MINUTES

OF THE

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION

MEETING

SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

HELD AT:

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HENRY WALLACE STATE OFFICE BUILDING
502 EAST 9TH STREET
DES MOINES, IA 50319

For Office Use Only

Date Minutes Approved By NRC: 10/18/11

Director's Signature: Roger L. Lande

Roger L. Lande
Director

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NRC MINUTES

Sender's initials: KR

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Call to Order 5

Commissioners Present 5

Commissioners Absent 5

1. Approval of Agenda with Proposed Consent Agenda Items 5
   CARRIED AS PRESENTED 5

2. Approve Minutes from 08/11/11 NRC Public Meeting 5
   CARRIED AS AMENDED 5

3. Director Remarks 5

4. Honey Creek Resort State Park – Monthly Update 6

5. Public Participation 6

6. Appeals of Contested Case Decisions on Residency Determination: Donald Jones, Joseph W. Democko, James Samis, Mark Rutledge 6
   CARRIED AS PRESENTED 7

7. Contract with Lake Delhi Combined Recreational Facility and Water Quality District for a Preconstruction Dam Restoration Study 7
   CARRIED AS PRESENTED 8

8. FY13 Budget Request 8
   CARRIED AS PRESENTED 9

9. Construction Projects Contract Approval 9

9.1 Waller Wetland Restoration Project-Woodbury County 9
   CARRIED AS PRESENTED 10

9.2 Dunbar Slough WMA – Structures Modifications, Greene County 10
   CARRIED AS PRESENTED 10

9.3 George Wyth State Park – FEMA Repairs At Beach, Black Hawk County 10
   CARRIED AS PRESENTED 11

9.4 Lake Ahquabi State Park – Shoreline Armoring, Warren County 11
   CARRIED AS PRESENTED 12

9.5 Thu Wetland Restoration Project Dewey's Pasture Wetland Complex, Palo Alto County 12
   CARRIED AS PRESENTED 13

9.6 Honey Creek Resort - Desjardins Renewable Energy Project – Photovoltaic & Wind, Appanoose County 13
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 14

9.7 Lake Darling State Park – Mechanical Dredging, Washington County 14
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 15

9.8 Mini Wakan State Park, Dickinson County – Historic Lodge Restoration Change Order 15
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 17

9.9 Green Island Wildlife Unit HQ - New Storage Building (Change Order #1) - Jackson County 17
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 17

10. Small Construction Project Contracts 17
INFORMATIONAL 18

11. Land Acquisition Projects 18

11.1 Fish Farm Mounds Wildlife Management Area – Allamakee Co. – INHF 18
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 18

11.2 Big Marsh WMA - Butler Co./ Parker 18
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 19

11.3 Turtle Bend WMA - Louisa Co. / U of I 19
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 19

11.4 Sand Creek WMA - Decatur Co. / Foland 19
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 20

*11.5 Virgin Lake - Palo Alto Co. / Janssen 20
CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA 20

12. Land Management Projects 20

12.1 Mississippi River – Chapter 18 Lease – Blackhawk Fleet, Inc. 20
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 21

*12.2 McCausland Boat Access – Clinton County– Clinton County Engineer 21
CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA 21

12.3 Farm Management Contract – NW Wildlife District 21
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 22

12.4 Farm Management Contract – Stephens State Forest 22
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 22

12.5 Farm Management Contract – Yellow River Forest 22

CARRIED AS PRESENTED 23

13. FY2011 Water Trails Program Grants 23
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 24

14. Iowa State Parks Design Guide 24
INFORMATIONAL 24

*15 Contract with Iowa State University Forestry Extension for the Design, Production and Printing of Wildland and Prescribed Fire Publications and Videos 24
CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA 25

*16. Hardwood Timber Sale Yellow River State Forest ($53,718) 25
CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA 26

*17. Hardwood Timber Sale Yellow River State Forest ($54,040) 26
CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA 27

18. Donations 27
CARRIED AS PRESENTED 28

19. General Discussion 28

Adjournment 28
CARRIED – MEETING ADJOURNED 28

Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates: 28

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission was called to order by the NRC Chairperson, Gregory Drees on 09/08/11 at 9:30a.m. He then welcomed the public to the meeting and reviewed the public speaking forum guidelines.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Conrad Clement
Gregory Drees, Chairperson
Richard (Kim) Francisco
Dr. Sally Prickett - participated by phone
Janelle Rettig
Dennis Schemmel, Secretary
Margo Underwood, Vice-Chairperson

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA WITH PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

*11.5 Virgin Lake - Palo Alto Co. / Janssen
*12.2 McCausland Boat Access-Clinton Cty-Clinton County Engineer
*15 Contract with Iowa State University Forestry Extension
*16 Hardwood Timber Sale Yellow River State Forest ($53,718)
*17 Hardwood Timber Sale Yellow River State Forest ($54,040)

Motion – Commissioner Francisco
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

2. APPROVE MINUTES FROM 08/11/11 NRC PUBLIC MEETING

Motion – Commissioner Underwood
Seconded – Commissioner Francisco
Discussion – Commissioner Rettig requested items 6.1, 6.2, and 6.7 be referred to as removed from the agenda instead of carried as presented, and also requested more detail in the discussion text. Commissioners Francisco and Underwood submitted general edits to Karen Fynaardt.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

3. DIRECTOR REMARKS

- Provided brief history of REAP and informed of upcoming REAP Assembly meetings.
- Commented that today's item 6 may raise Constitutional issues and the role before the NRC is not to be a determiner of Constitutional issues but to vote on the ruling of the Administrative Law Judge.

