

# OSCEOLA COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD MINUTES

December 14, 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, John Schmidt, Jason Otto, and Zach Marco.

Absent: None

Staff present: Nick Schmalen, Director

Visitors: Jerry Helmers, Supervisor's Liaison

The meeting was opened at 7:03 P.M. by John Schmidt, Chairperson.

A motion was made by Zach Marco, seconded by Jason Otto, to approve the agenda. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

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

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

Director Nicholas Schmalen informed the Board that he and the county attorney went to Spencer on December 1, and closed on the Benit Acquisition of Willow Creek. Discussion was held on what the next steps to development will be. Nick will get some sample sketches and hourly rates from local Landscape Architects. Also discussed was the farm lease for the Benit property. A motion was made by John Corbett, seconded by Zach Marco, to offer a farm lease to the current tenant of the Benit Property with the same yearly rent, after confirming with the County Attorney it is appropriate to do so. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

Bids for the Loof Property Farm lease were opened as follows (\$/acre/year): #1, \$307.57/acre; #2, \$404/acre; #3, \$292/acre; #4, \$351/acre; #5, \$250.00/acre; #6, \$288/acre; #7, \$326/acre; #8, \$301/acre; #9, \$328/acre. A motion was made by Jason Otto, seconded by John Corbett, to accept Bid #2 of \$404/acre (Garrison Hielkema). Lease will be for 2 crop growing seasons. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

The Hawkeye Point house was discussed. At a recent Osceola County Board of Supervisor's Meeting, control of the house was passed to the Osceola County Conservation Board. Options for the house included renovating the house for a potential cabin, selling the house, and tearing the house down. After discussion, a motion was made by Ann Byers, seconded by John Corbett, to put the Hawkeye Point house up for sale by bids, to be moved by November 1, 2022. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

A motion was made by Zach Marco, seconded by Ann Byers, to approve the FY 2020/2021 Annual Report. All voted "AYE," motion carried.

Director Nicholas Schmalen presented the Monthly Schedule.

There being no further business, a motion was made by John Corbett, seconded by Zach Marco, to adjourn at 8:38 P.M. All voted "AYE," motion carried.



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Nicholas, J. Schmalen, Director

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John Schmidt, Chairperson