

PROCEEDINGS

IDA COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD: MEETING MINUTES
299 JASPER AVE.
IDA GROVE, IA, 51445
WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 14, 2022, 6 p.m.
CONSERVATION CENTER
MOOREHEAD PARK

Board Members Present:

Synda Jepsen, chair; Randy Vogt, vice-chair; Dennis Leonard, Sue Knop, and Don Poggensee.

Others Present: Zach Hall - ICCB Director

The September 14, ICCB business meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Synda Jepsen.

Primary Agenda Topics:

• **ICCB agenda:** A motion to approve the Sept. 14 agenda was made by Don and seconded by Sue, all were in favor.

• **Minutes:** A motion to approve the August 8 minutes was made by Dennis, seconded by Don, and all were in favor.

• **Monthly Bills:** Billing topics included Community Betterment grant expenditures, tractor and mower repairs, and maintenance expenditures. A motion to approve the bills was made by Don, seconded by Randy, and all were in favor.

• **Budget:** Hall reported the first quarter projections for expenditures, revenue, and UBI accounts. Expenditure reports for September 2022 were above monthly budget predictions by 1.2%.

• **Public Input:** ICCB discussed campground host duties and how to solicit volunteers to become campground hosts. ICCB is looking for campground hosts for 2023.

Secondary agenda topics: ICCB update, Rock Donation, PWS updates, Quiet Hours policy, ICCB and INHF MOU, Safety/Accessibility Betterment Grant, Cons. Center Landscaping, Audubon Society Grants, FY2023 budget, and open discussion.

ICCB's update: This past month, ICCB staff worked improving CCRA's boat ramp, event planning, grant applications, and normal park operations. Department Project Timelines were developed by the director for the season and are being pursued by operations staff.

Trick-or-Treat at Crawford Creek Recreation Area is scheduled for Oct. 8, at 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Halloween Hike at Moorehead Park is scheduled for Oct. 15, at 5:30-8 p.m.

Rock Donation: ICCB approved of a boulder/rock donation receipt from an anonymous donor.

PWS update: Crawford Creek Recreation Area (CCRA) Public Water Supply permits have been updated through 2025.

Quiet Hours Policy: ICCB discussed a quiet hour policy in relation to their park's closing time. No board action was taken.

ICCB and INHF MOU: The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation developed a Memorandum of Understanding as a repurchase agreement for the land acquisition project. ICCB discussed the non-legal binding document and decided to sign the MOU to move forward with the project. The project's timeline is set up for about two years, before it opens for public access. Local conservation groups are fundraising and soliciting donations to buy the property from INHF to make it public land and to permanently protect the habitat.

Safety/Accessibility Betterment Grant: Items funded by the Ida County Community Betterment grant for improving park safety/accessibility are being installed by ICCB's Operation Supervisor.

Cons. Center Landscaping: Landscaping projects at the Moorehead Park's Conservation Center are being discussed.

Audubon Society Grant: ICCB tasked their director into looking A.S. funding sources for assisting the land acquisition project.

FY2023 Budget: ICCB reviewed the department's financial spreadsheets in detail for the FY23 first quarter; including revenue, monthly budget predictions, and tax budget expenditures.

Open Discussion: Solicit local businesses for assistance in the land project, ICCB director's grant pursuits, and local partnerships for completing ICCB's future projects.

After discussion, the ICCB meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m. The next ICCB public meeting is Monday, October 10, 2022, at 6 p.m. at Moorehead Park's Conservation Center.

Published in Ida County Courier on Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2022