4. HONEY CREEK RESORT STATE PARK – MONTHLY UPDATE

- Asset Manager Geoff Baekey, Capital Hotel Management, Andy Woodrick, HCR General Manager reviewed with the commission the HCR financials ending 07/31/11, as well as the 90 day forecast.

Discussion: Commissioner Francisco commented on his recent visit to HCR and the power lines did not seem to distract from the resort's appearance. Commissioner Underwood inquired on the status of the recycling program and its marketing, especially to the guests. HCR representatives responded that in mid August 1640 pounds of cardboard were recycled and will have a significant effect on cost for refuse removal. They are also collecting deposit cans, glass, and metal. Promotion is being done and bigger marketing is planned for when we receive LEED certification. Staff will evaluate current recycling promotion and how to expand the educational opportunities. Commissioner Rettig confirmed with HCR staff HCR did not make budget in August and anticipates making budget in September, October, and November. HCR representatives responded the resort's goal is to be net even with budget by the end of November. HCR representatives discussed marketing is being done outside of overnight packages and they are using tracking strategies (i.e. promotional codes) to determine which type of marketing is working best. Additional tracking strategies are being explored to determine the best return on marketing investment. Commissioner Drees suggested being aware of when school begins to change marketing strategies. Commissioner Underwood inquired on the status of the activities building. HCR representatives commented it is doing fine. Staff are in the building and guests are looking at it. Specific tour dates and times have been published.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Name	Representing / Subject
Chuck Becker, Atty	People opposing a gun range in Sioux County

6. APPEALS OF CONTESTED CASE DECISIONS ON RESIDENCY DETERMINATION: DONALD JONES, JOSEPH W. DEMOCKO, JAMES SAMIS, MARK RUTLEDGE

These matters come before the Iowa Natural Resource Commission on appeal of Decisions issued by Administrative Law Judges of the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals. Pursuant to rule 561 IAC 7.17(5), as adopted by reference at 571 IAC 7.1, a party may appeal the decision of the Administrative Law Judge to the Natural Resource Commission. In each of the Decisions before the Commission, the Administrative Law Judge has determined that the Appellant is not an Iowa resident for the purpose of the obtaining of hunting and fishing licenses pursuant to Chapter 483A of the Code of Iowa. The Commission is being presented with the Decision of the Administrative Law Judge, the Appeal, and the Trial Briefs of the parties. The entire record on appeal, including later obtained records submitted pursuant to a stipulation of the parties, is available for the review of the Commission. The record created in these contested cases shall be the record relied upon by the Commission in reaching its Decision, which constitutes final agency action. The parties shall be allowed oral arguments pursuant to rule 561 IAC 7.17(5) "f".

Motion – Commissioner Clement motioned to affirm the finding of the Administrative Law Judge regarding all four appellants.
Seconded – Commissioner Francisco

Discussion – General Commissioner discussion with the presenting attorneys occurred regarding the 182/183 day guidelines the Administrative Law Judge used and the 90 day rule adopted by Iowa legislators, meaning of domicile under these guidelines, and the intent of the rule. The NRC options discussed were to confirm, amend, or overturn the Administrative Law Judge's ruling.

The NRC moved to go into closed session for the following reason pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(f): to discuss the decision to be rendered in a contested case conducted according to the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 17A.
Motion – Commissioner Rettig moved to go into closed session.
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

Motion – Commissioner Francisco moved to come out of closed session.
Seconded – Commissioner Schemmel
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

Motion and Seconded on the floor - Uphold the decision of the Administrative Law Judge regarding the four appellants.
Discussion – Commissioners Rettig and Prickett recommend legislators review code language for clarification.
Decision - Roll Call Vote:
Commissioner Prickett – aye
Commissioner Francisco – aye
Commissioner Clement -aye
Commissioner Rettig - nay
Commissioner Schemmel - nay
Commissioner Underwood - aye
Commissioner Drees - aye
Motion Approved.

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

7. CONTRACT WITH LAKE DELHI COMBINED RECREATIONAL FACILITY AND WATER QUALITY DISTRICT FOR A PRECONSTRUCTION DAM RESTORATION STUDY

Commission approval is requested for a twenty-one month contract with the Lake Delhi Combined Recreational Facility and Water Quality District incorporated as a public entity of the State of Iowa. The contract will begin on October 1, 2011 and terminate on June 30, 2013. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed $350,000. DNR shall have the option to renew this contract as long as this contract and any extensions do not exceed a six-year period. This contract will be funded through the Lakes Restoration Program established under Iowa Code Section 456A.33B. Funding for this project was appropriated during the 2011 legislative session per HF 648. "Of the amount appropriated in this lettered paragraph, $350,000 shall be allocated to a county with a population between seventeen thousand seven hundred and seventeen thousand eight hundred as determined by the 2010 federal census, for a lake with public access that has the support of a benefited lake district. The allocated moneys shall be used for purposes of completing a preconstruction dam restoration study that would include a geotechnical

evaluation, hydrological studies, restoration alternatives and construction specifications. The preconstruction dam study shall be filed with the general assembly upon completion." This project is not typical of our current lake restoration process; however it is well supported through past and current legislative direction. Legislative intent indicates that future funding shall be contingent upon receipt of the study by the general assembly. Lake Delhi Dam is located southwest of the city of Delhi, Iowa and forms an impoundment of the Maquoketa River. The dam is owned and maintained by the Lake Delhi Recreation Association. During the flood event of July23-24, 2010 a portion of the southern earthen embankment was breached and eroded by the flood and the concrete spillway's gates were damaged. Flood waters also infiltrated and seeped through a section of the northern embankment. The DNR's purpose in entering into this Cooperative Agreement is: to allocate funds appropriated for implementation of lake projects for a preconstruction dam restoration study as directed under House File 648. The District's purpose in entering into this Cooperative Agreement is: to retain consulting services for analysis of conditions for reconstruction of Lake Delhi Dam; preparation of regulatory documentation for the reconstruction of Lake Delhi Dam; preparation of construction documents for the reconstruction of Lake Delhi Dam; bidding services and engineering services during construction.

