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 the Des Moines County Conservation Administration Building.

Those Members Present: Cathy Ziglar, Ron Helling, Julie Solinski, Dan Hockett

Those Members Absent: James Garnjobst

Others Present: Director Lee, Administrative Assistant Breuer, Supervisor McCampbell via Zoom, one member

of the public.

2. Additions and Deletions to Agenda:

a. None

3. Delegations/Public Input:

a. None

4. Board Member Agreement & Oath of Office:

a. Dan Hockett read the Oath of Office for the record and signed the Board Member Agreement.

5. Election of Officers:

a. The 2024 Officers were approved:

Chairman - Cathy Ziglar

Vice Chair - James Garnjobst

Secretary / Treasurer - Julie Solinski

Member - Ron Helling

Member - Dan Hockett

6. Committee Appointments:

a. The 2024 Committee Appointments:

Foundation - James Garnjobst

Observatory - Ron Helling

Legislative - Cathy Ziglar

Water Quality - Julie Solinski

Shooting Range - Dan Hockett

7. Approval of Consent Agenda:

#1 a. Motion by Ron Helling, seconded by Dan Hockett to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

8. Acceptance of Donations

- a. Iowa State Council of Pheasants Forever \$12,000 for Shanstom addition to Hickory Bend.
- **b.** National Wild Turkey Federation \$5,000 for Shanstom addition to Hickory Bend.
- c. Harry & Virginia Murray Foundation \$5,000 for Big Hollow Master Plan.
- d. Anthony Furniss \$300 for Flint River Trail.
- e. Optimist Club of Burlington / West Burlington \$132 for Friends of Des Moines County Conservation.

9. Committee Reports:

- a. Foundation: Banquet will be held April 4 at Barn on the Ridge.
- **b. Observatory:** Held a meeting, they asked about WiFi at the observatory.
- **c. Legislative:** No Report, however the legislative season starts soon.
- **d.** Water Quality: It appears the website needs updated. We are still not receiving testing results.

10. Project Updates:

We are currently trapping beavers at Big Hollow. Marcus gave a presentation during Kids Day for the Kiwanis Club. Work is continuing on the Ranger house / new cabin and it should be ready soon. We will have a public open house once it is finished. We are checking on insurance now, and have added overhead lights to the bedrooms. It has also been inspected by a house inspector.

11. Old Business:

#2 a. Big Hollow Timber Sale Bid Process:

Motion by Julie Solinski, seconded by Ron Helling to approve the bid process. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

12. New Business:

#3 a. Approve Bylaws for 2024:

Motion by Ron Helling, seconded by Julie Solinski to approve the bylaws. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

#4 b. Strategic Plan Review:

Motion by Julie Solinski, seconded by Ron Helling to approve the strategic plan. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

#5 c. Big Hollow Shooting Range SOP Review:

Motion by Julie Solinski, seconded by Ron Helling to approve the SOP. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.

e. Director Review:

The board will meet prior to the next meeting on February 7 to discuss the annual director review.

13. Informational Items/Correspondence:

14. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:28 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 February 7, 2024. The public is welcome.

Cathy Ziglar, Chair