

Iowa County Conservation Board
Minutes
Regular Meeting
Wednesday March 15, 2022
6:30 P.M.

Lake Iowa Nature Center, Lake Iowa Park

Attend meeting virtually at the link below.

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

Board present: Becky Birch, Justin Parsons, Shane Phillips, Chris Montross, Rose Danaher

Employees present: Chris Anderson, Elizabeth Capron

1. Call to Order 6:31
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Open Forum
 - (A) Public Comment – no comment
 - (B) Board Comment – Birch updates members on grant for improvements at Gateway. Master Gardeners is looking to request grant funds for plants, trees, and garden maintenance support - including adding a water source to the park. Other items the funds would be used for include; bike racks, metal picnic tables and benches. Grant application is due 4/14, awarding of grant money will be announced sometime in June. Parsons brings up the possibility of adding electricity to the pavilion regarding grant fund requests and Anderson states the conservation has already implemented a plan to get power to the pavilion.
 - (C) Danaher informs board of a new DNR hunting teaching / mentor program, the website matches people up with a fitting person to either teach or be taught by. The program will also give hunters resource material to learn proper safety, regulations, and tips on proper game butchering.
4. Approval of Minutes – motion: Montross 2nd: Parsons
5. Approval of Bills – motion: Danaher 2nd: Montross
6. Staff Updates -
7. Business
 - (A) Friends of ICCB
 - a. Friends met on February 7, and March 7, 2023. Conservation requested that the Friends take on remodeling the handicap fishing pier and the south boat ramp at Gateway. We also requested a few fruit and nut trees for the Food Forest Trail and equipment for us and the public to use revolving around the Grow. Gather, Preserve program series. - Anderson informs the board of Hazen-Fabor working on a list of trees for food forest and that Friends is looking into getting a cider press, mill (grains), and a seed oil press.
 - (B) ICCB Properties
 - a. Fuller Addition-English River Wildlife Area
 - i. It is proposed that Iowa County Conservation will take no action on changes to the wetland habitats at Fuller Addition of the English River Wildlife Area until there has been a minimum of two consecutive years with at least an average rainfall. This delay will provide ICC with data necessary to see if work on the wetlands will improve the impoundments. - Anderson shows data that indicates Iowa has been in a drought consistently since before the assumed cause of the

wetlands lack of water. Consensus was reached that this is a non-action issue until there has been sufficient rainfall to gage the true integrity of the wetlands.

- b. Gateway
 - i. We will need to add gravel to the roads again this spring. - Anderson addresses that Gateway's roads may need to be graded before to see if more gravel is truly necessary and adds that the improvement process will also encompass the parking lot.
 - c. Lake Iowa
 - i. Accident at Lake Iowa on Saturday March 4th, 2023. A vehicle was damaged when the driver did not notice a chain across the road to the north & east side of Lake. A deputy was contacted, and they filed a report. Took the report to Dan Lillis. - Board discussed multiple ways of preventing future incidents by creating more visible barriers by means of larger gates and / or signage.
 - ii. Electricity for shelters –The members established that the shelters at the park have electricity, but the outlets are outdated and should be upgraded to include three prong outlets.
8. Scheduling of Next Meeting- Thursday April 13, 2022
9. Adjournment motion: Parsons 2nd: Danaher. Meeting adjourned: 7:16pm