

**Black Hawk County Conservation Board  
Minutes**

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Wednesday, May 11, 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: Jon McNamee, Adam Sacquitne & Mike Bonser

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

**Staff Present:**

Mike Hendrickson, Executive Director  
Cherrie Northrup, Planning Administrator  
Amy Davison, Nature Center Manager

Karl Kozak, North Unit Ranger  
Kyle Bauch, Wildlife Conservationist I

**AGENDA**

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

**MINUTES**

Motion by Sacquitne, seconded by Bonser to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2022 board meeting. Motion Carried.

**BILLS**

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

**VISITORS**

Mike Treinen, Assistant County Attorney

Linda Laylin, BHC Board of Supervisors

**VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:**

None.

**PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS – HICKORY HILLS WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY -**

*Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Sacquitne to approve the plans and specifications for the Hickory Hills Wastewater Treatment Facility project and to authorize staff to release the Notice to Bidders. Motion Carried.

**SET PUBLIC HEARING – HICKORY HILLS WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY -** *Cherrie*

*Northrup*

Motion by Sacquitne, seconded by Bonser to set the Public Hearing for the Hickory Hills Wastewater Treatment Facility Project on June 9, 2022, at 5:05PM and authorize staff to publish the Notice of Public Hearing. Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTION – DESTINATION IOWA GRANT APPLICATION** – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Sacquitne to move the following resolution:

*Black Hawk County Conservation Board authorizes staff to pursue a Destination Iowa Grant in partnership with Linn County Conservation Board for the purpose of seeking funding to help offset the costs associated with the completion of all construction elements to complete the entire Cedar Valley Nature Trail chip stone section in Black Hawk, Buchanan, and Benton Counties. The Black Hawk County portion of the project is identified in the preliminary plans as “Division 1” of the Cedar Valley Nature Trail project. Division 1 is described as the portion of the CVNT managed by Black Hawk County Conservation that remains chip stone surfaced (approximately 9.4 miles).*

*Furthermore, Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors authorize staff to pursue the Destination Iowa Grant to fund up to 40% of the costs associated with the overall project and resolve to fund the 60% required match for the Black Hawk County portion of the project, estimated to be \$2.4 million dollars with American Rescue Plan Funds.*

AYES: Sacquitne, Bonser, McNamee.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**MOU with INRCOG** – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Sacquitne to authorize staff to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with INRCOG for grant writing services for the Destination Iowa Grant and for the Executive Director to sign the same. If the grant is successful, INRCOG will be paid 1.5% of the grant award up to \$2,000; if unsuccessful, INRCOG is paid nothing. Motion Carried.

**AUTHORIZATION TO SEEK, OPEN AND TABULATE BIDS** – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Sacquitne, seconded by Bonser to authorize staff to seek, open and tabulate bids for the woodchipper, truck, and mower that are budgeted in the FY23 budget. Motion Carried.

**IOWA DNR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT, CASEY LAKE RESTORATION** – Cherrie Northrup

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Sacquitne to authorize staff to enter into a cooperative cost-share agreement with the Iowa DNR’s Lake Restoration Program for Phase 2 engineering services and for the Executive Director to sign the same, subject to the Iowa DNR commission approval of the same agreement at their May 12<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting. Under this cooperative cost-share agreement, the Iowa DNR will reimburse Black Hawk County, 75% (\$284,325) of the eligible engineering costs (\$379,100) associated with the Phase 2 Engineering services. Motion Carried.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT, CASEY LAKE RESTORATION** – Cherrie Northrup

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Sacquitne to authorize staff to enter into contract with Shive-Hattery Architecture and Engineering for the Phase 2 engineering services for the Casey Lake Restoration Project in the amount of \$392,900 and for the Executive Director to sign the same, subject to the Iowa DNR commission approval of the cooperative cost-share agreement at their May 12<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting and resolution of one issue for which legal has requested a change in terms. Motion Carried.

**GUN RANGE HOURS** – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Sacquitne, seconded by Bonser to change the gun range hours at Black Hawk Park from 9:00AM – Sunset to 9:00AM – 7:00PM or Sunset, whichever comes first. This change will eliminate the late evening shooting during the summer months and is consistent with the gun range hours at the Cedar River Natural Resource Area. Motion Carried.

**SSB 3157** – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Sacquitne, seconded by Bonser to have the Black Hawk County Conservation Board go on record as being opposed to Senate Study Bill 3157. Although the bill encompasses IWILL, the bill as currently written, would effectively strip the County of control over local option sales tax revenues. While the Black Hawk County Conservation Board unanimously supports IWILL, they oppose SSB 3157 as currently written. Motion Carried.

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT** – *Kyle Bauch*

Wildlife Staff had a record year for the most acres burned. They are gearing up to conduct approximately 42 acres of pollinator plantings this spring. Wildlife staff participated in the “Career on Wheels” event for Junior Achievement by demonstrating some of their resource management equipment for the children and answering questions.

**UNIT RANGER REPORTS** – *Al Finke/Karl Kozak*

**North Unit:**

North Unit staff have been busy transitioning into the busy camping season and getting the parks open and operating.

**South Unit:**

No report.

**NATURE CENTER REPORT** – *Amy Davison*

Staff are heavy into the field trip season which runs from April – June 1<sup>st</sup>. They are working with other staff to finish up memorial projects around Hartman. Staff has completed their Enterprise Service Training. The Trail RX initiative is progressing with the completion of a brochure and the project debuts on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Speaker Series. Most of the upper trails have been mulched by volunteers.

**DIRECTORS REPORT** – *Mike Hendrickson*

A written report was submitted.

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

Adjourned 5:55 PM.

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CHERRIE NORTHRUP

DATE