

**Black Hawk County Conservation Board  
Minutes**

The Black Hawk County Conservation Board met on Thursday, July 11, 2024, at 1346 West Airline Highway, Waterloo, IA and via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Terri Rogers, President, at 5:00 PM.

Roll call members present: Jenny Murphy, Jon McNamee, Terri Rogers & Adam Sacquitne.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

**Staff Present:**

Mike Hendrickson, Executive Director  
Cherrie Northrup, Planning Administrator  
Jim Weimer, Wildlife Conservationist II  
Al Finke, South Unit Ranger

Nikki Koelling, Office Manager  
Karl Kozak, North Unit Ranger  
Amy Davison, Nature Center Manager

**AGENDA**

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

**MINUTES**

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2024, board meeting. Motion Carried.

**BILLS**

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Murphy to approve the bills submitted. Motion Carried.

**VISITORS**

Heather Prendergast, Assistant County Attorney      Michelle, Weidner, BHC Finance Director

**VISITOR(S) CONCERNS:**

None.

**PUBLIC HEARING, CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL, DIVISION 2, PACKAGE 2, PAVING PROJECT**

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to open the public hearing for Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Division 2, Paving Project at 5:00 PM.

No oral or written comments were received.

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to close the public hearing at 5:01 PM. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING, MCFARLANE PARK SEPTIC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Murphy to open the public hearing for McFarlane Park Septic System Replacement Project at 5:01 PM.

No oral or written comments were received.

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Murphy to close the public hearing at 5:01 PM. Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTION – CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL DIVISION 1, PAVING – CHANGE ORDER #1 –**

*Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Sacquitne, seconded by McNamee to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board acknowledges and accepts Change Order #1, for the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Division 1, Paving contract with Bruening Rock Products, Inc. in the amount of \$7,533.00 to address drainage and erosion issues on the west end of the Spring Creek Bridge on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail and adds steel plates at the bridge deck and approach joints on both ends of the bridge as approved by the Board of Supervisors. This change order increases the current contract with Bruening Rock Products, Inc. dated September 19, 2023, from \$1,831,919.31 to \$1,839,452.31.

AYES: Sacquitne, Rogers, Murphy, McNamee.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION – CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL DIVISION 2, PACKAGE 2, PAVING BIDS –**

*Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the LOWEST REASONABLE BID submitted by Aspro, Inc. of Waterloo, IA, in the amount of \$648,119.15 and utilizing American Rescue Plan funding to install a 2” asphalt overlay on a section of the Cedar Valley Nature Trail from south of the Evansdale Bridge to Weiden Road, an intersection crossings at Weiden Road, and the section of trail from Spruce Street in La Porte City to King Road – less the ¼ mile concrete section that was previously reconstructed subject to a clear exclusion search on sam.gov. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same and award contract to Aspro, Inc. following a clear sam.gov exclusion search.

AYES: McNamee, Murphy, Rogers, Sacquitne.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION – CEDAR VALLEY NATURE TRAIL ENGINEERING, AMENDMENT #9 –** *Cherrie*

*Northrup*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves amending the Professional Services Contract with Origin Design of Dubuque, IA, for the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, Division 2, Package 2, Paving project for Black Hawk County and utilizing American Rescue Plan funds for Construction Services to include construction administration and observation for this phase of the project subject to a clear exclusion sam.gov search of the apparent low bidder. Contract amendment #9 for Construction Services for this phase of the project is a Not to Exceed amount of \$87,000.00 for said services. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same subject to award of contract for Construction for Division 2, Package 2, Paving.

AYES: Murphy, Sacquitne, McNamee, Rogers.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION – MCFARLANE PARK SEPTIC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT BIDS** – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Sacquitne to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board accepts and approves the LOWEST REASONABLE BID submitted by Sedenka Excavating & Habitat, LLC of Lisbon, IA, in the amount of \$59,997.50 and utilizing American Rescue Plan funding for the purposes of replacing the aging septic system at McFarlane Park with one that is up to code and designed to handle larger crowds and larger camping units. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same and award contact to the above listed.

AYES: Rogers, Murphy, McNamee, Sacquitne.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION – MCFARLANE PARK SEPTIC SYSTEM ENGINEERING, AMENDMENT #2** –

*Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Murphy to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves amending the Professional Services Contract with IMEG Engineers of Rock Island, IL, for the McFarlane Park Septic System Replacement project for Black Hawk County and utilizing American Rescue Plan funds for Construction Services to include construction administration and observation. Contract amendment #2 for Construction Services for this project is a Not to Exceed amount of \$7,000 for said services. Furthermore, the Black Hawk County Conservation Board recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the same.

AYES: McNamee, Rogers, Sacquitne, Murphy.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION – BEAVER VALLEY WETLAND PIER PROJECT, SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT #1** – *Cherrie Northrup*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Sacquitne to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves amending the Professional Services Contract with AECOM of Waterloo, IA, for the Beaver Valley Wetland Pier project to include Final Design, Bidding and Construction Administration/observation Services. Supplemental Agreement #1 for said Services is a Not to Exceed amount of \$22,900.00.

AYES: Sacquitne, Rogers, McNamee, Murphy.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION – APPROVAL OF ACCESS EASEMENT** – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Sacquitne to move the following resolution: Black Hawk County Conservation Board approves and authorizes the granting of a 40' x 70' access easement to Strayer Family Farms 1, LLC along the Black Hawk Creek Greenbelt for the sole purpose of ingress and egress to and from the Strayer Family Farms 1, LLC property.

AYES: McNamee, Murphy, Rogers, Sacquitne.

NAYS: None.

Resolution adopted.

**SPLIT DECK TRAILER BIDS** – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by Murphy, seconded by McNamee to approve the bid of \$13,500.00 from Black Hawk Rental for a split deck trailer. Motion Carried.

**MOWER BIDS** – *Mike Hendrickson*

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Murphy to approve the bid of \$10,552.00 from The Sled Shed for a commercial mower. Motion Carried.

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT** – *Jim Weimer*

Staff is done with seeding for the year & have been busy with prairie management. Staff showed the Board a picture of the new tractor w/wing attachment. Staff will be transitioning to forest management projects within Black Hawk Park & Black Hawk Creek Greenbelt.

**UNIT RANGER REPORTS** – *Al Finke/Karl Kozak*

**North Unit:**

Black Hawk Park & Siggelkow Park are currently closed due to flooding. Staff plans on reopening both parks next week. Staff have been busy with mowing, cabin turnovers & park maintenance.

**South Unit:**

Staff have been busy with mowing & park maintenance. Staff hauled rock for the road at Cedar River Natural Resource Area. The Outdoor Journey for Girls program begins next week. The Casey Lake Restoration Project is going well.

**NATURE CENTER REPORT** – *Amy Davison*

Staff will begin interviewing for the vacant Naturalist I position next week. Staff is half-way through summer camps; attendance has been fantastic. Staff along with CrawDaddy Outdoors & the Walleye Club will be hosting an event for veterans & current military families at Big Woods on August 18th.

**DIRECTORS REPORT** – *Mike Hendrickson*

The Cedar Valley Nature Trail projects are moving along as expected; approximately 4.8 miles of paving are done. All of the recent rains have caused some delays with the Casey Lake Restoration Project. A written report was submitted.

**ANY REPORTS OR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD**

None.

Motion by McNamee, seconded by Sacquitne to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Adjourned 5:36 PM.

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NICHOLE KOELLING

DATE