

**Black Hawk County Conservation Board
Minutes**

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, February 11, 2021 via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Carolyn Rafferty, Chair, at 5:02 PM.

Roll call members present: Mike Bonser, Jon McNamee, Terri Rogers, Jenny Murphy & Carolyn Rafferty.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

Staff Present:

Nikki Koelling, Office Manager	Mike Hendrickson, Executive Director
Karl Kozak, North Unit Ranger	Cherrie Northrup, Planning Administrator
Jim Weimer, Wildlife Conservationist II	Troy Petersen, Ranger III
Amy Davison, Nature Center Manager	Lyndsey Anderson, Development Coord/Naturalist II
Nehemiah Latcham, Natural Resource Intern	

AGENDA

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Rogers to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

MINUTES

Motion by Rogers, seconded by McNamee to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2021 board meeting. Motion Carried.

BILLS

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Murphy to approve the bills as submitted & authorize the Executive Director to sign the approval sheet. Motion Carried.

VISITORS

Mike Treinen, Assistant County Attorney	Linda Laylin, BHC Board of Supervisors
Brian Heath	John Foster
Roger White	

VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:

None.

OATH OF OFFICE – *Mike Hendrickson*

Board member Carolyn Rafferty took the oath of office and was sworn in by the Executive Director.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY TAP APPLICATION – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Bonser to authorize staff to submit an application for a Regional Transportation Authority TAP grant in the amount of \$225,828 for the Miller Creek Bridge Repair project. Motion Carried.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY TAP APPLICATION RESOLUTION – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Rogers, seconded by McNamee to adopt a resolution endorsing the use of Regional Transportation Alternatives Program funds for the Miller Creek Bridge repairs on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, provide 20% match and to accept the requirement of the 20 year management agreement.

AYES: McNamee, Murphy, Rogers, Bonser, Rafferty.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

MOWER BIDS – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Bonser to approve the bid of \$7,435.28 from Stokes Welding for a new mower. Motion Carried.

HARTMAN RESERVE WEST WING WINDOW BIDS – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Rogers to approve the bid of \$21,350.00 from Window Source for Hartman Reserve West Wing building replacement windows. Motion Carried.

HARTMAN RESERVE COMMUNITY ROOM ACOUSTIC PANEL BIDS – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Bonser to approve the bid of \$16,900.00 from Acoustics by Washburn for acoustic panels to be installed in the Community Room at Hartman Reserve Interpretive Center.

AYES: McNamee, Rogers, Bonser, Rafferty.

NAYS: Murphy.

Motion Carried.

SEED DRILL BIDS – *Jim Weimer*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Rogers to approve the bid of \$25,815.00 from Truax Company for a new no-till native seed drill. Motion Carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR LWCF GRANT – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Murphy to authorize staff to apply for \$200,000 in Land and Water Conservation Funds for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Replacement at Hickory Hills Park. Motion Carried.

MOU WITH INRCOG – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Rogers, seconded by McNamee to authorize the Executive Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with INRCOG for grant writing services for the Land and Water Conservation Funds grant. If the grant is successful BHCCB will pay INRCOG 1.5% of the funds awarded up to \$1,500, if unsuccessful, BHCCB pays nothing to INRCOG. Motion Carried.

LWCF GRANT RESOLUTION – *Cherrie Northrup*

Rogers moved a resolution stating that Black Hawk County Conservation, if awarded the funds, will complete the Wastewater Treatment Facility project as described in the application, dedicate the project to public use and adequately maintain the project in perpetuity following the guidelines of the National Park Service Grants-in-Aid Manual and to authorize the Board Chair and Executive Director to sign the same.

AYES: McNamee, Rafferty, Murphy, Bonser, Rogers.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

WASTE TRAC AGREEMENT – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by McNamee to give Notice of Termination of the Waste Trac Staff Agreement, and that said Termination shall be effective at the end of the day on June 30, 2021 and to authorize the Board Chair to sign said notice.

AYES: McNamee, Rafferty, Murphy, Bonser, Rogers.

NAYS: None.

Motion Carried.

POTENTIAL LAND ACQUISITION – *Mike Hendrickson*

The Executive Director updated the Board on the status of the Thompson property acquisition.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – *Jim Weimer*

Wildlife staff has been clearing hazardous trees along the CVNT & preparing for a tree harvest in accordance with the Cedar Valley Nature Trail Restoration Plan. Staff has also been working on exhibits in the west wing at Hartman Reserve. Staff introduced the new Natural Resource Intern, Nehemiah Latcham.

UNIT RANGER REPORTS – *Troy Petersen/Karl Kozak*

South Unit Staff helped the Wildlife Conservation staff with removing hazardous trees along the CVNT. Staff has also been busy with snow removal, cutting firewood & resurfacing the floors in the modern cabins & Lakeview Lodge at Hickory Hills Park.

North Unit Staff has been busy cutting firewood and waxing the floors at the Rotary Reserve. Green Iowa AmeriCorps helped staff clean up the gun ranges at Black Hawk Park.

NATURE CENTER MANAGER REPORT – *Amy Davison*

Staff has been busy getting ready for Maple Syrup Madness & spring break camps. There are several spring projects coming up: Bird Walk, Rain Garden & “Ranger Mike’s” house.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT – *Mike Hendrickson*

A written report was submitted.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Murphy to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Adjourned 6:10 PM.

OFFICE MANAGER

DATE