

Iowa County Conservation Board
Minutes of Meeting
March 9, 2020 6pm
Lake Iowa Nature Center

1. Roes Danaher called the regular meeting of the Iowa County Conservation Board to order at 6:09 P.M. at the Lake Iowa Nature Center.

Members of the Iowa County Conservation Board present were: Rose Danaher, Shane Phillips and Chris Montross. Marcia Wehner and Justin Parsons were available via phone conference. ICC Staff present were Chris Anderson and Shelley Berger. Bob Frader was also present.

2. Open Forum
 - (A) Public Comment: Bob Frader apologizes for a disagreement over cutting Ash trees in the Lake Iowa campground for firewood and that Director Anderson handled the situation very well. Mr. Frader stated he would be willing to cut more wood if needed.
 - (B) Board Comment: None
3. Approval of Minutes: Parsons moved to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2020 regular meeting. Seconded by Wehner the motion carried unanimously.
4. Parsons moved to approve the bills, seconded by Wehner, the motion carried unanimously.
5. Staff Reports:
6. Business:
 - (A) Friends of ICCB: The meet the week of March 9th. They will make a decision to move forward with current displays. The banquet will be April 4th.
 - (B) ICCB Properties:
 - a. Lake Iowa Park Tree removal update: 119 trees removed by Becker Tiling. Their root grapple was very efficient and saved an enormous amount of man hours for cleanup of limbs and small debris. Director Anderson will look into purchasing one for ICCB. 5 wood cutting permits were handed out. Mr. Frader asked the board if he would be allowed to sell some of the firewood since the wording on the permit stated it was for private use only. Director Anderson will pose this question to Iowa County Attorney Tim McMeen. Parsons motioned to, pending discussions with Iowa County Attorney, notify all those with permits that the use of wood for personal will be waived. Wehner seconded, motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Lake Iowa tree replacement plans: DNR has free tree seedlings program. Anderson received news almost immediately that ICCB would receive 200 free trees of various types. Trees Forever also has a grant for free trees that is due July 1st. Anderson will reach out to other groups to help purchase trees and maintain them. Montross questioned whether trees could be transplanted from other areas in the park. Danaher suggested planting seedlings in a tree plot that could be cared for.

- c. Lake Iowa English River Watershed plans: Surveyors will be starting this week weather dependent. They will start at Pheasant Ridge, south of the campground and Nature Center for wetland placement.
- d. Gateway Freedom Rock update: Legion in Marengo received a pretty healthy grant – about \$15,000 - \$20,000. That combined with \$12,000 in donations and what Compass Memorial Hospital has collected (\$6,000) should pay for the planned pavilion for the Freedom Rock. The hospital maintenance crew will construct the building without charging for labor. No set date for groundbreaking.
- e. House inspections were done at Director Anderson and Ranger DeJarnatt residences by Board member Justin Parsons on March 9, 2020. Parsons requests estimates for re-roofing garages and adding new doors and estimates for a new garage. Ranger DeJarnatt will have a leaking pipe in his basement looked at by plumber. Adding new outlets and a light in basement was discussed for DeJarnatt's house. Anderson was directed to get estimates for new kitchen cabinets and countertops for his residence. Parsons stated that the DeJarnatt house does not have an egress window and that should be looked in to. A list of these updates will be itemized by priorities. Window on the west side of the DeJarnatt house needs replaced. There is a need for a privacy fence at the ranger house due to dead Pine trees along the road and a lack of storage. Estimates should be discussed at the next board meeting.

(C) Events:

- a. Health & Wellness Fair: Team meeting to plan for activities. We are not reaching out for vendors this year and are hoping numbers will be higher than last year. ICCB will plan a strong man competition with outdoor themed challenges. Wellness fair is planned for May 9th.
 - b. Outdoor Adventure: June 20th. Some planning begun. Anderson reached out to the National Guard to get a climbing wall. Wehner requests that we not use plastic water bottles. Berger stated we have over 300 bottles left from previous years to hand out and Danaher suggests we use those.
 - c. PollinatorFest: September 6th Anderson states he will invite 2 bands instead of 4 this year and plans to have an open mike portion. Staff will build a small stage and rent a tent again. ICCB has a sound system to use this year.
7. The next meeting of the Iowa County Conservation Board will be April 7, 2020 at 6pm
8. Meeting Adjournment: Montross moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:02 PM and Danaher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully,

Chris Anderson, Executive Director
Iowa County Conservation Board