

Iowa County Conservation Board  
Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, June 9, 2022  
6:30 P.M.

**LINC Library, Lake Iowa Park**

*Attend meeting virtually at the link below*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84175527971>

1. Call to Order: Shane Phillips call meeting to order at 6:31,

Members of the Iowa County Conservation Board present were Shane Phillips, Becky Birch, Rose Danaher, Chris Montross and Justin Parsons. ICC staff present was Chris Anderson and Gage Hazen-Fabor.

2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Open Forum

(A) Public Comment: Parsons explained there have been lot of public comments. A lot of the things that he heard have been talked about before like cleaning up the front entrance gates, dead trees, mending the playscape, etc. Parsons explained usage of chemicals should be increased to control weeds around manicured areas. Shane explains the life of most herbicides is limited and loses their dangerous effects after a short time period. Anderson adds a supplemental technique of using salt to kill weedy areas. Parsons also added it would be nice to get an interpretive sign for where the gaga ball pit will be located.

(B) Board Comment: Montross addresses concern over injury incident in campground at Lake Iowa Park. Anderson explained the injury. The person who sustained the injury got 5 broken ribs and that is the last update we have heard. Danaher asked if ICC Staff has made it to surrounding properties. Hazen-Fabor explained that the Northern properties have been visited and looked after; the southern properties have not yet been visited but will be visited soon for routine summer maintenance.

4. Approval of Minutes: May minutes date needs to be changed to May instead of December. Once amended, Danaher motioned to approve minutes, Becky seconded, Minutes approved
5. Approval of Bills: Danaher motioned to approve bills, Birch seconded, Bills approved
6. Staff Updates:

Anderson informed the board of the Memorial Day weekend vandalism and problems at Lake Iowa Park. Vandalism included removal of shower heads in shower houses, graffiti, picnic tables being sunk in pond behind nature center, broken mirror in shower house, kids playing chicken in the roadways causing a bike crash incident, and reports of Ding-dong-ditching. Hazen-Fabor explained he was on duty and found out most of these incidents from the camp hosts and other campers. He explained he talked to parents of a group of kids whose names had been brought to his attention over the weekend.

The weekend after Memorial Day Anderson was on duty at Lake Iowa Park. He stated he had to talk to a noisy group of campers who were having a bachelor/bachelorette party at Lake Iowa Campground about excessive noise after 10:30 quiet hours. Anderson had to come back multiple times to address the rules after they proceeded to be rude in their responses and kept being noisy. Campers failed to quiet down, Anderson stated if they are not camping here, they will have to leave. Eventually they quieted down.

7. Business

(A) Friends of ICCB

- a. Anderson stated that the friends will be doing their banquet on Aug. 28

(B) Staffing discussion- Discussion of decentralizing administrative/leadership structure

Anderson talked about internal and external work stresses. He explained he is looking for options to improve workflow productivity, and options to help manage staff to ensure things get done correctly, efficiently, and in a timely manner to minimize the amount of time needed spent on worrying if tasks are getting done. Options of what that might look like were discussed. More options will be discussed in next month's board meeting.

(C) ICCB Properties

a. Gateway Park:

- i. Gateway Cut Update: Anderson stated he started to investigate into the process of attaining a permit for getting the new proposed cut to be put in for river access at gateway park. Phillips asked if this could be a task that the City of Marengo could do with supplemental help from ICCB. Anderson will look into it.
- ii. Gateway Triathlon Update: Anderson explained that there will need to be 17 volunteers to cover intersections of the event. Additional volunteers for other tasks are needed as well. Parsons explained that Compass Memorial hospital staff should be able to help, along with scout groups, and silver cord groups. Need to figure out where people will enter the water to do the swimming portion. Anderson will get ahold of Rotter to finalize that area.

b. Lake Iowa Park:

- i. Watershed Project Final Update: Anderson stated that Schrader's came out and said they need to finalize some berms that have settled after the freeze of winter. Anderson added they need to build them up higher and then re-seed them into a prairie/wetland mix. Lastly, they plan to bring 35 tons of rock into the wetland area behind the nature center to mend to erosion issues present. After these tasks are completed, the Wetland Project will be fully complete.

(D) Outdoor Adventure Update: Anderson stated that all the stations for outdoor adventure and the staff and volunteers to work those stations have been determined.

Set up for event will occur the week prior.

Scheduling of Next Meeting- Thursday July 14, 2022

8. Adjournment: Montross motioned to adjourn meeting, Parsons seconded, Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM