

Black Hawk County Conservation Board Minutes

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, August 13, 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, Travis Turpin & 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
Trevor Davis, Ranger II
Amy Davison, Hartman Center Manager
Jim Weimer, Wildlife Conservationist II

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Boeck to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2026, board meeting. Motion Carried.

BILLS

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

VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:

None.

PUBLIC HEARING: PURCHASE OF BACKHOE

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Boeck to open the public hearing for the Purchase of a Backhoe at 5:01 PM.
No oral or written comments were received.

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Boeck to close the public hearing at 5:03 PM.
Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION – HICKORY HILLS ASPHALT PAVEMENT MASTIC FILL AND LEVEL BIDS – Cherrie Northrup

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

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the LOWEST REASONABLE BID submitted by Barga Incorporated of Mountain Lake, MN in the amount of \$22,482.90 and awards contract for the purpose of providing all materials, labor, equipment, method and means to complete mastic filling and leveling of asphalt distresses at Hickory Hills Park.

AYES: Turpin, Bonser, Boeck, McNamee.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – HICKORY HILLS PARK STORAGE BUILDING 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 St. Joseph's Construction & Repair of Newton, IA, in the amount of \$96,448.65 and award contract subject to receipt of all required documents and bonds, for the purposes of the acquisition and construction of a 60' x 40' post frame storage building with concrete floor at Hickory Hills Park.

AYES: Bonser, Boeck, McNamee, Turpin.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL REPAIR 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 Aspro, Inc. of Waterloo, IA. in the amount of Not To Exceed \$50,000 and awards contract, subject to receipt of all required documents and bonds, for the purposes of repairing various spots along the Cedar Valley Nature Trail between Washburn Road and Weiden Road.

AYES: Boeck, McNamee, Turpin, Bonser.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

BACKHOE BIDS – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Boeck, seconded by McNamee to accept the bid of \$109,600.00 from Murphy Tractor & Equipment for the purchase of a backhoe. Motion Carried.

MCFARLANE PARK RESIDENCE HVAC QUOTES – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Boeck, seconded by Turpin to accept the quote of \$7,068.00 from Hudson Hardware, Plumbing & Heating for a replacement HVAC system in the ranger residence at McFarlane Park. Motion Carried.

REAP GRANT LETTERS OF SUPPORT – Mike Hendrickson

Motion by Boeck, seconded by McNamee to acknowledge support of the following REAP Grant project: *City of Dunkerton – Amphitheater and Sustainable Landscaping Project* and the submittal of the letter of support for said project. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION – SILOS & SMOKESTACKS MOU RENEWAL – Amy Davison

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

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding with Silos and Smokestacks for an additional 5 years expiring on August 13, 2031, for the mutual benefit of preserving, interpreting, and educating on the agricultural story, and authorizes the Nature Center Manager to sign the same.

AYES: McNamee, Turpin, Bonser, Boeck.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – Jim Weimer

Staff have been busy with invasive species removal, trail maintenance & parking lot clean-up. Staff have also been working in Lucy's Meadow.

UNIT RANGER REPORTS – *Karl Kozak/Trevor Davis*

North Unit:

Siggelkow Park is closed from storm damage. Staff have been busy mowing, signage upgrades & park maintenance. Work is still progressing on the Big Woods Lake Campground Expansion Project.

South Unit:

Staff have been busy with storm damage clean-up along the Cedar Valley Nature Trail & Hickory Hills Park. Staff have also been prepping the site of the new storage building & mowing.

NATURE CENTER REPORT – *Amy Davison*

Summer camps are done for the year; School of the Wild begins on September 9th. The Amphitheater remodel & pond renovation projects are still ongoing.

DIRECTORS REPORT – *Mike Hendrickson*

The Executive Director will be attending the Iowa State Association of Counties annual conference. A written report was submitted.

ANY REPORTS OR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD

None.

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

Adjourned 5:46 PM.

NICHOLE KOELLING

DATE