

**Black Hawk County Conservation Board
Minutes**

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, April 14, 2022, at 1346 West Airline Highway, Waterloo, IA. The meeting was called to order by Jon McNamee, Chair, at 5:00 PM.

Roll call members present: Jenny Murphy, Adam Sacquitne (arrived at 5:10 PM), Jon McNamee & Mike Bonser.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

Staff Present:

Nikki Koelling, Office Manager
Karl Kozak, North Unit Ranger
Tanner Archer, Maintenance II
Al Finke, South Unit Ranger

Mike Hendrickson, Executive Director
Cherrie Northrup, Planning Administrator
Kyle Bauch, Wildlife Conservationist I
Amy Davison, Nature Center Manager

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Bonser to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2022 & March 24, 2022, board meetings. Motion Carried.

EXPENDITURES

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

VISITORS

Mike Treinen, Assistant County Attorney

VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:

None.

**PUBLIC HEARING – PURCHASE OF NEW MINI-BUS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
(5:05PM)**

The public hearing for purchase of a new mini-bus for environmental education was opened at 5:05 PM.

No verbal or written comments were received.

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Murphy to close the public hearing at 5:06 PM. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION – MCFARLANE PARK SEPTIC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT ENGINEERING –

Cherrie Northrup

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Murphy to adopt the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the preliminary planning engineering proposal submitted by IMEG Corp. of Rock Island, IL., in the amount of \$7,900.00 and utilizing American Rescue Plan funding for the purposes of assessing the current septic system for potential replacement in an effort to be proactive in meeting the growing needs for the increased park usage since and during the pandemic. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same and enter into contact for these said services.

AYES: McNamee, Murphy, Bonser.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – BLACK HAWK PARK SHOWER BUILDING ENGINEERING – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Bonser to adopt the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the engineering proposal submitted by IMEG Corp. of Rock Island, IL., in the amount of \$10,000.00 and utilizing American Rescue Plan funding for the purposes of designing a sustainable repair of the shower facility in an effort to maintain this critical infrastructure in a safe condition to continue serving the increasing number of park users realized since the start of the pandemic. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same and enter into contract for these said services.

AYES: McNamee, Murphy, Bonser.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – MINI-BUS BIDS – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Murphy to adopt the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the lowest responsible bid for the purchase of a Mini-Bus submitted by Hoglund Bus Company of Marshalltown, IA, in the amount of \$99,944.00 and allow additional safety and durability features to be included for a total cost not to exceed, \$103,728.00, and utilizing American Rescue Plan funding to make this purchase. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors accept and approve the same.

AYES: McNamee, Murphy, Bonser, Sacquitne (arrived prior to this resolution).

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – CONTRACT AMENDMENT #3 – CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Bonser to adopt the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves amending the Professional Services Contract with Origin Design, Dubuque, IA, for the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, for Black Hawk County and utilizing American Rescue Plan funds, to include topographic survey for Division 2, hydraulic analysis for Division 2 and geotechnical analysis for structures in both Division 1 & 2. Contract amount will be increased by \$ 178,780.00 for said additional services bringing the total contract amount to \$428,780.00. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same.

AYES: McNamee, Murphy, Bonser, Sacquitne.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

SET PUBLIC HEARING – ADMIN OFFICE HVAC SYSTEM PROJECT – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Sacquitne to set a public hearing for the Administrative Office HVAC system reconfiguration project on June 9, 2022, at 5:05PM. Motion Carried.

SAW LOG BIDS – *Kyle Bauch*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Bonser to accept the bid from Bruggeman Lumber, Inc of \$37,467.00 for sale of saw logs. Motion Carried.

APPROVE HIRE OF SOUTH UNIT MAINTENANCE II – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Sacquitne, seconded by Bonser to accept Tanner Archer to fill the position of Maintenance II. Motion Carried.

APPROVE HIRE OF SOUTH UNIT RANGER II – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Sacquitne, seconded by Murphy to accept Trevor Davis to fill the position of Ranger II. Motion Carried.

DESTINATION IOWA GRANT OPPORTUNITY – *Mike Hendrickson*

Governor Reynolds announced a \$100 million investment in Iowa’s quality of life & tourism through Destination Iowa grant opportunities. Staff is exploring the potential of applying for one of these grants.

BIG WOODS LAKE JOINT BOARD UPDATE – *Jenny Murphy/Jon McNamee*

The Joint Board met at 3:00 PM on April 5, 2022. The Board passed motions to elect Leslie Nixon as Chair & Jon McNamee as Vice-Chair of the Big Woods Lake Campground Joint Board and approve the by-laws. The Board also discussed current maintenance projects, the FY22 & FY23 budgets, campground expansion & the addition of another modern cabin (on hold due to rising costs).

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – *Kyle Bauch*

Wildlife staff has been busy with spring prairie burns. Staff has also been scheduling landowner assistance plantings.

UNIT RANGER REPORTS – *Al Finke/Karl Kozak*

South Unit:

Staff has been busy cleaning up after the walnut tree harvest on the CVNT, completing various park maintenance projects & preparing for the upcoming camping season. The Black Hawk Metro Disc Golf League would like to work with staff to upgrade the current disc golf course to 18 holes & get new baskets. John & Jean Hager are funding a small shelter area across from the animal display & new signs for the bird pen at Hickory Hills Park.

North Unit:

Black Hawk Park will be closing tonight due to flooding. The campgrounds are open; however, the water has not been turned on yet at Big Woods Lake Campground. There have been many volunteer groups that have helped with park clean up.

NATURE CENTER REPORT – *Amy Davison*

Staff has been busy with school field trips & planning summer camps. Staff has hired four AmeriCorp students to be summer interns. There are many projects currently happening or being planned at Hartman including: greenhouse construction, Trail RX program, birds nest playscape & mini sugar shack construction.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT – *Mike Hendrickson*

A written report was submitted.

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

Adjourned 5:54 PM.

OFFICE MANAGER

DATE