

WINNEBAGO COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Regular Meeting, January 14, 2008 –8:00 A.M.
At the Thorpe Park Office, 34496 110th Ave., Forest City, Iowa

Minutes

Board Members Present

Mike Korth
Roger Hermanson
John Carlson
Rick Hofbauer
DaveThorland

Guests

Willie Wubben, BOS's

Staff Present

Robert Schwartz
Lisa Ralls

Chairman Korth called the meeting to order at 8:07 A.M.

The January 14, 2009 Board meeting agenda was approved with a motion from Hofbauer, seconded by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

The December 10, 2007 meeting minutes were approved with a motion from Carlson, seconded by Thorland. Motion carried unanimously.

Work and budgets reports were reviewed.

Schwartz updated the Board on the status of the Ambrosion Recreation Area fish habitat stamp grant application by stating that it had been recommended for funding by the District II Fish Habitat Scoring Committee and has been forwarded to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for their approval. The grant request was in the amount of \$11,879.00 and will be used to rip-rap the dike constructed in 2007.

Schwartz informed the Board that the Holland property Wildlife Habitat Stamp Grant application ranked 2nd out of 17 projects submitted and been recommended for funding. The recommendations have been forwarded to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Commissioners for their approval. The grant request was in the amount of \$72,550 and will be applied towards the acquisition cost of the 180 acre farm.

Schwartz informed the Board that he had attended the Iowa Pheasants Forever State Trust Fund Council meeting on January 13, 2008 in Des Moines and the Winnebago County Conservation Board was awarded \$7,000 to be applied towards the purchase of the Stensrude tract which the county took possession of in 2007.

Lisa gave the Board an overview of the proposed Wabasha, Minnesota - Bus Trip and Eagle Watch that will be co-sponsored by the Winnebago and Hancock County Conservation Boards. After discussion, co-sponsoring the Wabasha Bus Trip and Eagle Watch with the Hancock County Conservation Board on March 8, 2008, was approved with a motion from Thorland, seconded by Hermanson. Motion carried unanimously. Cost of the trip will be \$65 per person with a minimum of 25 participants required.

The Board reviewed FY 2008-09 Conservation \$154,930, General Supplemental \$43,875, REAP \$34,000, Conservation Trust Fund \$103,500 and Roadside Management \$105,523 budgets and after discussion a motion was made by Hofbauer, seconded by Thorland to approve the budgets as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Harlan Melz, President of the Tri-County Recreation Association presented their 2008 budgets. After discussion, the Tri-County Recreation Association operating budget of \$89,200 was approved with a motion from Carlson, seconded by Hermanson. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board accepted a \$5,000 donation from the John K. & Luise V. Hanson Foundation to be applied towards the installation of a new well at Dahle Park was approved with a motion from Carlson, seconded by Hofbauer. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Prairie Winds RC&D Request for Proposal for grants to construct cabins on recreation areas that could be rented to the public. After discussion, the Board directed Schwartz to draft a Request for Proposal that will be presented to the Prairie Winds RC&D to renovate the Thorpe Park Learning Center into a rental cabin and report back at the February meeting.

A \$50 donation to the Iowa Trust For Local Conservation was approved with a motion from Hofbauer, seconded by Carlson. Motion carried unanimously. Payment will be withdrawn from the Conservation Trust Fund.

The payment of monthly bills was approved with a motion by Hofbauer, seconded by Thorland. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Korth adjourned the meeting at 9:27 A.M. with a motion from Hofbauer, seconded by Thorland. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Robert Schwartz
Executive Director

Secretary