

Wednesday, December 8, 2010
Meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board

The Wednesday December 8th, 2010 meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was called to order by President Bill Schmidt at 540 p.m. at Headquarters.

Board Members attending: Allen Kadolph, Bill Schmidt, Alan Staples, Dennis Heetland, and Nancy Slife. .

Staff Members: Executive Director Wes Wiese, and Office Assistant Lea Babcock.

Guests: Francis Fitz. Lucas Smith and Supervisor Jim Johnson.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Nancy S. to approve the minutes of the Nov. 10th, 2010 meeting, seconded by Alan S. All members voted aye, motion carried.

Approval of Monthly Claims: Motion was made by Allen K. to approve the December 8th, 2010 monthly claims, seconded by Nancy S. All members voted aye, motion carried.

Special Reports:

President's Report: President Schmidt reported that he attended the Calkins Christmas program on Dec. 5th and was very well attended. He also attended the Friends of Calkins meeting held on Dec. 7th, 2010

Board Member Report: Nancy S. reported that she had attended the Meteor Shower and Astronomy at Sac and Fox Overlook on Nov. 19, 2010, and Calkins Christmas program. Allen K. attended the Meteor Shower with approx. 60 people attending the event.

Naturalist's Report: They have been busy preparing for the Christmas Program held Dec. 5th. at Calkins Nature Center. Interviewed for the open position at Calkins; Held a river clean up day on Nov. 13 with 12 people helping; Held a Meteor shower program at the Sac & Fox Overlook on Nov. 19 with approx. 60 people attending; Native American program for the Pineview 1st graders, and for the Alden Kindergarten and 1st graders. The Calkins Christmas was held Dec. 5th with 180 people participating. Ranger Boomgarden did some backyard landscape contouring for better drainage.

Natural Resource Tech Report: He has been busy piling trees at Sac & Fox, along with locust removal there. Wrote an article on garlic mustard for the Board Members. Been picking large rocks out of Rainsbarger property. Has sprayed garlic mustard at Boddy-Hunt, Eagle City and Pine Ridge. Also have been cutting black locust trees at Pine Ridge.

Director's Report: Director reported that he had been interviewing candidates for the open position at Calkins. Contacted Mark Kuiper, with the Ritland

Landscape firm about doing a master plan for the Pine Ridge area. Director stated that the position at Calkins has been filled, and he will start Monday, Dec. 13. He also reported that IT C will be using the McCoy School House property to park their equipment while they are working in that vicinity. Ranger B. has been making repairs in the parks and getting the parks shut down for the winter. Also winterizing different equipment.

- A. Friends of Calkins:** – Francis Fitz gave the report on the Friends and stated they had a good turn out for the Christmas program and also received good comments about the activities that were offered. The annual fundraiser will be held on Mar. 8th at the Equine building of Ellsworth College, south of Iowa Falls. Hy-Vee and the Pork Producers will be doing the catering. Friends are also planning on building their own website through Micah at the Court House.
- B. Capital Projects:** Director stated that this topic needs to be dropped as he was not able to get quotes back on some projects that would qualify for this type of funding.
- C. Ruby Wildlife Area Hunting Status:** A lot of discussion was held as to what kind of hunting should be allowed in that area, such as bow and arrow, or shotgun, etc. .It was mentioned that perhaps to take a look at what the students from Iowa State had in their plans for what kind of hunting would best fit this area. Motion was made by Nancy S. that no hunting be allowed in this area for one year, seconded by Allen K. All members voting aye. Motion carried.
- D. Budget:** Director explained to the Board of how to interpret the monthly expense and revenue reports, which then led to the same line items that were in the budget line items. stating that each dept. has its own number such as 06100 etc. The Director explained each line item in the budget, both in the expense and income sheets. Motion was then made by Allen K. to accept the budget as presented, seconded by Dennis H. All members voting aye. Motion carried.
- E. Evaluations:** President Schmidt reported they would need to go into CLOSED SESSION Pursuant to Section 21.5 subsection (1) paragraph (i) OF THE CODE OF IOWA to evaluate the professional job of the Director and to rate the Boards evaluation. Motion was made by Dennis H. and seconded by Nancy S. to go into closed session to discuss the evaluations. All members voting aye, Nays – none. Motion carried. Following discussion Allen K. moved, Dennis H. seconded to go out of closed session, and into regular session. All members voting ayes, nays – none. Motion carried. Report was then given to the Director that the score was above average. The Boards

evaluation would be summarized and the President would then present it to the Supervisors.

F. Proposed Properties (2): President Schmidt reported they would need to go into CLOSED SESSION Pursuant to Section 21.5 subsection (1) paragraph (j) OF THE CODE OF IOWA to discuss the purchase of particular real estate. Allen K. moved to enter into closed session seconded by Alan S. All members voting aye, nay – none, motion carried. Following discussion Nancy S. moved, Dennis H. seconded to go out of closed session and into regular session. All members voting aye, nays – none. Motion carried. Motion was made by Alan S. to offer a range of \$125,000 to 175,000 for this real estate property that was discussed, seconded by Allen K. All members voting aye – nays- none. Motion carried.

President Schmidt reported they would need to go into CLOSED SESSION Pursuant to Section 21.5 subsection (1) paragraph (j) OF THE CODE OF IOWA to discuss the purchase of particular real estate. Nancy S. moved to enter into closed session, seconded by Dennis H. All members voting aye, nays – none. Motion carried. Following discussion Nancy S. moved, Allen K. seconded to go out of closed session and into regular session. All members voting aye, nays – none. Motion carried. Motion was made by Allen K. to pursue on this property depending on habitat grant, seconded by Dennis H. All members voting aye, nays – none. Motion carried.

G. Update – Long Range Plans: Due to the fact that it was at a late hour the Director did not explain all of the plans, but stressed to the board members to read and place them in the Long Range Plan Book, as under the heading of improvements were the projects listed of what had been accomplished this spring and summer.

Other Items – Director stated that the atlas that had been given earlier in the evening can be for sale to the public if the board so wishes to do so. The Board will review them and it will be on next month's agenda as to their recommendations.

X Public Comment – None

XI Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.