

Iowa County Conservation Board
Minutes
Regular Meeting
Thursday, July 14, 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 6:30pm

Members of the Iowa County Conservation Board present were Rose Danaher, Becky Birch, Shane Phillips, and Justin Parsons. Not present Chris Montross. ICC staff present were Chris Anderson and Elizabeth Capron. Public present: Travis Hanna

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Open Forum

(A) Public Comment: Travis Hanna proposes creating disc golf course at Gateway and adding a further discussion on plan details to next month's agenda. Funds would come mostly from private providers and donations. Hanna addresses how leagues around the area are enthusiastic about the possibility of a new course because Lake Iowa Park's disc golf course is daunting for most golfers, even experienced. Estimated 2,000 in costs, baskets going in first, start posts go in six months later with 18 spots total. Course would go on the south side of the park and would exclude areas around freedom rock. Phillips adds in to clarify proposed campground will be going north of parking lot. Anderson addresses need to contact Tammy Krausman (DNR REAP Coordinator) to see if a disc golf course is allowed at property. Phillips added it would be a benefit for the park and people of Marengo, agreeing Iowa Lake Park's course is intimidating for inexperienced or casual golfers. Parsons is in support of adding to next month's agenda.

(B) Board Comment: Phillips voices concerns over shoreline access due to paths being overgrown starting at the boat ramp heading south of the park. Andersons states current plan to get southern paths widened for public and for possible emergency.

4. Approval of Minutes: Parsons motions to approve minutes, Birch seconded, Minutes approved
5. Approval of Bills: Anderson discusses delay in receival of bills. Parsons asks if City of Marengo has been informed of the updated electrical service at Gateway. Anderson plans to inform them. Parsons motioned to approve bills, Birch seconds, Bills approve.
6. Staff Updates- Introduction of Liz Capron, Administrative Assistant,
7. Business

(A) Friends of ICCB:

- a. Banquet to be held at Lake Iowa on August 28, 2022: No update.

(B) Staff Residency Requirement- Current contract for the Ranger position requires the Ranger to live on-site. Is the Board wiling to allow current and future Rangers to live

off-site? Currently only the Ranger position is required to live on-site: Parsons and Phillips discuss being open to the notion but are considering impacts. Pros work life balance. Anderson states options for having an open home on site, these include an intermittent ranger home for rangers on duty, add to cabin rental list, moving Hazen-Fabor on site. Parsons and Anderson discuss having a review of contracts to update terms and/or deem necessity. Anderson will contact County Attorney to get more information. Danaher addresses concern over having rangers living far away and suggests a limit on distance a ranger can live from park. Anderson informs of current policy for on duty rangers having a response time of 30 minutes.

(C) ICCB Properties

- a. Big Bend Update- Road is gated at 'high water' parking area. Received two calls thanking us for doing so: Extra post has been added to gate for a walkway and keep vehicles from going around gate, Anderson states option to fix road in the future.
 - b. Gunderson Wildlife Area- New prairie plantings have had maintenance mowing done: Anderson states T55 blew a fuse but has been fixed, 7/14 staff visited and maintained camping spots.
 - c. Berstler and Butler: Anderson informs board Berstler needs new sign, other one was stolen, and both properties have been recently visited and maintained.
 - d. Gateway Cut Update- Permit submitted : Waiting on flood plains permit approval, Sovereignty permit has been approved.
 - e. Gateway Triathlon Update: No update from Rotter yet on a new meeting time to finalize area.
 - f. Lake Iowa Park:
 - i. Outdoor Adventure Update: Adventure Update 112 registered 200-300 estimated in attendance, transportation reported giving "595 rides to participants and their families". Anderson and Parsons discuss the benefit this had for transportation with June being a slow month due to school being out.
 - ii. Boat Dock: Anderson states a boat dock was donated to the park from Johnson County and shares ideas for placement. These include added as an extension to current dock or placing on shoreline in front of the cabins and allowing persons renting cabins to keep boat in water overnight. Parsons voices concern over having a private dock at a public park. Phillips concerned over less fishing access on west shoreline and suggest adding dock there. Board concludes to continue brainstorming ideas. Parsons addresses dumpsters, suggesting moving them so they are dispersed around the campground for camper convenience and to mitigate eyesore when first entering the park. Anderson states plan to move small dumpsters near the shower houses and wait to move larger dumpster until earth pads are created.
8. Scheduling of Next Meeting- Thursday August 11, 2022
 9. Adjournment: Birch motioned to adjourn meeting, Danaher seconded, meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

