

**Black Hawk County Conservation Board
Minutes**

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, September 11, 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 & 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 Bonser, seconded by Rogers to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2025, board meeting. Motion Carried.

BILLS

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

VISITORS

Michelle Weidner, BHC Finance Director

VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:

None.

REVIEW OF EMERGENCY SUCCESSION PLAN – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Bonser, seconded by Rogers to approve the Emergency Succession Plan for another year with no changes. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION: ACCEPT THE CASEY LAKE BOAT DOCKS PROJECT AS SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE – *Cherrie Northrup*

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

Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts the Casey Lake Boat Docks Project as substantially complete pending installation of the transition plates at the end of the gangways.

AYES: Balk, Bonser, Murphy, Rogers.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

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

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

PARK SIGNAGE CONCEPT DESIGNS – *Cherrie Northrup/Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Bonser to approve the new park signage design concept & authorize staff to move forward with the project. Motion Carried.

BIDDING POLICY, LOCAL PREFERENCE – *Mike Hendrickson*

The Executive Director informed the Board of the amendment to the Black Hawk County Bidding Policy to include local preference. The Local Preference Policy is not mandatory; departments may choose whether to use the policy when bidding out projects.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – *Jim Weimer*

Staff have been clearing woody vegetation at Klima Wildlife Area. Staff attended an informational meeting regarding the use of drones to spray pesticide.

UNIT RANGER REPORTS – *Karl Kozak/Al Finke*

North Unit:

Black Hawk Park is now open; the campground road has been temporarily repaired. Camping at Big Woods Lake Campground has been very busy. Seasonal staff are done working for the season.

South Unit:

Staff have been busy with invasive species removal & mowing. Casey Lake still needs about 13”-15” of water to be full. On October 15th, Hawkeye Community College students will be working on trimming trees & invasive species removal in the prairie by Lakeview Lodge.

NATURE CENTER REPORT – *Amy Davison*

School of the Wild started this week. There will be a native plant sale at Hartman on September 24th. Staff have been busy with fall programs. Under the Harvest Moon will take place on November 8th.

DIRECTORS REPORT – *Mike Hendrickson*

The Big Woods Lake Campground Joint Board meeting will be held on October 2nd. A written report was submitted.

ANY REPORTS OR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD

None.

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

Adjourned 6:05 PM.

NICHOLE KOELLING

DATE