

**Black Hawk County Conservation Board
Minutes**

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 1346 West Airline Highway, Waterloo, IA and via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Terri Rogers, President, at 5:00 PM.

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

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

Staff Present:

Mike Hendrickson, Executive Director
Cherrie Northrup, Planning Administrator
Megan Hamm, Naturalist III
Jim Weimer, Wildlife Conservationist II

Nikki Koelling, Office Manager
Karl Kozak, North Unit Ranger
Al Finke, South Unit Ranger

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Murphy to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2024, board meeting. Motion Carried.

BILLS

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

VISITORS

Michelle Weidner, BHC Finance Director
Josh Collins, CVAST

Heather Prendergast, Assistant County Attorney

VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:

None.

OATH OF OFFICE – *Mike Hendrickson*

Board members Josh Balk, Jenny Murphy, Terri Rogers, Jon McNamee, and Mike Bonser took the oath of office and were sworn in by the Executive Director.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Bonser to elect Jenny Murphy, President; Josh Balk, Vice-President and Jon McNamee, Secretary. Motion Carried.

REVIEW OF BY-LAWS – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Rogers to approve the by-laws with no changes. Motion Carried.

FY2024 ANNUAL REPORT – *Nikki Koelling*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by McNamee to approve the FY2024 annual report as submitted. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION: ROTARY RESERVE REPLACEMENT WINDOWS/SIDING/DOORS, CHANGE ORDER #1 – *Cherrie Northrup*

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

Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves, accepts and authorizes execution of Change Order #1 in the amount of \$6,200.00 to add painting of the replacement doors to the Rotary Reserve Replacement Windows, Siding & Doors Contract with Don Gardner Construction of Waterloo, IA, dated November 25, 2024. This change order will increase said contract from \$190,640.00 to \$196,840.00.

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

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION: CASEY LAKE FISH HABITAT, CHANGE ORDER #2 – *Cherrie Northrup*

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

Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves, accepts and authorizes execution of Change Order #2 for the Casey Lake Fish Habitat Contract with Hudson Hardware to reflect the change in scope by deducting out the pallet structure placement in lieu of additional culvert placements, some grading and placement of an additional 30 tons of rock. Change Order #2 is a no cost change order and will not increase or decrease the contract amount. Contract amount with Hudson Hardware will remain \$105,800.00 as adjusted by change order #1.

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

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

LETTER OF SUPPORT, BLACK HAWK COUNTY GAMING ASSOCIATION – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Balk to authorize the Executive Director to sign the letter of support as written for the Black Hawk County Gaming Association encouraging the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission to consider the impact that additional gaming licenses would have on community projects.

Motion Carried.

CEDAR BEND HUMANE SOCIETY – *Nikki Koelling*

The CBHS currently has a MOU with Black Hawk County Conservation Board to use the Administrative Offices and shop as an emergency pet rescue center during a regional disaster. Motion by Rogers, seconded by McNamee to allow the agreement to roll over for another year. Motion Carried.

CEDAR VALLEY ASSOCIATION FOR SOFT TRAILS (CVAST) – *Amy Davison*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Rogers to allow the existing agreement to roll over for another year and to continue allowing CVAST to maintain soft trails for mountain bikes in the Hartman Reserve area. Motion Carried.

FRIENDS OF THE GILBERTVILLE DEPOT – *Al Finke*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Rogers to renew the lease of the Gilbertville Depot to the Friends of the Gilbertville Depot for 2025. Motion Carried.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – *Jim Weimer*

The Timber Stand Improvement work at Black Hawk Park is almost done. Staff is working with Flight Spool on an educational drone video on Timber Stand Improvement work.

UNIT RANGER REPORTS – *Al Finke/Karl Kozak*

North Unit:

Staff has been busy with clean-up after the TSI work & cutting firewood. Noah Riker left to attend the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy on January 6th.

South Unit:

A progress report was given on the Casey Lake Restoration Project. Staff have been busy with the Holiday Light Show tear down, building maintenance & snow removal.

NATURE CENTER REPORT – *Megan Hamm*

Staff have been busy with numerous small programs, preparing for spring programming and Maple Syrup Festival planning. Maple Syrup Festival will be held March 14, 15 & 16. Staff is also planning on replacing two of the exhibits in the Interpretive Center this Spring.

DIRECTORS REPORT – *Mike Hendrickson*

A written report was submitted.

ANY REPORTS OR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD

None.

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

Adjourned 5:51 PM.

NICHOLE KOELLING

DATE