



MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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July 20 2026
Regular Meeting

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Muscatine County Conservation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, July 20, 2026 at the Environmental Learning Center. Chairperson Mike Schulte called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Members present: Mike Schulte, Jeff Snyder, Karen Hartman, Julie Jindrich & Sherry Seright.

Members absent: None

Also present: Katie Hammond, Eric Furnas, Lori Dietrich and Scott Sauer.

Meeting Minutes

Julie Jindrich made a motion to approve June 15, 2026, meeting minutes, Jeff Snyder seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Julie Jindrich, Karen Hartman, Sherry Seright, and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Public Participation – None.

Discussion and decision on Special Events applications.

One Special Events permit application was discussed by the Board. The Muscatine Community Block Party, to be held on Friday, September 18th in Discovery Park from 5-7 PM. A free, public event with approximately 30 local non-profit organizations that will have booths. MCCB staff will have a booth at the event as well. Karen Hartman made a motion to approve the Special Events permit. Sherry Seright seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Julie Jindrich, Karen Hartman, Sherry Seright, and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Discussion and possible action on a refund for an online reservation.

Anna Crock (also known as Anna Cantu) rented Deep Lakes Park campsite #1 for two weeks for her brother and thought she was renting a cabin. The Board reviewed an email request and discussed giving a refund. Julie Jindrich made a motion to approve a refund of \$480.00 to Anna Cantu. Jeff Snyder seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Julie Jindrich, Karen Hartman, Sherry Seright, and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Discussion and possible action on accepting sealed bids from surplus items.

Only one sealed bid for the 1989 Ford E 350 Bus was received. No bids were received for the dishwasher and gas stove. The sealed bid was opened and read as a bid of \$650.00 from Clayton McConnaha. Karen Hartman made a motion to approve the bid of \$650.00 from Clayton McConnaha for the 1989 Ford E 350 Bus. Jeff Snyder seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Julie Jindrich, Karen Hartman, Sherry Seright, and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Affirm Deep Lakes Park Maintenance Shop Change Order for additional 2X4's for attaching roof sheeting.

Eric Furnas explained that some of the boards in the rafters of the shop under the metal had to be replaced. Katie Hammond and Eric Furnas approved Change Order #05, to purchase 2X4's, not to exceed \$3,500.00. Sherry Seright made a motion to affirm Change Order #05, that was approved by Hammond and Furnas. Karen Hartman seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Julie Jindrich, Karen Hartman, Sherry Seright, and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Update on Projects.

Katie Hammond gave project updates. The Deep Lakes Park Maintenance building renovation is moving along. There is an open insurance claim for the Deep Lakes Park cabin area, because of a lightning strike that caused meter damage and also caused a failure in the well and septic system for the cabins, which in turn called for repairs. Deep Lakes Campground is still doing well. The MOTUS agreement is ready to sign, with REC donating poles and MPW installing them. The Osprey Nest platforms for Deep Lakes are being made by staff.

Environmental Education Report.

Katie Hammond gave the Environmental Education report as written by Michelle Berns. Programs numbers include 13,918 kids, 4,364 kids for a total of 18,282 people served during 902 programs since the last regular meeting. Twilight Paddle is coming Up July 25 at 7:30 PM and a water program at the Deep Lakes campground on August 11 at 6:30 PM.

Operations report

Katie Hammond gave the operations report as prepared by Kent Kauffman. At Saulsbury, ballasts in the Lodge lights were replaced. The old AC unit was replaced at the Lodge and new trim was installed. The outdoor light at the shower house was replaced. A large tree that fell at the Saulsbury campground entrance was removed and trails are being mowed. At Deep Lakes Park the Disc Golf area was sprayed, there is one more pad to add and the signage is coming soon. Triathlon prep work is being done. The donated dock was installed at Jewell Lake.

Other items from the Director

Katie Hammond presented a proposal to change the cancellation fees for reservation of cabins and campsites because of recent multiple requests to cancel or change dates and requests for refunds. After visiting with staff, she proposed 30 days out or more, a coupon will be issued for the full amount paid minus the \$4 MCP fee. 15-29 days out a \$10 cancellation fee per night will be assessed, minus the \$4 MCP fee and a coupon will be issued for the remainder. Cancellations less than 15 days will not receive a coupon or refund. Sherry Seright asked that the Board gives directions to change the cancellation fees to the proposed amounts as stated by the director.

Katie Hammond and Eric Furnas met with the Old Barn board members. A new agreement will be drawn up for the Barn that will require approval from the Conservation Board before any improvements or events are held, as the old agreement was outdated.

A proposal from the Pilot Club was given by Katie Hammond to purchase and install exercise equipment stations in the Discovery Park. The Board suggested the idea of exercise stations might be a better fit for city parks.

Katie Hammond also informed the Board that the NAWCA Grant was not successful.

Items from the Board – Julie Jindrich had family from out of town this past month and they visited the Environmental Learning Center and Deep Lakes Park. Julie commended staff on the cleanliness and overall

experience that her family enjoyed. Eric Furnas commended Luke Hart on a job well done while he gave a tour of the ELC and live animals to his guests from Switzerland.

Claims

Sherry Seright made a motion to approve all claims in the amount of \$22,901.33. Karen Hartman seconded. Voting aye: Mike Schulte, Sherry Seright, Karen Hartman, Julie Jindrich and Jeff Snyder. Voting nay: none.

Adjournment

Chairperson, Mike Schulte adjourned the meeting at 7:31 P.M.

Katie Hammond, Director – Muscatine County Conservation