

**Black Hawk County Conservation Board
Minutes**

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 1346 West Airline Highway, Waterloo, IA and via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Terri Rogers, President, at 5:00 PM.

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

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

Staff Present:

Mike Hendrickson, Executive Director
Cherrie Northrup, Planning Administrator
Karl Kozak, North Unit Ranger

Nikki Koelling, Office Manager
Amy Davison, Nature Center Manager

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Motion by Bonser, seconded by McNamee to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2024, board meeting. Motion Carried.

BILLS

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Bonser to approve the bills submitted. Motion Carried.

VISITORS

Mike Treinen, Assistant County Attorney
Amanda Fesenmeyer, BHC HR Director

Michelle Weidner, BHC Finance Director

VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:

None.

PUBLIC HEARING: 5:00PM – CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL STRUCTURES & PAVING, DIVISION 2

Motion by Bonser, seconded by McNamee to open the public hearing for the Cedar Valley Nature Trail Structures & Paving, Division 2 Project at 5:02 PM.

No verbal or written comments were received.

Motion by Bonser, seconded by McNamee to close the public hearing at 5:03 PM.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION – APPROVAL OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT CONTRACT – Mike Hendrickson/Amanda Fesenmeyer

Motion by Bonser, seconded by McNamee to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves the TENTATIVE AGREEMENT with the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors, for Unit VII represented by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees AFL-CIO, Local 679 effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029, and direct the chair to sign the Collective Bargaining Agreement for same.

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

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL STRUCTURES & PAVING, DIVISION 2 BIDS

– *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the LOWEST REASONABLE BID submitted by Taylor Construction of New Vienna, IA, in the amount of \$1,398,415.27 and utilizing American Rescue Plan funding to complete the replacement of Miller Creek Bridge (C1), Sink Creek Bridge (E3) and the M1 bridge which serves as a Cedar River backwater bridge near McFarlane Park. In addition, asphalt resurfacing of trail segments, asphalt paving of three trail roadway crossings and installation of concrete trail with detectable warnings at four road crossings. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same and award contract to Taylor Construction.

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

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – CONTRACT AMENDMENT #8, CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL STRUCTURES & PAVING, DIVISION 2, CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING

– *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Murphy to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves amending the Professional Services Contract with Origin Design of Dubuque, IA, to for the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Division 2, Structures & Paving project for Black Hawk County and utilizing American Rescue Plan funds for Construction Services to include construction administration, construction staking, and construction observation for this phase of the project. Contract amendment #8 for Construction Services for this phase of the project is a Not to Exceed amount of \$237,000.00 for said services. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same.

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

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – CONTRACT AMENDMENT #1, IMEG ENGINEERING FOR MCFARLANE PARK SEPTIC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT

– *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves amending the Professional Services Contract with IMEG Engineers of Rock Island, IL, for the McFarlane Park Septic System Replacement Project and utilizing American Rescue Plan funds for the design and bidding Services to include submittal to the Iowa DNR for construction permitting. Contract amendment #1 for design and bidding Services for this project is in the amount of \$12,500 for said services bringing the total professional services contract dated June 20, 2022, to \$20,400. All other services, terms, and conditions of the original contract will remain the same. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same.

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

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HVAC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT BIDS – *Cherrie*

Northrup

Motion by Bonser, seconded by McNamee to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the LOWEST REASONABLE BID submitted by Shovel 1, Inc dba Crystal Heating, Plumbing & Excavating of Waverly, IA, in the amount of \$191,624.00 and utilizing American Rescue Plan funding for the purposes of replacing and rezoning the Conservation Administrative Offices HVAC system including the addition of air scrubbers for the purpose of maintaining a healthy and sanitary working environment for the staff and public that utilize this facility on a daily basis. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same and award contact to the above listed.

AYES: McNamee, Bonser, Rogers, Sacquitne.

NAYS: Murphy.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – DESTINATION IOWA AMENDMENT #2 – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Murphy to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves grant amendment #2 for the Destination Iowa Grant # 23-DOR-005 associated with the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Division 1 Project. Grant Amendment #2 reflects the reduced overall estimated project costs from \$8,942,002 to \$6,600,000 and the corresponding reduction in the grant award amount from \$3,500,000 to \$2,640,000 allowing for the difference to be de-obligated by the Iowa Economic Development Authority. The Conservation Executive Director is authorized to sign the same.

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

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to accept the letter of resignation from Rory Larsen effective March 22, 2024. Motion Carried.

LETTER OF SUPPORT, COUNTY CREEK SIGN GRANT – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Bonser to approve a partnership with Black Hawk County Soil & Water Conservation District and authorize staff to draft a support letter to be signed by the Executive Director for inclusion in the grant application documents. Motion Carried.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – *Jim Weimer*

Wildlife staff have been busy with ash tree removal in Black Hawk Park, Klima Wildlife Area clean-up & TSI work in various areas.

UNIT RANGER REPORTS – *Al Finke/Karl Kozak*

North Unit:

Staff have been busy helping with ash tree removal, building maintenance & the CCPOA Spring Workshop.

South Unit:

Staff have been busy helping with ash tree removal, Klima Wildlife Area clean-up and cabin, building & animal maintenance.

NATURE CENTER REPORT – *Amy Davison*

Staff have been busy with spring break programming & Maple Syrup Festival. School field trips will be starting at the end of the month. The new mini-bus was delivered yesterday.

DIRECTORS REPORT – *Mike Hendrickson*

The Big Woods Joint Board meeting will be April 4th. The Casey Lake Restoration Project is progressing at a good pace. The budget process for FY25 is almost complete. A written report was submitted.

ANY REPORTS OR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD

None.

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Bonser to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Adjourned 5:45 PM.

NICHOLE KOELLING

DATE