

JONES COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes from the meeting of September 14, 2026, held at the Central Park Nature Center.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by John Carlson.

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

Introduction of Guests: None present.

Approve the Agenda:

Jon made a motion to accept the September agenda. Seconded by Russ. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review & Approval of the August 10th and 26th Meeting Minutes:

Russ made a motion to accept the August 10th and 26th meeting minutes. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of Expenditures and Revenues:

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

Staff Reports:

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

Business Item:

Public Hearing on the Plans, Specifications, Contract and Estimated Cost for Woodland Management Projects at Eby's Mill and North Fork Wildlands Wildlife Areas. Jon made motion to open the public hearing. Seconded by Russ. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jon made motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion carried.

Action on the Plans, Specifications, Contract and Estimated Cost for Woodland Management Projects at Eby's Mill and North Fork Wildlands Wildlife areas.

Jon introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Russ. On roll call vote: Russ aye, Megan aye, Jon aye, John Aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, CONTRACT, AND
ESTIMATED COST OF THE WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS AT EBY'S MILL
WILDLIFE AREA.**

WHEREAS, the Conservation Board, hereafter referred to as "the Board", believes the Woodland Management Projects titled Invasive Species Removal Project; Site Preparation and Tree Planting Project; and Tree Planting Project at Eby's Mill Wildlife Area, hereafter referred to as "the project" are in the interest of Jones County, Iowa and the residents thereof; and

WHEREAS, funds for the project are available from grants and County trust fund, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Conservation Board of Jones County, Iowa, that we declare support for and endorsement for said project and will move forward with completion of the project.

Eby's Mill Wildlife Area Invasive Species Removal Project Bids Review and Possible Contractor Selection. Russ made a motion to approve the low bid from Woodland Forestry LLC of \$18,457.60 for the Eby's Mill Wildlife Area Invasive Species Removal Project. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. Motion

Eby's Mill Wildlife Area Tree Planting Project Bids Review and Possible Contractor Selection. Megan made a motion to approve the low bid from Woodland Forestry LLC of \$45,938.69 for the Eby's Mill Wildlife Area Tree Planting Project. Seconded by Russ. All ayes. Motion carried.

Eby's Mill Wildlife Area Site Preparation and Tree Planting Project Bids Review and Possible Contractor Selection. Megan made a motion to approve the low bid from Luke Morarend Forestry LLC of \$16,219.44 for the Eby's Mill Wildlife Area Site Preparation and Tree Planting Project. Seconded by Jon. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review of Timber Sale Inventory for Eby's Mill Wildlife Area and Approval to Move Forward with the Timber Sale. Megan made a motion to approve the timber sale inventory for Eby's Mill Wildlife Area and approved to move forward with the timber sale. Seconded by Jon. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approve a Notice of Public Hearing for the Following Projects at Eby's Mill and North Fork Wildlands Wildlife Areas.

- i. Site Preparation, Planting and Weed Control Project
- ii. Timber Stand Improvement Project

Megan introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Jon. On roll call vote: Russ aye, Megan aye, Jon aye, John Aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR SITE PREPARATION, PLANTING, AND WEED CONTROL PROJECT; AND TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT EBY'S MILL AND NORTH FORK WILDLANDS WILDLIFE AREAS

WHEREAS, the Conservation Board, hereafter referred to as "the Board", believes the Woodland Management Projects at Eby's Mill Wildlife Area, hereafter referred to as "the project" are in the interest of Jones County, Iowa and the residents thereof; and

WHEREAS, funds for the project are available from grants and county trust fund, and

WHEREAS, the Board will conduct a public hearing at the time and location as follows:

October 12, 2026, at 6:40 pm

Jones County Conservation Nature Center

12515 Central Park Road

Center Junction IA 52212

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Conservation Board of Jones County, Iowa, that we declare support for and endorsement for said project. Any persons interested may appear and file objections to the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract, or cost of such improvement.

Review of a Wildlife Habitat Stamp Fund Cooperative Grant Agreement for \$120,000 to Go Toward the Purchase of the 180-Acre Hale Wildlife Area North Addition. Russ made a motion to approve the Wildlife Habitat Stamp Fund Cooperative Grant Agreement for \$120,000 to go toward the purchase of the 180-acre Hale Wildlife Area North Addition. Seconded by Megan. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Tire Replacement for the 2016 RAM 1500 and Chevy Traverse Bid Review. Megan made a motion to approve the bid from M Town Tire & Auto for the tire replacement of the 2016 RAM 1500 for \$1220 and Chevy Traverse for \$1160. Seconded by Russ. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Seasonal Employee Hiring. Megan made a motion to approve hiring seasonal employee Noah Lindauer with start date of September 28th with \$16.32/hr. Seconded by Jon. 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 the history of the Grant Trail land purchases and sales; skid loader, bush hog and 35A tractor repairs; and waterline repair at the Shop/Maintenance areas.

Adjournment: Russ moved to adjourn. Seconded by Megan. All ayes. John adjourned the meeting at 7:23 pm. The next meeting is planned for October 12, at 6:30 pm at Central Park.