

Black Hawk County Conservation Board Minutes

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 1346 West Airline Highway, Waterloo, IA and via Microsoft Teams. The meeting was called to order by Mike Bonser, President, at 5:00 PM.

Roll call members present: Bob Boeck, Jon McNamee, Terri Rogers & Mike Bonser.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

Staff Present:

Mike Hendrickson, Executive Director
Nichole Koelling, Office Manager
Cherrie Northrup, Planning Administrator
Karl Kozak, North Unit Ranger
Al Finke, South Unit Ranger
Amy Davison, Hartman Center Manager
Jim Weimer, Wildlife Conservationist II

AGENDA

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Boeck to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

MINUTES

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Boeck to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2026, board meeting. Motion Carried.

BILLS

Motion by Rogers, seconded by McNamee to approve the bills submitted. Motion Carried.

VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:

Emily Perrott & Barrett Hubbard from ISG, Inc introduced themselves to the board & spoke about the engineering services offered by ISG & the many projects they have completed in the past.

PRESENTATION: POTENTIAL OXBOW PROJECT, Vern Fish, BHC Soil & Water Conservation
Vern Fish, Black Hawk County Soil & Water Conservation District (BHCS&W), presented details regarding a proposed Oxbow restoration project in Hudson. Following discussion, the Board reached a consensus to proceed with gathering additional information for further evaluation at a future meeting.

RESOLUTION – HARTMAN AMPHITHEATER, CHANGE ORDER #1 - FINAL – Cherrie Northrup

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Rogers, to move the following resolution:

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves Change Order #1 – Final, for the Hartman Reserve Amphitheater contract with Great Southern Recreation in the amount of -\$1,285.00 reflecting removal of the dumpster line-item costs. Change Order #1-Final, will reduce the contract amount, from \$118,067.04 to \$116,782.04.

AYES: Rogers, Bonser, McNamee, Boeck.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – ACCEPT HARTMAN AMPHITHEATER AS SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE –

Cherrie Northrup

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Boeck, to move the following resolution:

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts the Hartman Reserve Amphitheater project as substantially complete. The Black Hawk County Conservation Board authorizes payment of the contract balance of \$116,782.04 to Great Southern Recreation and acknowledges that the contract balance is being funded wholly with private funds donated specifically for this project and Black Hawk County did not contribute any funds towards this contract.

AYES: Bonser, McNamee, Boeck, Rogers.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – HICKORY HILLS MASTIC FILL & LEVEL, CHANGE ORDER #1 –

Cherrie Northrup

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Boeck, to move the following resolution:

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and acknowledges the previous approval of Change Order #1 by the Executive Director, for the Hickory Hills Mastic Fill and Level project contract with Barga, Inc. in the amount of \$2,400.00 reflecting additional mastic fill and leveling repairs within the park. Change Order #1 increased the contract amount, from \$22,482.90 to \$24,882.90.

AYES: McNamee, Boeck, Rogers, Bonser.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – ACCEPT HICKORY HILLS MASTIC FILL & LEVEL AS SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE –

Cherrie Northrup

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Boeck, to move the following resolution:

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts the Hickory Hills Mastic Fill & Level project as substantially complete. The Black Hawk County Conservation Board authorizes payment of the contract balance of \$2,400.00 to Barga, Inc.

AYES: McNamee, Rogers, Bonser, Boeck.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – HARTMAN BUCKLES & WEST WING SIDING BIDS –

Cherrie Northrup

Motion by Boeck, seconded by McNamee, to move the following resolution:

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the LOWEST REASONABLE BID submitted by Steege Construction, Inc of Waverly, IA in the amount of \$68,456.00 and awards contract, subject to receipt of all required documents and bonds, for the purpose of providing all materials, labor, equipment, methods & means to complete the siding replacement on the West Wing of the Interpretive Center and on the Buckles Building as outlined in the RFP. Both facilities are located at Hartman Reserve. Project includes the optional addition of new gutters and downspouts on the Buckles Building.

AYES: Rogers, Bonser, McNamee, Boeck.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – CRACK SEALING (ROTARY RESERVE/HICKORY HILLS) BIDS – Cherrie Northrup

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Boeck, to move the following resolution:

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the LOWEST REASONABLE BID submitted by Kluesner Construction of Farley, IA in the amount of \$18,102.00 and awards contract subject to receipt of all required documents, for the purpose of providing all materials, labor, equipment, methods & means to complete the crack sealing improvements on the identified asphalt roadways and parking lots at both the Rotary Reserve and Hickory Hills Park.

AYES: Bonser, McNamee, Boeck, Rogers.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

TRUCK BIDS – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Boeck, seconded by McNamee to accept the bid of \$56,614.24 from Lynch Ford for the purchase of a ¾ ton service truck. Motion Carried.

BIG WOODS CAMPGROUND RANGER RESIDENCE, FURNACE QUOTES – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Rogers, seconded by McNamee to accept the quote of \$3,198.00 from Hudson Hardware, Plumbing & Heating for a replacement furnace in the ranger residence at Big Woods Lake Campground. Motion Carried.

ROTARY RESERVE LODGE, HVAC QUOTES – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Rogers to accept the quote of \$24,468.00 from Hudson Hardware, Plumbing & Heating for replacement HVAC systems in the Rotary Reserve. Motion Carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO SEEK, OPEN, TABULATE TSI PROPOSALS, BLACK HAWK CREEK GREENBELT – Jim Weimer

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Boeck to authorize staff to seek, open and tabulate Timber Stand Improvement proposals for Black Hawk Creek Greenbelt. Motion Carried.

SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATION – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Boeck to authorize Al Finke, South Unit Ranger and Karl Kozak, North Unit Ranger to sign documents in the Executive Directors absence from September 14, 2026 to September 21, 2026. Motion Carried.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – Jim Weimer

Staff have been busy with invasive species removal, trail maintenance & mowing fire breaks. Staff have also been working in Lucy's Meadow.

UNIT RANGER REPORTS – Karl Kozak/Al Finke

North Unit:

Seasonal staff are done working for the year. On October 5th the campgrounds in Black Hawk Park will be closing for a culvert replacement project. Work is still progressing on the Big Woods Lake Campground Expansion Project.

South Unit:

Seasonal staff are done working for the year. Staff have been busy with mowing & site prep for the new shop building.

NATURE CENTER REPORT – *Amy Davison*

School of the Wild started this week. The Amphitheater remodel & pond renovation projects are complete. There will be a native plant sale at Hartman Reserve on September 23rd. Under the Harvest Moon will be held on October 30th.

DIRECTORS REPORT – *Mike Hendrickson*

The Big Woods Lake Campground Joint Board meeting will be on October 1st. A written report was submitted.

ANY REPORTS OR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD

None.

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Rogers to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Adjourned 6:12 PM.

NICHOLE KOELLING

DATE