



Floyd
County
Conservation

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**Floyd County
Conservation Board
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Charles City*

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Charles City*

*Beverly Fisher
Marble Rock*

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Minutes of the Floyd County Conservation Board April 2, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Dirk Uetz at 5:04 pm at the Fossil Prairie Center at Rockford, Iowa. Present were Board Members Cala McGregor, Joel Cannon, Dirk Uetz, Beverly Fisher, and Ann Schneckloth. Also present were Supervisor Roy Schwickerath, Nate Mead, Wildlife Resource Manager Tyron Steere, Resident Ranger Tyler Walters, and Director Adam Sears. Joel made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda, Beverly seconded and it passed. Ann made a motion to accept the Meeting Agenda, Cala seconded, and it was passed.

Roy gave the supervisors report. The Supervisors have been approached about the issue of ATV's and UTV's on public roadways. The conservation board could be involved in the decision to allow or not allow it. Adam said that we do not allow ATV's in the county parks. The Assessor's office has sent out new property assessments in the mail.

There was no Fossil Prairie Conservation Foundation report.

Joel gave the Cabin Committee report. Donations are still coming in. A change was made when ordering the cabin. The vinyl log siding had shot up in price and was way out of line, a different siding was ordered, instead. They upgraded the cement skirting that will be around the bottom of the cabin. The staff has been clearing the site, and it will be nice when the cabin comes in. Joel and his wife will donate the microwave oven, a toaster, and the coffee maker. A new LP tank is needed.

Adam gave the Directors report. The last few days the staff has been doing the burning at the FP Center. The guys have finished the new picnic tables, finished the lower level of the FP center, fixed the north doorway and Lab room, and put in new stairway lighting and ceiling. The Upstairs exhibit has new lighting that is really bright. The FPC will get new fish for the fish tank, and the east side of the quarry will get crappie, sunfish, and bluegills, which is part of the Theisens program. The Floyd County lkes will buy 30 rods and reels for the FPC. They will be helping the annual fishing day at R campground. The staff is gearing up for the camping season. Clean up at Idlewild will start soon. The Rockford STEM program that is doing a river trail on the Shell Rock has been approved to put a sign on the halfway bridge site. The prescribed burns will continue this spring at Cedar Hills, Nagle Park, FP Park, and Knapp 1. The Online Reservation system

Is started and is working well. The Mink Creek project will continue with additions of Norway Spruces from the Trees forever grant. Volunteers can cage trees and help with plantings. 50 stumps were ground up at Ackley Creek Campground. Two individuals have been hired as summer Conservation Aides, Tyler Reams, and Jared Hummel.

New Business: The Budget amendments the Supervisors have to consider are storm damage payments. All costs must go to the Conservation Budget. Roy said that they will work on the Budget in April or May. Joel made a motion to ask the Supervisors to approve the Budget Amendment, Cala seconded, and the motion carried. The Gates Bridge project has received \$47,313 for improving 1,000 feet of shoreline and fish habitat. Beverly moved, and Ann seconded that we have cooperative agreement approval needing \$52,000. A mid summer start is possible after the Army Corps of Engineering approves the permit and mussel studies have been completed.

Old Business: The Wendland Woods Improvement project will begin on May 8. Greg Heidebrink will mark trees for bids and harvest in Section 1. A staff member will be there that day. It was mentioned that someone is interested in buying the tops for firewood. The land donation was discussed. Nick Bjelica and Mary Ayers own the property that we would need to get an easement from so that maintenance can be done on the donated land. We would probably want a permanent easement. It would not take any crop ground. Is the donated property worth getting an easement? An attorney's opinion is needed.

Our next meeting will be May 7th at the Fossil & Prairie Center at 5:00 pm. Beverly made a motion to adjourn at 5:48 pm.

Adam reminded us that the Outdoor Family Fair at Tosanak Recreation Area is May 4th. The Fossil Prairie Foundation, the Ikes, Pheasants Forever, Emergency Management, Clear Lake Girl Scouts, and more will be represented. Also, 10 vendors will be set up.

Dirk Uetz, President

Ann Schneckloth, Secretary