

## **Black Hawk County Conservation Board Minutes**

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, October 9, 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: Josh Balk, 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 McNamee, seconded by Rogers to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

### **MINUTES**

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Bonser to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2025, board meeting. Motion Carried.

### **BILLS**

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

### **VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:**

Dwight Diercks, Cedar Valley Trails Partnership, thanked the Conservation Board & staff for all the improvements that have been made to the Cedar Valley Nature Trail & hoped that improvements will continue to be made in the future.

### **PRESENTATION: HICKORY HILLS DISC GOLF COURSE EXPANSION**

Members of the Black Hawk Metro Disc Golf League presented their proposal for an expansion of the Disc Golf Course at Hickory Hills Park.

### **RESOLUTION: ACCEPT THE CASEY LAKE FISHING PIER AS SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE** – *Cherrie Northrup*

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

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts the Casey Lake Fishing Pier Acquisition and Installation project as substantially complete. The Black Hawk County Conservation Board authorizes the contract balance of \$41,500.00 be paid to Tony Kockler Builders, Inc.

AYES: Balk, Bonser, Murphy, Rogers, McNamee.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT, BLACK HAWK PARK CREEK CROSSING** – *Mike Hendrickson*

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

Black Hawk County Conservation accepts and approves the Professional Services Agreement with Snyder & Associates, Inc. for the purposes of Project Design Services (\$39,100 lump sum), Permitting services (\$10,500 lump sum), and Bidding & Construction Services (Not to Exceed \$24,000) for the Black Hawk Park Creek Crossing Replacement Project and authorizes the Executive Director to sign the agreement.

AYES: McNamee, Rogers, Murphy, Bonser, Balk.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**APPROVE PLANS/SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR ASPHALT PAVING – PARKS PROJECT** – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Bonser to approve the Asphalt Paving – Parks project plans and specifications for bid letting, authorize the setting of the public hearing for this project at 5:00PM on November 13, 2025, and authorize publication of the Notice to Bidders and Notice of Public Hearing when appropriate. Motion Carried.

**HICKORY HILLS SHELTER ACQUISITION & INSTALLATION BIDS** – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Rogers to accept the recommended bid of \$87,392.12 from Great Southern Recreation for a shelter at Hickory Hills Park and authorize the Executive Director to sign the contract documents for said project. Motion Carried.

**APPOINT BOARD MEMBER TO BWL JOINT BOARD** – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Bonser to appoint Terri Rogers to sit on the Big Woods Lake Campground Joint Board. Motion Carried.

**BIG WOODS LAKE CAMPGROUND JOINT BOARD UPDATE** – *Jenny Murphy/Jon McNamee*

The Big Woods Lake Campground Joint Board met on October 2, 2025. The Board reviewed the current FY26 budget, the campground expansion & maintenance issues. Mike Hendrickson & Brian Heath were appointed to the by-law nominating committee.

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT** – *Jim Weimer*

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.

**UNIT RANGER REPORTS** – *Karl Kozak/Al Finke*

**North Unit:**

Halloween at Black Hawk Park was the weekend of October 4th & Big Woods Lake Campground the weekend of September 27th; both parks had a great turnout. The Urban Deer Management hunt started on Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup>; there are 113 qualified hunters. Staff have been busy with normal park maintenance.

**South Unit:**

Halloween at Hickory Hills Park was the weekend of September 20th & McFarlane Park the weekend of September 27th; both parks had a great turnout. Staff have been busy changing the lights in Lakeview Lodge & the Hickory Hills Park shower building over to LED.

**NATURE CENTER REPORT – *Amy Davison***

School of the Wild is almost done for the year. Staff will be attending Wilderness First Aid training. Staff have also been busy with fall programs & memorial projects. Under the Harvest Moon will take place on November 8th.

**DIRECTORS REPORT – *Mike Hendrickson***

A written report was submitted.

**ANY REPORTS OR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD**

None.

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

Adjourned 5:58 PM.

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NICHOLE KOELLING

DATE