

JONES COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes from the meeting of February 9, 2026, held at the Central Park Nature Center.

Meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by John Carlson.

Present were Board Members: Megan Manternach, Jon Zirkelbach, Russ Von Behren and John Carlson. Staff present were Brad Mormann, John Klein, Dillon Peyton, and Jennifer Koopmann.

Introduction of Guests: Mark Bouska, Monticello River Rentals and Alex Davis, Endeavor Engineering

Approve the Agenda:

Megan made a motion to accept the February agenda. Seconded by Russ. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review & Approval of the January 6th Meeting Minutes:

Jon made a motion to accept the January meeting minutes. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of Expenditures and Revenues:

Russ made a motion to accept the Expenditures and Revenues as presented. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

Russ made a motion to accept the staff reports. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Business Item:

Review of Monticello River Rentals Use of the Pictured Rocks River Access. Megan made a motion to require Monticello River Rental's patrons to utilize offsite parking on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Seconded by Jon. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of the Central Park Lakeside Trail Engineering Plan and Cost Estimate. The Board reviewed the Central Park Lakeside Trail engineering plan and cost estimate.

Central Park Lakeside Trail Project Funding Application – Approve a Land & Water Conservation Fund Resolution on Development for Outdoor Recreation. Russ made a motion to approve to the following resolution. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Development Resolution for Outdoor Recreation

WHEREAS, the Jones County Conservation Board is interested in developing outdoor recreational facilities on the following described project for the enjoyment of the citizenry of

Site Name: Jones County and the State Iowa.

Site Address: 12515 Central Park Road, Center Junction Iowa

Project Title: Central Park Lakeside Trail

Brief Description of Project: Development of a concrete trail around Central Park Lake connecting into the current beach area and fishing access.

AND, Land and Water Conservation Fund financial assistance is being sought for the acquisition or development of said outdoor recreational facilities,

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Jones County Conservation Board that the project described above be authorized

AND, be it further resolved that said Jones County Conservation certifies to the following:

1. That it will accept the terms and conditions set forth in the NPS Grants-in-Aid Manual and which will be a part of the Project Agreement for any grant awarded under the attached proposal.
2. That it is in complete accord with the attached proposal and that it will carry out the development in the manner described in the proposal and any plans and specifications attached thereto unless prior approval for any change has been received from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.
3. That it has the ability and intention to finance its share of the cost of the project and that the project will be operated and maintained at the expense of said Conservation Department for public outdoor recreational use.
4. That no financial assistance has been given or promised under any other federal program or activity with regard to the proposed project.
5. That it will not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, or natural origin in the use of any property or failure acquired or developed pursuant to this proposal, and shall comply with the terms and intent of the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, P.L. 88-352 (1964), and of the regulations promulgated pursuant to such Act by the Secretary of the Interior and contained in 43 CFR 17.
6. That it will maintain adequate financial records on the proposed project to substantiate claims for cost-sharing.

Approval to Allow Restricted Antlerless Deer Archery Hunting in Central Park in Fall/Winter 2026-27. Megan made a motion to allow a restricted antlerless doe only archery hunt in Central Park in fall/winter 2026-27. Seconded by Jon. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review and Approve the Iowa Forest Resiliency Partnership Program Notice of Intent to Award Agreement for \$114,000. Megan made a motion to approve the Iowa Forest Resiliency Partnership Program Notice of Intent to Award Agreement for \$114,000. Seconded by Jon. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of Seasonal Staff Hiring. Russ made a motion to approve Troy Olson, \$21.39/hr. with start date of 3/9/26, Josie Beitz, \$17.11/hr. with start date of 3/16/26, Rebecca Heinrich, \$17.11/hr. with start date of 6/1/26, Dana Hansen, \$16.39/hr. with start date of 6/1/26. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of Potential Seasonal Staff Member Pay Increase. Megan made a motion to approve a pay increase for the 2026 season for Ian Taylor on 3/8/26 to \$16.32/hr. Seconded by Russ. All ayes. Motion carried.

Additional Items:

Educational Event Updates: Educational event handouts were provided to the Board.

Conservation Area and Project Updates: Updates provided on cedar trees removed from Hamilton Tapken Prairie, tree removal and clean up at Eby's Mill Wildlife Area, black locust TSI at Hale Wildlife Area, and Central Park stump grinding and fish habitat improvement.

Adjournment: Megan moved to adjourn. Seconded by Russ. All ayes. John adjourned the meeting at 7:29 pm. The next meeting is planned for March 9, at 6:30 pm at Central Park.