



Floyd  
County  
Conservation

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**Floyd County  
Conservation Board  
Director**

*Adam Sears*

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*Dirk Uetz,  
Charles City*

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Rockford*

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*Ann Schneckloth,  
Charles City*

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Charles City*

*Beverly Fisher  
Marble Rock*

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**Preserving**

*our  
natural  
history*

**ensuring**

*the  
future*

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**Minutes of the Floyd County Conservation Board August 7, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by President Dirk Uetz at the Fossil Prairie Center in Rockford. Present were Board Members: Dirk Uetz, Joel Cannon, Cala McGregor, Beverly Fisher, and Ann Schneckloth. Also present were Director Adam Sears, Resident Ranger Tyler Walters, and Fred Greder from Benchmark Agribusiness. Joel made a motion to accept the Consent agenda, Beverly seconded, and it was approved. Joel then recommended that the Old Business be moved on the meeting agenda so that Fred could address the Board and then go. Beverly made a motion to change the agenda, Joel seconded, and it was approved as amended.

There was no Fossil/Prairie foundation report because they have not had a meeting.

The Cabin committee report was deferred to New Business.

Old Business: Fred Greder addressed the Board about the Ed Harris property that has been discussed at other meetings. He handed out packets that described the property with new divisions about portions that were for sale. Hildebrand Realty has 10 acres with the house as a separate listing. There are 7 acres in a CRP plot and a pond. There are 43.9 acres that are next to the Fossil Prairie Park and the walking trail. Fred has talked with Ross, a representative from the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation about a purchase with the Fossil Prairie Park in mind as the eventual purchaser. Fred said that the purchase price for the approximate 44 acres is \$185,000, but there is room for negotiations. He would like to have some idea of sale by the end of 2018, as the Harris's want to move to Texas. Fred left the meeting, and then there was discussion. The best possible funding would be a REAP grant, and the soonest it could be applied for would be August of 2019. We would know by May if the land is still for sale to begin the grant writing process. Ann moved that we wait one year and apply for the REAP grant. Joel seconded, and it carried.

Adam gave the Directors report. The July 14th JT Run was a success with 350 to 400 people attending. The staff has done a great job of cleaning up the storm damage at the loop by the Kilns. The root balls and tree debris are cleaned up and then 40 more trees can be planted this fall. Young Construction will soon be repairing the FP Center roof and we are waiting for the Pella Window company to submit their estimate. The roof, soffit, and facias need to be replaced. The Recreation part of Tosanak Recreation area is near completion. The bean bag boards are usable and the lighting is done, and the basketball area is done. Tyler has been using the new boomless sprayer on the Polaris Ranger. It can spray 16 feet on each side. Adam has been working with Charles City officials on the Charley Western Trail bridge replacement. He is the REAP coordinator for the project. The Cedar Hills Wildlife Area is a good nesting cover and bedding area for deer. He decided to decline the placing of trees there because it would involve sharing money with an operator and the trees are not needed. He reported that there are 80 goats employed this summer, 50 at Winterink Woods, and 30 at TRA. They may move all the goats to TRA because they have covered the entire park at Winterink Woods. The Nagle Wildlife Area is being converted to prairie. There are 30 acres with many gaps of brome grass. Mike Dow will be doing farming for 3 years, removing the grass and brush. Then it will be suitable to plant prairie. The Cedar Hills area has been cleaned at the entrance with brush removal. A scrap metal bin is already filled with debris from fences, etc. A grant has been applied for, the Beth Reinhardt grant, to put up new playground equipment at Ackley Creek. It would be more spacious and be like the one at TRA. There was good publicity for the cabin committee in the Marble Rock Fun Days parade. The staff has been using their vacation times this summer.

New Business: Joel reported that this marks 11 months of fund raising for the Cabin Project at Tosanak Recreation Area. There is currently \$68,000 in the fund. He asked that the Conservation Board fulfill a commitment to give money to the Cabin Fund. There is some extra money in the capital projects that were budgeted before the storm damage and insurance payments. It is a good time to give, and it may encourage the FP Foundation to also pledge some funds. After discussion, Beverly moved to give \$20,000, Ann seconded, and it passed. Cleone King has done research on building a usable canoe launch at the Floyd Bridge. She asked that the Conservation Board approve her application for a water/recreation access cost share grant to approach the Iowa DOT. We will have to provide 25% of funding for the cost share. Cala made a motion to give permission, Joel seconded, and it was approved. Adam brought up the wage adjustment idea to give the Office Assistant a raise. Amy has been a strong team player and is good at grant writing. She did not get hired full time because the Supervisors had put a freeze on hiring. She is currently working for \$12.66 an hour. Joel made a motion to change the salary to \$14 an hour with the available money. Beverly seconded, and the motion carried.

The next meeting will be September 4th at the Fossil Prairie Center at 5:00 pm. Adam reminded everyone that the Tour of Parks will be October 6th. Joel made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

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Dirk Uetz, President

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Ann Schneckloth, Secretary