



MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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June 15, 2026
Regular Meeting

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Muscatine County Conservation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, June 15, 2026 at the Environmental Learning Center. Chairperson Mike Schulte called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

Members present: Mike Schulte, Jeff Snyder, & Sherry Seright.

Members absent: Karen Hartman and Julie Jindrich.

Also present: Katie Hammond, Eric Furnas, Lori Dietrich, and Jessica Gafeller.

Meeting Minutes - Jeff Snyder made a motion to approve May 18, 2026, meeting minutes, Sherry seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Public Participation - Jessica Gafeller presented the Board with a request to have a boat dock and bench installed at the Lake Jewell boat landing in memorial to her son. No action was taken, but the Board was in favor of her accepting memorial gifts for this purpose.

Discussion and decision on Special Events applications

Two Special Events permit applications were discussed by the Board. The Nepali Society on July 11th, 2026, at the Discovery Park large shelter, which includes grilling for a picnic and music, and Alzheimer's Walk, October 23rd & 24th, 2026, renting the large shelter in Discovery Park for 1 day and renting the classroom for two days to allow set up and storage for event items. Registered participants walk a path through Discovery Park. Jeff Snyder made a motion to approve both Special Event Permits, contingent on staff contacting The Nepali Society to let them know we do not want them washing dishes in the shelter area or grassy areas due to the soapy water and food waste that will be left on the ground. Hammond will contact the group and discuss options. Sherry Seright seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none

Discussion and action on Change Order #004 for the Deep Lakes Maintenance Shop electronic deadbolts for 2 walk-in doors. Katie Hammond requested approval for the purchase of two industrial/commercial keyless entry door locks for the new maintenance building for a total of \$975.00. Sherry Seright made a motion to approve, Jeff Snyder seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Discussion and possible action on installing lights and sirens in the new 2026 Ford F-150 patrol vehicle. Katie Hammond informed the Board that quotes have been requested, but none have been received yet, for the lights and sirens on the new 2026 Ford F-150. The Board stated that if money was budgeted for the project, there was no need for Board approval and budgeted funds can be used.

Discussion and potential decision on grant writing and large projects. - Katie Hammond reported on a meeting with the Community Foundation and the possibility of using Community Foundation grant writers for another large CAT grant, possibly to use for Phase II of the cabins and campgrounds and grants for other projects.

Update on Projects - Katie Hammond gave updates on projects. At Deep Lakes the Maintenance Shop remodel is moving along. The cracks have been sealed on the walls and floor drains were put in at the shop. Deep Lakes Campground has been busy, and things are running smoothly so far. The Septic alarm system is working as it should. Plans for MOTUS are in the works and should be minimal costs to get the program up and running. The Osprey Nest Platform plans are also moving along. The plan is to place one pole and nesting platform near Lake Chester and one by Lake Ivy at Deep Lakes Park.

Environmental Education Report.

Katie Hammond gave the Environmental Education report. 1754 kids, 522 adults for a total of 2276 people served during 135 programs since the last meeting. School field trips ended on June 4th. The Andy Hartsock Memorial Fishing Clinic & Derby was held with a great turnout. River Boat tour stops have begun at the Environmental Learning Center. Summer Nature Camps have begun. Big Sand Mound Day was held June 13 with 240 participants.

Operations report

Katie Hammond gave the operations report as prepared by Kent Kauffman. At Deep Lakes, the beach was cleaned and open for the season. More trees were planted by the cabins and campground. The Disc Golf Course construction is moving forward. At Saulsbury, more trees were planted and the campground camping pads were sprayed. In Discovery Park, weeds have been sprayed around the trees and parking areas. Landscaping was done around the mushroom carving. Prairie plugs were put in. Repairs of the Heron Hideaway Pond fishing dock are being done. A toilet was replaced in the restroom by Shelter #1.

Other items from the Director

Katie Hammond informed the Board that Trenton Rogers emailed her about using County property to start up a hunting dog training business. Board members agreed that he would need to look elsewhere for property for his business plans. The new truck for Ryne has arrived and the proper equipment will be installed soon.

Items from the Board – None.

Claims - Sherry Seright made a motion to approve all claims in the amount of \$66,082.91. Jeff Snyder seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Adjournment - Chairperson, Mike Schulte adjourned the meeting at 7:28 P.M.