

**Iowa County Conservation Board
Minutes of Meeting**

April 8, 2019

Shane Phillips called the regular meeting of the Iowa County Conservation Board to order at 6:01 P.M. at the Lake Iowa Nature Center.

Members of the Iowa County Conservation Board present were: Chris Montross, Marcia Wehner, Rose Danaher, Justin Parsons and Shane Phillips. ICC Staff present were Chris Anderson, Shelley Berger and Mary Bulger.

Open Forum

(A) Public Comment: None

(B) Board Comment: Parsons relayed a request that the area of Lake Iowa designated as an off-leash training area be a no fishing area. The citizen had concerns about fishing tackle posing a danger to dogs jumping in the water. After board discussion it was decided not to prevent fishing in that area.

Danaher asked if all steps had been done to secure camping at Gateway Park since the property had been purchased with a REAP grant. Anderson stated that he had been given permission to add camping to Gateway Park since the sale of a parcel of the land to Iowa County Transportation required that something of equal or greater value be added to the park.

Wehner moved to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2019 regular meeting. Seconded by Montross, the motion carried unanimously.

Danaher moved to approve the bills, seconded by Parsons, the motion carried unanimously

Staff Reports: Bulger gave an update on donations for Nature Center displays stating that she felt confident after meeting with representatives of Cargill that they would donate funds for displays. The Cargill representatives, lacking enough members to make a quorum, were unable to vote on the donation at that meeting but were passing the proposal on to the corporate level.

Business:

(A) **Friends of ICCB** No Friends present. Bulger reported that 15 or so tickets were remaining for the Friends Banquet this Saturday and that many "experience" packages had been donated this year.

(B) **ICCB Properties**

- a. Anderson received the paperwork to proceed with the water project at the Scout Camp.
- b. Timm Electric has completed upgrades to 50-amp service to another section of campsites. The sites will be inspected on March 10th.
- c. The next updates for the campground will be adding more water hydrants and leveling tent pads.
- d. Anderson reported that he had attended the Marengo City Council meeting and had discussed adding campsites to Gateway Park. Anderson also stated he plans to have staff patrol the park every Friday to cut down on the property damage. Gateway volunteers who attended the council meeting requested that the City of Marengo allot \$500 a year to purchase fish to stock the lake until the year 2021.

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- e. Anderson stated that volunteer Steve Wilhelm will no longer be mowing Gateway Park. Anderson plans to have seasonal employees mow the property once a week. Anderson also plans to place a locked dumpster on the property.

(C) Events

- a. Berger relayed that all activities and educational booths are filled for the Lake Iowa Health & Wellness Fair.
- b. Anderson stated that musicians and a business that provides sound systems had approached him about participating in this year's Pollinatorfest.
- c. No plans have been made to hold a disc golf tournament this spring.

- (D) Pay increase for Ranger Naturalist** Anderson stated that Dan Williams had resigned his position in maintenance. Anderson suggested taking a portion of wages from this position and give Ranger Naturalist Hagen a \$5.00/hr. pay increase. Anderson stated that this increase would bring the Ranger Naturalist salary up to the lower end of what other Ranger Naturalists received in the state of Iowa. Anderson also stated that he did not plan to replace the maintenance position since he feels that the current staff is capable of all maintenance tasks. Wehner made a motion to approve a \$5.00/hour pay increase for Ranger Naturalist Hagen beginning in the new fiscal year in July 2019. Phillips seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday May 13, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the Lake Iowa Nature Center.

With no further discussion, Montross moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:45 PM and Wehner seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully,

Chris Anderson, Executive Director
Iowa County Conservation Board