstein

#93. A motion by Jim Garnjobst, seconded by Jim Steer, to approve the request for Beer/Wine at the Nature Center on November 27th by the Perlstein Family. Motion passed unanimously by all members present.

13. Informational Items/Correspondence:

a. Board Work Session – tour of Leopold Rec Area

Staff will be taking a walking tour of the new property as the crops are now out. The Board will determine a date for the near future to take a similar tour.

b. Cathy Ziglar thanked LaVon Worley for his participation in Ben Weaver during his recent appearance here locally.

14. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

#94. A motion by Angela Vaughan, seconded by Jim Garnjobst, 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 December 03, 2014. The public is welcome.

Cathy Ziglar, Chair

Jim Garnjobst, Secretary/Treasurer