



# Chickasaw County Conservation Board

## TWIN PONDS NATURE CENTER

1811 240th Street, Ionia, IA 50645

Chad Humpal, Director

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The Chickasaw County Conservation Board held its regular monthly meeting on September 3, 2024, at the Twin Ponds Nature Center. Members present: Jim Allison, Ray Armbrecht, Lori Carey, JoAnne Myrsiades, Mike Pickar and Director Chad Humpal. Employees present: Caleb Ciavarelli, Justin Van Driel, Matt Crayne. Guests: None.

Armbrecht called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Agenda:** Armbrecht asked for approval of the September 3, 2024, agenda.

**Motion:** Pickar/Myrsiades

To approve the September 3, 2024, agenda. (Carried unanimously)

**Minutes:** Armbrecht asked for approval of the minutes of the August 1, 2024, Board meeting.

**Motion:** Carey/Allison

To approve the minutes of the August 1, 2024, Board meeting as presented. (Carried unanimously)

**Claims:** Claims for \$7,340.76 to be paid and claims in the amount of \$7,005.63 that were invoiced on August 14, 2024 were presented for review.

**Motion:** Carey/Myrsiades

To approve claims for the amount of \$7,340.76 and \$7,005.63. (Carried unanimously)

### **Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Proposal**

Looked at FY25 budget.

### **Update on TIF**

**Motion:** Allison/Carey

To proceed with \$750,000 in TIF dollars to replace the blighted building at the old landfill. (Carried 4 – 1 Armbrecht voting no)

### **TPNC Pavilion/shelter Update**

**Twin Ponds Timber Management Plan**

Matt Crayne and Mason Hubrig have been working on a timber management plan for Twin Ponds. Two areas have been identified. Plan is to mark trees this fall and look to harvest in the next couple winters.

**AED**

Old AED has been updated and is now in working condition. Where do we want to install it? Director is going to talk to Airport Lake camp host to see if we can store it with her.

**Discuss if we want to pursue any land acquisitions**

Two potential land acquisitions were presented to the board. Consensus from the board that director is to continue to with potential acquisitions.

**IRVM Grant**

Caleb was awarded \$15,000 for the purchase of a forestry head. Consensus from the board to proceed with purchase of forestry head.

**Change Date of next meeting**

Consensus from the board to move the October meeting from the 7<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

**DISCUSS CONTINUING PROJECTS AND DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

**Discuss Future agenda Items**

Director informed the board that the intergovernmental Agreement from 1988 on the Cedar Lake Dam, has been brought back up. Board is asked to review agreement and be ready to take action at our next meeting

**Crayne Report**

Cleaned NC; fed animals and filled feeders; radio interview; library program; homes programs; Hunter Ed; cleaned up from Hunter ED; picked up supplies from town; picked up trash in parks; worked on removal of invasives TP; Rotary program; floated the upper Iowa; Halloween Hike meetings; Habitat work TP; walked timber with foresters; worked on Fall Conference float.

**Ciavarelli Report**

Mowed parks; Dumped garbage and cleaned fire rings; serviced mowers and sharpened blades; Weekend duty; sprayed brush Wildlife areas; mowed firebreaks; planted food plots; Hunter Ed; cut branches in wildlife areas; tilled and graded dirt and gravel around shelter; counted camping money; District 2 meeting; mowed native planting K-Feld

**Van Driel Report**

Mowed parks; Dumped garbage and cleaned fire rings; Sprayed parks; Mowed brush; sprayed brush wildlife areas; Weekend duty; box scraped roads; cut trees HW; planted food plots; Hunter Ed; brush mowed Chick; graded gravel around shelter; trimmed trees AL and SR; District 2 meeting

**Meetings this month**

Chad - Wapsi Watershed Sampling – September 16, 2024  
-TIF – September 4, 2024  
- BOS - September 9, 2024  
- Department Head & Safety meeting - September 9, 2024

Matt, Chad - Hunter Ed – September 5 & 7, 2024

ALL – Fall Conference – September 17 - 19, 2024

**Adjournment:** Armbrecht asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Motion:** Allison/Pickar

To adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. (Carried unanimously)

*Chad Humpal  
Director  
Chickasaw County Conservation Board*

*Mission Statement: The Mission of Chickasaw County Conservation is to enhance, promote, protect, preserve and reclaim Chickasaw County natural resources for the benefit, enjoyment & education of all Chickasaw County residents and visitors.*