Motion – Commissioner Underwood
Seconded – Commissioner Francisco
Discussion: Commissioner Rettig inquired on the legislative intent for the use of this funding. Presenter McGhee informed the legislative language leads to this area. General discussion occurred regarding the current Lakes Restoration funding and the impact of this legislative use requirement. The study being requested will provide information on the cost of the dam and the viability of its rebuilding. Due to the type of appropriation, it cannot be spent on anything else but what it was appropriated for. Staff's involvement in this contract would be to administer the 28E agreement. If more research is needed, in addition to the contract being proposed, it is the Department's understanding that the Lake Delhi area would be responsible for additional costs. Commissioner concern was expressed that public funding was going toward funding a private dam leaving priority public lakes projects unfunded.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

8. FY13 BUDGET REQUEST

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the Department's appropriation request for Fiscal Year 2013 (FY 13). The State Budget Director has directed all departments to submit a status quo budget. The budget is due by statute on October 1, 2011.

Motion – Commissioner Rettig
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Discussion – Commissioners discussed the status and benefit of pursuing ways to retire the Honey Creek Resort bonds and the savings to the state this action would provide. Director Lande stated he has met with attorneys, outside bond council attorneys, David Roederer, and the Governor's office who are studying the matter and will be getting back with us. The Director will follow up within 30 days on the status of this matter.

Motion - Commissioner Clement amended motion to approve the budget and directed DNR staff to pursue with the Governor's office and legislature means to defease outstanding bonds for Honey Creek Resort State Park.
Seconded – Commissioner Prickett
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9. CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS CONTRACT APPROVAL

9.1 WALLER WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT-WOODBURY COUNTY

Project No 11-01-97-03

Project Summary: The scope of this project involves the restoration of three wetland pool areas through use of ditch plugs, and shallow water excavation. The project was designed by NRCS. However, DNR Engineering Bureau is responsible for the project and construction management including the bid letting of the project. The Wildlife Bureau was involved in the design and approved the project for letting. This project will be 100% reimbursed by Federal NRCS funding.

Function of the Project: The Waller Tract is adjacent to the larger Table Marsh Wildlife Management area. The project site area is located approximately three miles east and one mile north of the city of Hornick in Woodbury County. This design will convert 35 acres of row cropland into 2 acres of upland prairie and 33 acres of wetland marsh for public hunting.

Construction Needed: Work under this project includes earth fill, excavation, and seeding. Three ditch plugs will be constructed to slow overland water flows off the project and the shallow water excavations will provide a greater surface are for water to be stored.

DNR Project Manager:	Jeff Felts, PE; Engineering Bureau
Designer:	NRCS, Sioux City Office
DNR Inspector:	Jeff Felts, PE; Engineering Bureau
Operating Bureau:	Wildlife
Funding Source:	100% Federal NRCS (Cap Link #43)
Cost Estimate:	$49,500
Plans Issue Date:	07/23/11
Bid Letting Date:	08/04/11
Plan Holders:	6
Number of Bids Received:	4

Bidders

Godby Land Improvements	Albia, Iowa	$52,586.56
Lieber Construction	Lawton, Iowa	$58,905.50
4B Construction	Sioux City, Iowa	$61,954.50
Richards Construction	Sac City, Iowa	$108,244.50

IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to Godby Land Improvements.

Motion – Commissioner Rettig
Seconded – Commissioner Francisco
Discussion – Staff responded to Commissioner inquiry that a ditch plug is like a small dam.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9.2 DUNBAR SLOUGH WMA – STRUCTURES MODIFICATIONS, GREENE COUNTY

Project No. 12-02-37-01

Project Summary: The scope of this project involves addition of fish fingers and bars to eliminate rough fish access to Dunbar Slough.

Function of the Project: The addition of fish fingers and bars to existing structures will eliminate rough fish passage into Dunbar Slough, as well as reducing turbulence and improve water quality. Channel excavation will remove silt from the Slough, allowing better management of the water levels within the Slough.

Construction Needed: Attach aluminum and steel fish fingers and vertical bars to the existing structures within Dunbar Slough, excavate existing channels within the Slough.

DNR Project Manager:	Ken Jackson; Engineering Bureau
Designer:	Ken Jackson; Engineering Bureau
DNR Inspector:	Don Labate, PE; Engineering Bureau
Operating Bureau:	Wildlife
Funding Source:	100% F&W Trust Fund (Cap Link #60)
Cost Estimate:	$225,000
Plans Issue Date:	07/20/11
Bid Letting Date:	08/18/11
Plan Holders:	8
Number of Bids Received:	3

Bidders

MEPCO, Inc.	Wever, IA	$194,498.83
Dixon Construction	Correctionville, IA	$359,069.00
JF Brennan Co. Inc.	Lacrosse, WI	$586,607.00

IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to MEPCO, Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco

Seconded – Commissioner Underwood

Discussion – Commissioner Underwood inquired on the expected life of the wetland. Staff informed it should last about fifty years but will fill with silt similar to any water body. Commissioner Schemmel inquired on the discrepancy in bids. Staff responded that it depends on bidders but in this case, the low bidder is a company that already has the special machinery to do this type of wetland work.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9.3 GEORGE WYTH STATE PARK – FEMA REPAIRS AT BEACH, BLACK HAWK COUNTY

Project No 09-03-07-14

Project Summary: Repairs to beach area from flooding in 2008.

