

**Dallas County Conservation Board  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
March 8, 2016**

**Call to Order**

The Dallas County Conservation Board meeting was called to order on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Forest Park Museum Administration Building in Perry, Iowa by board vice chair Nancy DeLong.

**Roll Call**

Present were board members Nancy DeLong, Lorinda Inman, and Jim Miller. Glenn Vondra joined the meeting via teleconference. Director Mike Wallace and administrative assistant Sherry James were also in attendance. Mark Powell, board member, was absent.

**Guests**

Jim Caufield, ThePerryNews, was present.

**Agenda**

Action: Lorinda Inman moved and Glenn Vondra seconded to approve the agenda as presented. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

**Open Forum**

Jim Caufield asked if the county supervisors had made a final decision on budgeting the \$400,000 with a one-time allotment versus \$100,000 for four years for the connector project. Director Wallace confirmed that was the last he had been told and it should be confirmed following this evening’s public hearing.

**Consent Agenda**

Action: Jim Miller moved and Lorinda Inman seconded to approve the consent agenda items including the February income/expenditure report and the monthly staff reports. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

**February 9, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Action: A motion was made by Jim Miller and seconded by Lorinda Inman to approve the February 9, 2016 board meeting minutes as written. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

**Vehicle Purchases** – Director Wallace reported the department had budgeted to replace three vehicles plus purchase an additional vehicle. He reported that he sent requests to 15 dealers and received several quotes for the board’s consideration.

Action: Lorinda Inman moved and Jim Miller seconded to purchase the following vehicles: an Equinox for \$18,986, including an Escape trade-in, from Bob Brown Chevrolet; Ram 1500 4 X 2 pickup, including a pickup trade-in, from Stew Hanson Dodge for \$17,430; a GMC Sierra 4 X 4 pickup, including a 4 X 4 pickup trade-in, from Bob Brown GMC for \$16,310; and a Equinox purchase from Karl Chevrolet for \$22,303.53. The following members voted “aye”, DeLong, Miller and Inman. Vondra did not vote. Motion carried.

**Buffalo PTO Blower Purchase** – Director Wallace reviewed a quote from Van Wall Equipment for a Buffalo PTO Blower to be installed on the new tractor. This will allow mowing and blowing off of the trail at the same time.

**Action:** Lorinda Inman moved and Glenn Vondra seconded to approve the purchase of the Buffalo PTO Blower from Van Wall Equipment for a purchase price of \$4,150. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

**Dallas County Foundation Grant Application** – Director Wallace reminded the Board that the Dallas County Foundation had pledged last year to award three consecutive years towards the connector project. The Dallas County Foundation Grant Committee requested the Conservation Board reapply this year for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their pledge.

**Action:** Lorinda Inman moved and Jim Miller seconded to approve the grant request to the Dallas County Foundation as presented. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

**Farm Rent Areas** – Director Wallace reported on two tenants that did not wish to sign the farm rent agreements for three years. After contacting other Dallas County farm tenants, Director Wallace went back to the original tenants for further discussion. One tenant was willing to sign the agreement as priced for one year. The other tenant offered a lesser price per acre for one year.

**Action:** Jim Miller moved and Lorinda Inman seconded to approve the farm rent agreement for 29 acres at \$194/acre for one year. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

**Action:** Jim Miller moved and Lorinda Inman seconded to approve the farm rent agreement for 88 acres at \$150/acre for one year. All members present voted “aye”, motion carried.

**ISU Trail Survey Economic Impact Project** – Director Wallace reported he joined a committee of Bob German, Jim Miller, Randy Jensen to meet with the ISU base team that will be conducting the Trail Survey Economic Impact Project. A distribution list of e-mails of trail permit holders was sent to them to begin their process.

**RRVT Paved Crossings Project** – Director Wallace reported that Rich Voelker, Snyder and Associates, was preparing the bid letting for three trail crossings for this spring, with an alternate to add the additional crossings if the bids were low enough to include.

**USDA Grant for RRVT to HTT Project** – Director Wallace reported that the City of Perry will wait a year to apply for this new grant.

**RRVT to HTT Connector Project** – Director Wallace reported that he met with a couple of property owners regarding the connector project and is awaiting their responses.

**Budget** – Director Wallace reported the county’s public hearing is being held tonight. The Supervisors accepted the Conservation Board’s request as submitted.

**Other Business**

Director Wallace reported a land owner has contacted the office regarding an easement for crossing the trail. This will include removing the trail concrete and pouring 8" thick for the heavy farm equipment. The land owner will be responsible for the construction costs.

Lorinda Inman reported that the bridge near the Subway in Adel has been removed. Director Wallace reported the City of Adel staff removed the bridge and it will be monitored for erosion.

Director Wallace reported that the trail committee in Adel has scheduled some clean ups along the trail within the city limits.

Lorinda Inman asked if the department is doing any educational programs regarding the Monarch programs of the I-35 corridor. Director Wallace reported that the naturalists do several programs for the Monarch education within the county.

Director Wallace reported that the newer naturalist, Mike Havlik, has held several birding programs and had great success with attendance and the programs.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss at this time, Jim Miller moved and Lorinda Inman seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Powell, Chairperson

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Date

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Sherry James, DCCB Staff

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date