

## **Ida County Conservation Board (ICCB): Meeting Minutes**

**299 Jasper Ave., Ida Grove, IA, 51445**

Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

6:00pm, Conservation Center, Moorhead Park

**Board Members Present:** Synda Jepsen, chair; Sue Knop, Dennis Leonard, and Don Poggensee.

**Others Present:** Zach Hall, Director

The December 11<sup>th</sup> ICCB business meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by Synda Jepsen.

### **Primary Agenda Topics:**

- **ICCB agenda:** A motion to pass the agenda was made by Dennis and seconded by Sue, all were in favor.
- **Minutes:** A motion to approve the November 9<sup>th</sup> minutes was made by Sue, seconded by Don, all were in favor.
- **Monthly Bills:** ICCB discussed expenses for shower house plumbing, park barricades, and cameras. A motion to approve the bills was made by Don, seconded by Dennis, and all were in favor.
- **Budget:** Hall reported the YTD expenditures, revenue, UBI account balance, and monthly standings. FY24 December expenditures are on track with monthly budget predictions at 48.7% of ICCB's General Basic remaining, 8% ahead of last year's expenses. Equipment purchases this year account for the variance. Iowa's annual Resource Enhancement and Protection funding to ICCB totaled \$9,506, up approximately \$779 from last year's revenue.
- **Public Input:** Ida Grove Kiwanis fundraising donation certificate request was granted by Hall prior to ICCB meeting. Certificate approved by ICCB.

### **Secondary agenda topics:**

**ICCB update:** Staff performed natural resource management, administration, and educational programming, in line with department position responsibilities.

**Park Repairs:** The leak at the Depot was repaired over the past month. Recent vandalism occurred to our Friends of Tree planting sign in Moorehead Park. ICCB agreed to take the donor sign down permanently and replace it with a name plaque inside the conservation center.

**CCRA:** Ash trees in the Crawford Creek campground were selected for removal. Removing ash trees will help mitigate the potential spread of the emerald ash borer in the park. The upper campground's shower house plumbing was replaced after camping season.

**Natural Resource Management:** ICCB staff are performing early steps of Oak woodland and savanna restoration in Moorehead Park. Actions include sub-canopy thinning, invasive species removal, and prescribed burning. These practices will support native plant and wildlife populations, following the parks Forestry Management Plan.

**IA DNR Grants:** ICCB submitted a Fish Habitat Grant for shoreline armoring at Crawford Creek in November. Result of the application will be determined on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The ICCB Wildlife Habitat Stamp grant for the Smith Wildlife Habitat Area was finalized and closed out with the DNR in early December. Ida County is now the owners of the Rich Smith WHA.

**ICCB and Partners:** Project planning is starting to occur with local non-profits and ICCB.

**CIP Planning:** Capital Improvement Project lists are being reviewed for items to be added to the list.

**FY25 Planning:** For the next fiscal year, ICCB discussed updates to the CCRA lodge, equipment purchases, and trying to figure out a way to fund internet at CCRA. More budget planning will occur in January.

**Open Discussion:** Synda made a motion to change the January meeting date from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup>, maintaining the same time of 6:00pm. The motion was seconded by Sue, all were in favor.

After discussion, the ICCB meeting adjourned at 7:33pm. The next ICCB public meeting is **Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, at 6:00pm at the Conservation Center in Moorehead Park. ICCB meeting schedule and documents can be found at: <https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Ida/Content/Meetings.aspx>.