Function of the Project: To return the beach area to usable condition by the Public.

Construction Needed Replacement of sand at the existing beach, repair of eroded earth fill dike, construction of a concrete access roadway and parking area and new underground electrical service to the site.

DNR Project Manager:	Ken Jackson; Engineering Bureau
Designer:	Ken Jackson; Engineering Bureau
DNR Inspector:	Mel Pacovsky, PE; Engineering Bureau
Operating Bureau:	Parks
Funding Source:	MFT - $6,033 (Cap Link #109) – Special App. $14,076 (Cap Link #172) – FEMA $106,891
Cost Estimate:	$127,000
Plans Issue Date:	07/20/11
Bid Letting Date:	08/18/11
Plan Holders:	6
Number of Bids Received:	4

Bidders

Matt Construction, Inc.	Sumner, IA	$97,075.75
Peterson Contractors, Inc.	Reinbeck, IA	$107,707.50
K. Cunningham Construction, Inc.	Cedar Falls, IA	$110,495.25
Vieth Construction Corp.	Cedar Falls, IA	$120,622.50

IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to Matt Construction, Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Underwood
Seconded – Commissioner Schemmel
Discussion – Staff responded to Commission inquiry that, although low impact efforts, such as a rain garden or signage, regarding the concrete access is preferred, FEMA projects do not tend to fund those types of improvements.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9.4 LAKE AHQUABI STATE PARK – SHORELINE ARMORING, WARREN COUNTY

Project No 11-05-91-01

Project Summary: The scope of this project involves armoring various shoreline locations. This project is limited Phase I and Phase II will be constructed at a future date.

Function of the Project: This project will armor portions of the existing lakeshore, which will eliminate most shoreline erosion, resulting in improved water quality within Lake Ahquabi.

Construction Needed: The shoreline armoring will consist of excavating portions of the shallow existing shoreline to a 2:1 slope, then armoring the new slope with engineering fabric and riprap.

DNR Project Manager:	Ken Jackson; Engineering Bureau
Designer:	Ken Jackson; Engineering Bureau
DNR Inspector:	Jason Kruse, PE; Engineering Bureau
Operating Bureau:	Fisheries
Funding Source:	100% MFT (Cap Link #125)
Cost Estimate:	$220,000
Plans Issue Date:	07/20/11
Bid Letting Date:	08/18/11

Plan Holders: 6
Number of Bids Received: 7
Bidders

Richards Construction, Inc	Sac City, IA	$182,844.89
Peterson Contractors Inc	Reinbeck, IA	$188,994.60
Hymbaugh Construction	Creston, IA	$189,762.00
TK Concrete, Inc.	Pella, IA	$205,294.00
McAninch Corporation	Des Moines, IA	$224,996.30
Vanderpool Construction, Inc.	Indianola, IA	$269,467.80
Sunflower Enterprises	Dubuque, IA	$397,797.00

IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to Richards Construction, Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco
Seconded – Commissioner Clement
Discussion – Commissioner Francisco commented a number of years ago, Ahquabi was a poster child for watershed improvement and received awards. Commissioner Drees inquired on how armoring is determined. Presenter McGhee informed it is done by visual inspection and that some work will be done at pool level and some below.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9.5 THU WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT DEWEY'S PASTURE WETLAND COMPLEX, PALO ALTO COUNTY

Project No 11-01-74-02

Project Summary: The scope of this project involves wetland restoration on two tracts of land just north of Lost Island Lake in Palo Alto County. This project will provide several wetland pools and surrounding marsh areas for public use. This project will be 100% reimbursed by Federal NRCS dollars and they have approved the project for construction. The wildlife bureau has also reviewed the plans and approved the project for letting.

Function of the Project: The Thu Tract is part of the larger Dewey's Pasture wildlife area. This design will add addition wetland elements to the existing area and increase the areas available to the public for hunting and wildlife viewing. This project will also provide water quality benefits to the Lost Island Lake watershed by surface draining several tiles into the marsh area and allowing sediment to settle out prior to releasing the water downstream toward the lake.

Construction Needed: Work under this project includes excavations, earth fill (dike construction), tile breaks, tile/pipe installation (multiple sizes), water control structures, a toewall structure, and seeding. All existing tiles on the two areas will be either both broken and abandoned or outlet to the surface to provide water for the newly created basins. Water control structures will allow staff to manipulate water levels to keep the marsh areas vegetated and the sediment consolidated.

DNR Project Manager:	Jeff Felts, PE; Engineering Bureau
Designer:	Dave Rolf, PE; Engineering Bureau in conjunction with NRCS
DNR Inspector:	Jeff Felts, PE; Engineering Bureau
Operating Bureau:	Wildlife
Funding Source:	100% Federal NRCS (Cap Link #43)

Cost Estimate: $85,000.00
Plans Issue Date: 08/17/11
Bid Letting Date: 09/01/11
Plan Holders: 7
Number of Bids Received: 4

Bidders

Redings Gravel & Excavating	Algona, Iowa	$108,468.06
Valley Contracting, Inc	Estherville, Iowa	$113,604.00
Richards Construction Co, Inc	Sac City, Iowa	$133,313.05
LeRoy & Sons, Inc	Arcadia, Iowa	$156,925.50

IDNR will recommend awarding the Bid to Redings Gravel & Excavating.

