

Black Hawk County Conservation Board Minutes

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 1346 West Airline Highway, Waterloo, IA and via Microsoft Teams. The meeting was called to order by Jenny Murphy, President, at 5:00 PM.

Roll call members present: Terri Rogers, Jenny Murphy, Jon McNamee & Mike Bonser.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

Staff Present:

Mike Hendrickson, Executive Director
Cherrie Northrup, Planning Administrator
Amy Davison, Nature Center Manager
Karl Kozak, North Unit Ranger

Nichole Koelling, Office Manager
Al Finke, South Unit Ranger
Jim Weimer, Wildlife Conservationist II

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Bonser to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2025, board meeting. Motion Carried.

BILLS

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

VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:

Ritch Kurtenbach, Black Hawk County BOS gave an update from the Metropolitan Area Transportation Policy Board meeting. The updated Cedar Valley Trails & Recreation Guide will be printed in January 2026.

PUBLIC HEARING: ASPHALT PAVING, PARKS

Motion by Rogers, seconded by McNamee to open the public hearing for the Asphalt Paving, Parks Project at 5:02 PM.

No oral or written comments were received.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Bonser to close the public hearing at 5:02 PM.

Motion Carried.

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REQUEST – Al Finke

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Bonser to authorize one county vehicle, the livestock trailer, and up to three staff to make a trip to Macon, Missouri on December 10 & 11, 2025 to sell bison. Motion Carried.

LAKEVIEW LODGE & WHITETAIL CABIN SIDING BIDS – *Cherrie Northrup*

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

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the LOWEST REASONABLE BID submitted by Freed Construction of Cedar Falls, IA, in the amount of \$62,946.00 and awards contract for the purposes of acquisition and installation of replacement siding, fascia and soffit on the Lakeview Lodge and Whitetail Cabin at Hickory Hills Park including the optional addition of blown in insulation in the specified walls of the Lodge as outlined in the RFP.

AYES: Bonser, Murphy, Rogers, McNamee.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

ASPHALT PAVING, PARKS BIDS – *Cherrie Northrup*

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

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the LOWEST REASONABLE BID submitted by Aspro, Inc. of Waterloo, IA, in the amount of \$307,242.00 for Hickory Hills Park Paving(Division 3); \$69,904.00 for McFarlane Park Paving (Division 2); and \$103,037.60 for the Administrative office (Division 1) which includes the optional alternate to include pavement markings and awards contract for the purpose of asphalt surfacing various parking lots and lanes at the Conservation Administrative Office, McFarlane Park, and Hickory Hills Park as outlined in the project plans.

AYES: McNamee, Rogers, Murphy, Bonser.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

FY2027 BUDGET – *Mike Hendrickson/Nikki Koelling*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Bonser to approve the FY2027 budget (expense, revenue & CIP) as presented subject to any changes directed by the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors or Finance Director. Motion Carried.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – *Jim Weimer*

Staff presented the new Landowners Assistance brochure to the Board. Staff have been doing follow up TSI & crop tree release work at Black Hawk Park. Staff also have been working with Bill Haywood on marking trees in the Black Hawk Creek Greenbelt for a timber harvest. There was a Conservation Corps of Iowa group working at Black Hawk Creek to remove several log jams.

UNIT RANGER REPORTS – *Karl Kozak/Al Finke*

North Unit:

The campgrounds will close for the season on December 1st. Staff have been busy with winter maintenance & Holiday Light Show prep.

South Unit:

Hickory Hills Park campground closed on November 1st in preparation for the Holiday Light Show. Staff have been busy with light show prep, pouring cement pads for memorial benches & putting up gates along the Cedar Valley Nature Trail.

NATURE CENTER REPORT – *Amy Davison*

Woodland Wonderland will be held on December 12th & 13th. Staff have been busy with winter programming. SciPlay donated 300 trees to be planted at Hartman Reserve.

DIRECTORS REPORT – *Mike Hendrickson*

Black Hawk County Conservation will be hosting the District VI meeting on December 17th at Hickory Hills Park. A written report was submitted.

ANY REPORTS OR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD

None.

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

Adjourned 5:58 PM.

NICHOLE KOELLING

DATE