

Ida County Conservation Board: Meeting Minutes

299 Jasper Ave., Ida Grove, IA, 51445

Wednesday, April 12th, 2023

6:00pm, Conservation Center, Moorehead Park

Board Members Present: Synda Jepsen, chair; Randy Vogt, vice-chair, Sue Knop, Dennis Leonard, and Don Poggensee.

Others Present: Zach Hall - ICCB Director

The April 12th, ICCB business meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by Synda Jepsen.

Primary Agenda Topics:

- **ICCB agenda:** A motion to pass the agenda was made by Leonard and seconded by Don, all were in favor.
- **Minutes:** A motion to approve the March 13th minutes was made by Dennis, seconded by Sue, and all were in favor.
- **Monthly Bills:** Spring campground supplies, gravel, land acquisition, and educational displays. A motion to approve the bills was made by Don, seconded by Randy, and all were in favor.
- **Budget:** Hall reported the YTD expenditures, revenue, UBI bank balance, and monthly standings. The budget is on track with predictions.
- **Public Input:** None.

Secondary agenda topics: ICCB update, Campgrounds Opening date, Rx Fire, Tree Removal Request, PWS Operations, CCRA Boat ramp, ICCB and ICCF, Grants, and open discussion.

ICCB's update: Staff have been busy with spring activities, administration, and educational programs.

Campgrounds Opening: This Year camp grounds will open on Friday April 28th pending a successful Start-Up Procedure per the IA DNR Public Water Supply Operations.

Rx Fire: Staff will be lining up prescribed fire plans on ICCB properties.

Tree Removal Request: ICCB approved of their staff of cutting down black walnut yard trees for fire wood and fencing preparation.

PWS Operations: Moorehead Park is being evaluated by ICCB for water infrastructure improvements.

CCRA Boat ramp: Crawford's Boat ramp will be under construction over the next few weeks to dredge out the silt and improve access to the main lake.

ICCB and ICCF: ICCF approved funding assistance for ICCB's boat ramp project.

Grants: ICCB Director Hall applied for POET's community grant for Smith's land acquisition and Hall is finishing up the Wildlife Habitat Stamp grant application. The WHS grant is a \$365,000 request to the Iowa DNR's Wildlife Habitat Stamp grant committee. This funding source is through the sales of stamps when you buy a hunting license.

Open Discussion: Rich Smith's Wildlife Habitat Area land acquisition timeline was discussed. Currently, the property is **not** open to the public. Just over half of the funds needed to make the property publicly accessible have been raised. ICCB Director Hall will be submitting an Iowa DNR grant application in May to help finish paying off the property. Grant awards are not announced until July, 2023.

After discussion, the ICCB meeting adjourned at 7:42pm. The next ICCB public meeting is **Monday, May 8th, 2023**, at 6:00pm at Moorehead Park's Conservation Center.