Motion – Commissioner Rettig
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9.6 HONEY CREEK RESORT - DESJARDINS RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT – PHOTOVOLTAIC & WIND, APPANOOSE COUNTY
Project No. 11-05-04-21

Project Summary: This project is more than just a renewable energy pilot project. It will give the public hands-on witness to the power of renewable energy. The average state park visitor will get an opportunity to spend a period living in a space powered by renewable energy and the means for personal exploration about how to make them work. At the same time, measurable energy and cost savings accrue at an important, innovative state facility.

Function of the Project: Add (1) 10kW horizontal wind turbine to Honey Creek Resort, (5) 1.38kW photovoltaic (PV) arrays at various cabin locations at Honey Creek Resort and (1) visitor interactive kiosk (touch screen) at Honey Creek Resort for historical data acquisition and live feed data for visitors to view and interact with.

Alternate Bids: Alternate 2 - Add 5.52kW PV array to Lewis & Clark Visitor Center;
Alternate 3 - Add 2.76kW PV array to EB Lyons Nature Center

Construction Needed: Affix PV panels on roofs of visitor center and cabins throughout with clip-on panel brackets, create foundations and install wind turbines and install all data acquisition equipment (Siemens) to the energy production systems. Simple wiring throughout Honey Creek and Lewis & Clark visitor centers will be needed to allow electricity production to be utilized and monitored.

Additional Information: These projects were split into groups for bidding purposes. The original Request for Proposal was answered by one contractor, which was rejected. The rationale behind grouping this particular project was the complexity of the wind turbine installation (large helical foundations); most PV contractors would have been deterred bidding the Desjardins Project because of this element. The PV, at these locations, was combined together for the ease of install and coordination with other project parts, such as coordination of touch screen kiosk and ensuring proper inter-related function between project components.

DNR Project Manager: Ryan Richey; Engineering Bureau
Designer: James Deeds; KJWW Engineering

DNR Inspector: Jason Kruse, PE (Honey Creek); Engineering Bureau
Operating Bureau: Parks
Funding Source: 50% Donation (Desjardin Family) / 50% OEI Grant; (Cap Link #153)
Cost Estimate: $450,000.00
Plans Issue Date: 05/07/11
Bid Letting Date: 09/01/11
Plan Holders: 2
Number of Bids Received: 2

Bidders

Acterra Group, Marion, Iowa	$277,142.13	Base
	$23,515.20	Alternate 2
	$36,432.00	Alternate 3
	$337,098.33	Total
Tri-City Electric, Davenport, Iowa	$266,464.00	Base
	$54,970.00	Alternate 2
	$32,400.00	Alternate 3
	$353,834.00	Total

DNR recommends awarding the Base Bid, Alternate 2 and Alternate 3 to Acterra Group.

Motion – Commissioner Rettig
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Discussion – Commissioner Rettig inquired on why the change from the original two wind turbines. Presenter Krausman informed the bid for the "egg beater" type was too high and there were recommendations not to use that type. Therefore, funding was reviewed and moved to a solar project at EB Lyons. Discussion occurred regarding the wind turbine at Honey Creek Resort State Park and the energy it would provide to the lodge and five cabins. Most of the DesJardins projects should be done by this fall. The family will be recognized with a formal presentation.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9.7 LAKE DARLING STATE PARK – MECHANICAL DREDGING, WASHINGTON COUNTY

Project No. 10-06-92-04

Project Summary: The purpose of this project is to remove sediment caused by heavy siltation, construct a sediment containment site, rebuild a failing sediment pond, improve an existing wetland, construct two in-lake silt dams, armor 6,300 feet of shoreline and to construct a fishing jetty. Since the completion of the Lake Darling dam in 1950, an estimated 27.5 million cubic feet of sediment has entered the lake, decreasing the maximum depth from 22 feet to 18 feet and reducing the total volume of the lake by 24%. Since 2000, construction has been completed within the watershed to reduce the amount of sediment flow from an estimated 16,000 tons to 6,978 tons per year.

Function of the Project: A twenty-one foot tall dam will contain all the sediment removed from the upper end of the lake. The sediment will be placed on an existing wetland consisting of

mainly reed canary grass and cattails. The containment site has been designed to have an average of one foot water depth, creating a new, larger wetland. This containment site will be seeded with more desirable wetland plant species and will provide a more diverse habitat. A total of 66 acres of lakebed will be dredged to an average depth of 2.75 feet, removing nearly 300,000 cubic yards of sediment. A failing sediment pond located near the campground will be rebuilt and serve as a sediment containment site for the west side of the dredging operation. The dam will be raised approximately ten feet, and will be designed to have an average water depth of one foot, creating a new wetland. Two in-lake silt dams will be constructed across two major waterways to prevent sediment from entering the main lake. The silt dams will allow boats to access all parks of the lake. One jetty will be constructed west of the beach to allow angler access.

Construction Needed: All of this construction will occur while the lake is drawn down. It is anticipated that both containment sites and the jetty will be constructed this fall. Dredging operations will require a hard freeze before equipment can begin to remove sediment. Shoreline armoring will occur either in the fall or winter as little bank shaping is expected. The in-lake silt basins will be constructed in the spring, after the dredging is complete. The completion of this construction will coincide with the completion of the dam reconstruction project.

