

OSCEOLA COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD MINUTES

October 19, 2021

The Osceola County Conservation Board met pursuant to the law in the Classroom at Willow Creek County Park with the following members present: John Corbett, Ann Byers, and John Schmidt.

Absent: Jason Otto, Zach Marco

Staff present: Nick Schmalen, Director

Visitors: Jerry Helmers, Supervisor's Liaison

The meeting was opened at 7:05 P.M. by John Schmidt, Chairperson.

A motion was made by John Corbett, seconded by Ann Byers, to approve the agenda adding an agenda item "Loof Farm Leases". All voted "AYE," motion carried.

A motion was made by Ann Byers, seconded by John Corbett, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

A motion was made by Ann Byers, seconded by John Corbett, to pay the attached claims. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

The Benit Acquisition at Willow Creek County Park was discussed. Director Nicholas Schmalen informed the Board that the Benit's requested that they keep an easement for the ground that they were selling so that their tenants had access to the remainder of the land. A new purchase contract had been written and will need to be signed and submitted to the Benits.

Possible projects for the Community Foundation of Osceola County Grant Program were discussed. A motion was made by John Corbett, seconded by Ann Byers, to apply for a community foundation grant for upgrading the basketball hoops and tennis nets at the Ashton and Melvin Parks. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

The Board reviewed rental fees for the Campground (\$15/night for electric and \$10/night for non-electric) and the Lodge (\$50/day). A motion was made by John Corbett, seconded by Ann Byers, to increase the rates for camping to \$20/night at Hawkeye Point and Willow Creek Campgrounds, with a monthly rate of 450 dollars, and to increase the rental rate of

the Lodge to 75 dollars per day, effective January 1, 2022. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

Director Nicholas Schmalen submitted the Monthly Schedule.

The Board discussed the upcoming Farm Leases for the Loof Property. Bids will be solicited for a tenant. Other stipulations for the lease include: Corn on year 1, No-Till Soybeans on Year 2, with no removal of crop residue. Fertilizer must be applied, at a minimum of the county average crop removal rate. Bids will be open until December 10.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M. by chairperson John Schmidt.

Nicholas J. Schmalen, Director

John Schmidt, Chairperson