

1. Call to Order

James Steer, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Des Moines County Conservation Board to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Starr's Cave Nature Center

Those Members Present: Jim Steer, Brad Coates, David Riley, Dennis Imler and Jay Johnson

Those Members Absent:

Others Present: Bob Beck, David Wiemer, Jeff Japsen, Amanda Delperdang, Paul Kay, Director Perlstein and Joel Behne.

2. Additions and Deletions to Agenda:

- a. Addition to Project Update #9a. Big Hollow

3. Delegations/Public Input:

- a. Dave Riley, spoke as a member of the public regarding new legislation on Sustainable Funding. This is an effort to better fund conservation in Iowa. There are two other required components to this legislative provision. 1) The voters must approve this legislation in November at the polls and 2) In the event of a future sales tax increase the bill will place 3/8th of 1% toward conservation.
The umbrella group of Iowa Waters Land Legacy is the lobbying arm. David will be heading a fundraiser to be held on May 24th at the Moose lodge. Local sponsors are Ideal Ready Mix and F&M Bank & Trust. Requested that all attend.

4. Approval of Minutes

- #21 a. Motion by David Riley, seconded by Dennis Imler, to approve the April 07, 2010 regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously by all members present.

5. Approval of Report of Activities for April 2010

- #22 a. Motion by Jay Johnson, seconded by David Riley, to approve the reports of activity for April 2010. Motion passed unanimously by all members present.

6. Approval of Claims for April 2010

- #23 a. Motion by David Riley, seconded by Brad Coates, to approve the claims for April 2010. Motion passed unanimously by all members present.

7. Acceptance of Donations

- a. Anastacia Cowles, – Deer jaws, antlers and other bones.
- b. Fran Freitag, - In Memory of Earle Freitag. \$30.00

8. Committee Reports

- a. **Flint Creek Advisory:** None, next meeting will be May 18th at 5:00 p.m.
- b. **Shooting Range:** None.
- c. **Flint River Trails:** Director reported that on May 21st at 10:00 am a groundbreaking will be held at the intersection of North Prairie Grove Road and Flint Bottom Road. Signage will be placed identifying future Flint River Trail. Cole Construction; the company that received the low bid for 152nd avenue (Big Hollow Road) also received the award for the trail. The bid from Cole Construction came in under anticipated cost and as a result in a work session on May 5th with the Supervisors it was decided that due to the cost savings on that project to see if IDOT would allow them to rebid the four bridges on the trail. IDOT said yes. Bridges should be constructed and the trail in by this falls.
- d. **Observatory:** None
- e. **REAP:** None

9. **Project Updates**

a. **Big Hollow.**

Director reported.

Fish stocking. Adult female crappie (18), were recently placed into the lake by IDNR. These fish were taken from Lake Geode in Henry County. They will place between 500 and 900 more in the near future as they are acquired.

Cabin. DMC Conservation has a grant for a cabin. This cabin needs to be up by June 30th. Met with Christa Perkins, Geode RC&D, this date and discussed putting up a primitive cabin in Area E at BH. Discussed placement and alternatives for amenities from the board.

Paul Kay reported that the parking lot by the boat ramp has been rocked and smoothed out.

Welter Recreational Area's Sycamore and Maple Loop are open (old Area 1 # 4) and the other area's will be opened in a couple of weeks after grass seed is planted and given a chance to germinate.

10. **Old Business:**

a. **Preserves Board Meeting.**

Director reported that the trail will go through Starr's Cave Park & Preserve. It will be a Hiking Trail and was granted on a 5/0 vote of the Preserves Board. There will be some type of deterrent at the openings to that portion of the trail so that bikes cannot get through.

LAWCON Grant. Extension has been requested for the \$17,000 grant that has been sitting for several years. A Sovereign Lands Permit will need to be acquired before work may begin

b. **SCNC Expenses:** A report on the expenditures for Starr's Cave Nature Center was presented to the board.

c. **FEMA. Letter sent to FEMA as requested by board and email response from FEMA.**

Joel reported to the board regarding the letter that was sent and the reply from FEMA. Iowa Insurance Commissioner's office has been contacted and forwarded both letters. Some type of correspondence should be sent to the office by Friday May 7th. The board will be sent the information when it becomes available.

11. **New Business:**

a. None

12. **Informational Items/Correspondence**

a. Starr's Cave has been closed by the IDNR due to a disease known as white-nose-syndrome which has recently surfaced in Missouri. Officials will be monitoring the cave throughout the summer regarding this disease. Staff will use a couple of other caves for programs this summer.

b. Mountain Lion Exhibit is on site.

c. River Clean-up conflicts with Steamboat Days this year. We will not be able to participate.

13. **Adjournment**

#24

A motion by Brad Coates, seconded by Jay Johnson to adjourn the May 05, 2010 board meeting. Motion passed unanimously by all members present. Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m. Motion passed unanimously by all members present.

James Steer, Chair

Dennis Imler, Secretary/Treasurer