DNR Project Manager:	Heath Delzell, EI; Engineering Bureau
Designer:	Heath Delzell, EI
DNR Inspector:	Dave Heer, PE; Engineering Bureau
Operating Bureau:	Fisheries
Funding Source:	100% Lake Restoration (Cap Link #90)
Cost Estimate:	$3,500,000.00
Plans Issue Date:	08/12/11
Bid Letting Date:	09/01/11
Plan Holders:	9
Number of Bids Received:	4

Bidders

Peterson Contractors, Inc.	Reinbeck, Iowa	$1,650,369.90
DeLong Construction	Washington, Iowa	$1,936,865.80
C.J. Moyna & Sons, Inc.	Elkader, Iowa	$1,968,155.25
JB Holland Construction	Decorah, Iowa	$2,577,843.27

DNR recommends awarding the Bid to Peterson Contractors, Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco
Seconded – Commissioner Schemmel
Discussion – Commissioner Drees commented on the difference between the estimate and bid. Staff discussed the internal estimating process and noted bids that involve hauling rock and dirt removal were estimated high and seasoned contractors came in with similar bid amounts.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9.8 MINI WAKAN STATE PARK, DICKINSON COUNTY – HISTORIC LODGE RESTORATION CHANGE ORDER
Project No. 11-01-30-04

The DNR currently holds a contract with Wilcon Construction for restoration and improvements at the Mini Wakan CCC structure in Mini Wakan State Park. Work under this contract includes a complete facelift of the existing CCC structure with new floors, doors, windows, roof and a new functional kitchen space. The entire building will also be tuck pointed and repaired to almost original condition. A separate building is also being constructed adjacent to the existing building to provide modern restrooms and a storage area without affecting the layout of the existing CCC structure. The contract amount for this project is $442,240.00.

Now that construction is underway, several issues have developed in the field that alters the original scope of work. These issues include sub-par foundation soils, changes in sanitary sewer routing, column connection issues, and settled exterior concrete slabs.

Beyond the issues that have been discovered in the field, Park's staff has requested several items be added to improve the look and functionality of both the shelter and the park itself. These items include tuck-pointing and repair of the existing entrance portals, restoration of the beach area CCC stairs/benches, some additional sidewalk work, and vandal resistant toilet partitions. Staff has also worked with the local friend group and fundraising individuals to pay for upgrading the floor to tile, and upgrading some of the interior lighting.

Change Order #1

The following is a complete table of the changes and prices that have been negotiated with the contractor.

Item	Description	Price
1	Sewer Service Changes	-$271.84
2	8" Pipe Bollards	$4,929.04
3	Additional Sidewalk from Building to "Driveway"	$719.20
4	Column Plate Modification	$142.16
5	Quarry Tile Surfacing for Existing Structure	$23,109.80*
6	Stained Concrete Credit	-$2,393.23
7	Stainless Steel Handrail for Beach Steps	$4,665.17
8	Restore Stone Steps and Entrance Columns	$21,004.50
9	Light Fixture Upgrade (S4)	$27,982.43*
10	Sub Grade/Foundation Changes	$6,830.00
11	Concrete Raising to Correct Grade Issues	$1,477.02
12	Vandal Resistant Toilet Partition Upgrade	$1,146.79
	Total	**$89,341.04**

**Item requested by Local Friends Group*

The total change order amount requested is $89,341.04 and since that amount is greater than 10% of the contract amount, NRC approval is required. Parks staff have secured an additional $60,000 from the local friends group ($300,000 committed in total) to cover the requested upgrades on the lighting and floor tile. The remainder will be funded from I-jobs under the original DNR budget for this project (FY11 Capital Link #196)

DNR recommends awarding the contract change order to Wilcon Construction.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco
Seconded – Commissioner Schemmel
Discussion – Commissioner Underwood commented that the Friends' Group committed to $300,000 and the total $442,240 was before the change order. Commissioner Prickett inquired on reason for change order. Staff informed the bid came in low so the Department was able to add these items back into the project.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9.9 GREEN ISLAND WILDLIFE UNIT HQ - NEW STORAGE BUILDING (CHANGE ORDER #1) - JACKSON COUNTY

Project No. 11-06-49-03

A contract was awarded to Mainline Excavating Co. Inc. on May 12, 2011. The contract included items for site earthwork, design and construction of a 100 ft x 40 ft pole building, crushed stone base for a building slab, and a 6" reinforced concrete slab. The low bid contract amount was $113,810.72.

Part of the new pole building was placed over a demolished DNR technician's house because of site space limits. Prior to construction of the new building, the house structure had been removed except for the basement, which had been filled with earth by another contractor. In June 2011, the basement fill showed signs of settlement. After soil testing of fill, the DNR engineering inspector judged that the basement fill should be excavated and replaced with crushed stone fill to provide the best foundation for the deep pole footings and concrete slab. Change Order #1 was issued to correct these conditions.

Change Order #1

Mainline Excavating agreed to excavate the old fill at the earthwork unit price of the $12.75 per cubic yard. The agreed price to place compacted crushed stone backfill is $23.06 per ton. The cost of excavation is $ 6,677.56 and stone backfill is $ 28,012.37. The final cost of Change Order No. 1 for foundation improvement is $ 34,689. This requires NRC approval since Change Order No. 1 is 30.5% of the original contract amount. Funding will be provided through REAP LM (25%) and Federal PR (75%) – Cap Link #163

DNR recommends awarding the contract change order to Mainline Excavating Co. Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Rettig
Seconded – Commissioner Clement
Discussion – Commissioner Francisco inquired on if there were requirements for the original contractor who did the filling. Staff informed density specification requirements were not identified for the home demolition.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

10. SMALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT CONTRACTS

The following projects have been let utilizing the Competitive Quotation process for projects $100,000 or less:

BID DATE	PROJECT	COUNTY	AREA	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATE	BIDS
8/4/11	10-06-92-13	Washington	Lake Darling State Park	Jetty Reconstruction	$75,000.00	$49,824.00 **$55,998.90**
8/18/11	10-02-08-02	Boone	Ledges State Park	Henning Shelter Repair	$75,000.00	$38,392.75
8/18/1	09-03-55-03	Kossuth	AA Call State Park	Major cabin	$50,000.00	$38,032.06

