

WINNEBAGO COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Regular Meeting, March 09, 2009–8:00 P.M.
At the Thorpe Park Office, 34496 110th Ave., Forest City, Iowa

Minutes

Board Members Present

Mike Korth
Rick Hofbauer
Dave Thorland
Roger Hermanson
John Carlson

Guests

Dennis Taylor, Forest City
Willie Wubben, BOS
Keith Frerichs, Buffalo Center
Bill Rolings, Thompson
Jamie Thomsen, ISU Extension

Staff Present

Robert Schwartz
Lisa Ralls
Rick Lillie

Chairman Hermanson called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

The February 12, 2009 Board meeting minutes were approved with a motion from Thorland, seconded by Hofbauer. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Work and budgets reports were reviewed.

Schwartz updated the Board on the progress of the Thorpe Park cabin renovation project.

Jamie Thomsen, representing the Winnebago County – Iowa State University Extension Office discussed with the Board the idea of constructing a trap shooting range at the Florence Recreation. ISU Extension has purchased a trap thrower that could be installed at that location if all parties agreed. Taylor indicated that he has secured materials and donated labor to construct a trap house which would hold the thrower when a location is found. Thomsen stated that ISU Extension was investigating any liability issues. After discussion, the Board informed Thomsen that they are interested in discussing the idea further at a later meeting. Thomsen will meet with her Board and let them know there is interest in discussing the matter further. No further action.

The Board accepted a \$2,500 donation from the Whitetails Unlimited, North Iowa Chapter, Inc. to be used to purchase materials for the construction of a shooting range at the Hogsback Wildlife Area with a motion from Thorland, seconded by Hofbauer. Unanimous. Motion carried.

A Memorandum of Understanding agreement between the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Winnebago County Conservation Board to host an “Operation Releaf” tree sales program was approved with a motion from Hofbauer, seconded by Thorland.

Unanimous. Motion carried. The tree distribution will take place on May 7th at the Winnebago County Fairgrounds from 3 P.M. – 6 P.M.

After discussion, the Board approved a meeting date and time of March 24, 2009 at 8:05 A.M. to hold a public hearing to consider approval of a 10 year crop lease between the Winnebago County Conservation Board and Lowell Storby for 6.8 acres more or less in section 18, T99N, R23W of the 5th P.M., Winnebago County, Iowa, with a motion from Thorland, seconded by Hofbauer. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Three year crop lease agreements for the Lande River Conservation Area, Bolstad-Larson Tweed Wildlife Area, Ambrosen Recreation Area and the Quam Wildlife Area as written were approved with a motion from Carlson, seconded by Thorland. Unanimous. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed information regarding land offered for sale by the Winnebago Coop. Telephone Association on the southwest side of Lake Mills. Board members agreed that since it was within the city limits of Lake Mills they had no interest in bidding on the property.

Dahle Park camping fees were discussed. Schwartz suggested that since new electrical and water services have been replaced that the Board should consider whether to increase the daily camping fee at the park. After discussion a motion was made by Thorland, seconded by Hofbauer to charge \$12.00 per night to camp at Dahle Park, effective May 1, 2009. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Schwartz informed the Board that the Iowa DNR Water Trails Grant application that had been submitted to fund a possible water trail along the Winnebago River had been denied funding placing 5 out of 18 projects. The first 4 project were funded. Schwartz requested that the Board consider approval of a similar grant application in the amount of \$4,000 be submitted to the Winnebago County Community Foundation. After discussion, Carlson motioned, seconded by Thorland, that a grant application in the amount of \$4,000 will be submitted to the Winnebago County Community Foundation to fund the establishment of the Winnebago River Trail. Unanimous. Motion carried

Payment of monthly bills was approved with a motion from Hofbauer, seconded by Korth. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairman Hermanson adjourned the meeting at 9:21 A.M. with a motion from Hofbauer, seconded by Carlson. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Robert Schwartz
Executive Director

Secretary