1				restoration		
8/18/1 1	12-02-77-03	Multiple	4 State Parks	Solar Lights	$20,000.00	$9,219.98
						$30,272.00
8/18/1						**$30,988.24**
1	11-02-94-11	Webster	Brushy Creek SRA	Rock and Rip Rap	$23,100.00	**$43,282.98**

INFORMATIONAL

11. LAND ACQUISITION PROJECTS

11.1 FISH FARM MOUNDS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA – ALLAMAKEE CO. – INHF

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a parcel of land located in Allamakee County. The DNR managed Fish Farm Mounds Wildlife Management Areas is adjacent to the north and east of the proposed acquisition. The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF) offers the 20-acre parcel for the appraised value of $49,825. Licensed Appraiser, D. Keith Jones, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, submitted the appraisal. This property is located in northeast Allamakee County, Iowa. The small town of New Albin is located 3.5 miles north. The property is primarily upland timber with a steep sloping topography. Fish Farm Mounds, along with Lansing wildlife management areas, creates approximately five miles of contiguous DNR ownership of Mississippi River wooded bluff lands. This tract will be managed to provide habitat for forest wildlife species including deer, turkey, ruffed grouse, and migrating and breeding neotropical songbirds. Secondary management objectives include preserving and enhancing the native goat prairie as habitat for the state protected timber rattlesnake. Funding used for this acquisition will be 50% Wildlife Habitat Stamp and 50% REAP License Plate. The property will remain on the Allamakee County property tax rolls. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Staff recommends approval of the land acquisition.

Motion – Commissioner Schemmel
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

11.2 BIG MARSH WMA - BUTLER CO./ PARKER

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Butler County adjacent to state-owned and managed Big Marsh Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Ray and Meta Parker offer this 65-acre tract for the appraised price of $67,000. Fred Greder, Licensed Appraiser of Mason City, Iowa, submitted the appraisal. Rick Hansen negotiated the purchase agreement. This property is located 7 miles southwest of Allison in south central Butler County. The gently sloping to level tract contains 62.7 acres of cropland recently enrolled in a permanent Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) easement, and balance in public road right of way. There are no building improvements. Big Marsh WMA borders along the north, east, and south sides of the tract. Access is provided by county gravel roads along the north and west boundaries. Cropland will be converted to native prairie and wetland through the

WRP program, and managed for migratory and upland birds. This acquisition will increase the Big Marsh WMA to 4,500 acres. The tract will be managed by the Wildlife Bureau. Acquisition funding will be Wildlife Habitat Stamp. The property will remain on the tax rolls. No survey or fencing costs is anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Staff recommends approval of the land acquisition.

Motion – Commissioner Rettig
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

11.3 TURTLE BEND WMA - LOUISA CO. / U OF I

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the acquisition of a tract of land located 1.5 miles east of Wapello, Iowa. This 114.8-acre parcel is offered by the University of Iowa Foundation for the appraised price of $126,300.00. The tract is encumbered by a Wetlands Reserve Program easement. This tract was appraised by Darrell R. Limkeman and William R. Duey of Midstates Farm Management Co., Ottumwa, Iowa. Jerry Gibson negotiated the option. Prior to the easement encumbrance the subject tract contained 40.1 acres of existing wetlands (slough next to highway and old creek channel); 27.9 acres of cropland in 2010; 21 acres of old cropland and open meadow; 15.1 acres of timber; 8.1 acres of river levee; and 2.6 acres of road right of way. Ornate box turtles have been documented on adjacent tracts of land. The Wildlife Bureau will manage the land in compliance with the WRP easement specifications as part of the larger 1,307-acre wetland complex. There are no buildings. Acquisition funding will be 100% NAWCA—Iowa River Corridor. No surveying costs are anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Staff recommends approval of the land acquisition.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco
Seconded – Commissioner Clement
Discussion – Commissioners Rettig and Pricket expressed concern about the possible intent of the University of Iowa Foundation donor and inquired on federal funds purchasing the property. Staff discussed the federal government had purchased the agricultural land rights prior to this sale.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

11.4 SAND CREEK WMA - DECATUR CO. / FOLAND

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Decatur County adjacent to state-owned and managed Sand Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Alberta Foland offers this 64-acre tract for the appraised price of $111,000. Darrell Limkeman, Licensed Appraiser of Ottumwa, Iowa, submitted the appraisal. Rick Hansen negotiated the purchase agreement. This property is located 4 miles northwest of Grand River in northwestern Decatur County. The level to steep tract contains 58 acres of forested land and 6 acres of cropland. The Grand River forms the northeast boundary of the property. There are no building improvements. Sand Creek WMA borders along the north, west, and south sides of the

tract. Access is provided through adjoining state land. This property will be managed for public hunting by the Wildlife Bureau. Excellent populations of deed, turkey, and neotropical migrants exist. This acquisition will increase the Sand Creek WMA to over 3,600 acres. Acquisition funding will be $55,500 from Wildlife Habitat Stamp, $33,300 from State Wildlife Grant (federal), and $22,200 from REAP, License Plate. The property will remain on the tax rolls. No survey or fencing costs is anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Staff recommends approval of the land acquisition.

Staff noted funding correction: Wildlife Habitat Stamp $66,000, State Wildlife Grant $27,000, and REAP License Plate $18,000.
Motion – Commissioner Rettig with funding amendments
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

*11.5 VIRGIN LAKE - PALO ALTO CO. / JANSSEN

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to accept the donation of an approximately 1.2 acre permanent easement adjacent north side of Virgin Lake in Palo Alto County. Robert Janssen has agreed to donate the permanent easement along with an additional 350 foot-wide temporary easement for construction for the installation, maintenance, and repairs of a cement box culvert with fish barrier, and reshaping of the ditch outflow from Virgin Lake. Rick Hansen negotiated the option for easement. Virgin Lake, a sovereign lake, is a 218 acre shallow glacial lake located 1.25 miles south of Ruthven in extreme western Palo Alto County. Identified by DNR fisheries, wildlife, and lake restoration staff as a priority lake for renovation, the current fixed crest spillway will be reconstructed with a concrete box culvert and fish barrier to allow for infrequent water level fluctuations to improve water quality and recreational opportunities within the lake. The project will begin with a fall draw-down of the lake, followed by spillway reconstruction, re-vegetation of shallow lake bottom areas, and the elimination of the carp and buffalo fishery. The lake will then be refilled, and stocked and managed for yellow perch and northern pike populations. This easement will be monitored by the Wildlife Bureau in accord with the area management plan. The project is a cooperative effort involving staff and resources from the fisheries, wildlife, and lake restoration programs. Surveying cost estimate is $4,000.00. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Staff recommends approval of the easement acquisition.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

12. LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

12.1 MISSISSIPPI RIVER – CHAPTER 18 LEASE – BLACKHAWK FLEET, INC.

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve, for submission to the Iowa Executive Council for final approval, renewal of a lease with Blackhawk Fleet, Inc. for a portion of the riverbed of the Mississippi River. The lease area consists of 670 feet of river frontage by 200 feet river depth located at River Mile 475.4 in Scott County. The site is used as an office barge

and a dock area to permanently moor a crane barge against an existing seawall. The crane barge is used to unload products from other barges that tie alongside the crane. The site has been under lease since 1987. The proposed lease will be for a five year period. The annual fee is $10,549.58 with a condition that the fee may be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. Staff recommends approving the lease agreement.

Motion – Commissioner Clement
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Discussion – Commissioner Underwood inquired if the lease rate was similar to previous items. Staff informed this is based on Chapter 18's criteria calculating fee on land values of adjacent properties. Commissioner Rettig appreciated the effort to generate funds as the market allows.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

***12.2 MCCAUSLAND BOAT ACCESS – CLINTON COUNTY– CLINTON COUNTY ENGINEER**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve issuance of a permanent easement for right-of-way needed for a road relocation project near the McCausland Boat Access on the Wapsipinicon River in Clinton County. The easement will consist of 0.154 acres of additional right-of-way. The relocation of the road will improve access to the existing boat ramp. This project will mutually benefit both the County and the DNR, therefore there will be no compensation for the easement. Staff recommends the easement issuance.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

12.3 FARM MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – NW WILDLIFE DISTRICT

The Natural Resource Commission is requested, pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Iowa Administrative Code [561], to approve a farm management contract with Agriland Inc. to provide farm management services in the NW Wildlife District for a period ending September 30, 2016. Professional farm managers in partnership with DNR foresters, wildlife biologists/technicians and parks/recreational area managers have been utilized since 1987 to improve the agricultural lease program for wildlife habitat management in a variety of areas. Proposals were solicited to provide farm management services for approximately 4525 acres of agricultural land in the NW Wildlife District where approximately 80 leases are currently administered. Invitations for proposals were advertised in newspapers both locally and statewide in the Des Moines Register. One proposal was submitted. Agriland Inc. submitted a proposal with an annual fee of $6.25 per managed acre, approximately $28,281.25 per year for a total contract fee of $141,406.25. The Department currently pays between $6 and $10 per acre on its existing farm management contracts. Staff recommends approval of the contract.

Staff identified items 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5 are similar.
Motion – Commissioner Francisco moved items 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Discussion – Commissioner Underwood inquired why different fees. Staff informed differences are due to different regions and economy scale of businesses. Commissioner Prickett expressed interest in fees being put on a percent per return basis and it may be a more equitable system.

Staff provided information that a percent is typical in the market place, but the Department's goal is not to maximize production due to the purpose and it would be less of an incentive toward habitat efforts. Commissioner Rettig stated that farmers leave crops for food lots versus harvesting and farmers who contract with us understand they will be reducing income but participating in a conservation practice and that is why we pay them differently.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

12.4 FARM MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – STEPHENS STATE FOREST

The Natural Resource Commission is requested, pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Iowa Administrative Code [561], to approve a farm management contract with Mid States Farm Management Co. to provide farm management services in the Stephens State Forest for a period ending September 30, 2016. Professional farm managers in partnership with DNR foresters, wildlife biologists/technicians and parks/recreational area managers have been utilized since 1987 to improve the agricultural lease program for wildlife habitat management in a variety of areas. Proposals were solicited to provide farm management services for approximately 960 acres of agricultural land in the Stephens State Forest where approximately 25 leases are currently administered. Invitations for proposals were advertised in newspapers both locally and statewide in the Des Moines Register. One proposal was submitted. Mid States Farm Management Co. submitted a proposal with an annual fee of $9.00 per managed acre, approximately $8,640 per year for a total contract fee of $43,200. Staff recommends approval of the contract.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco (see notes under item 12.3)
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

12.5 FARM MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – YELLOW RIVER FOREST

The Natural Resource Commission is requested, pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Iowa Administrative Code [561], to approve a farm management contract with Hertz Farm Management, Inc. to provide farm management services in the Yellow River Forest for a period ending September 30, 2016. Professional farm managers in partnership with DNR foresters, wildlife biologists/technicians and parks/recreational area managers have been utilized since 1987 to improve the agricultural lease program for wildlife habitat management in a variety of areas. Proposals were solicited to provide farm management services for approximately 1568 acres of agricultural land in the Yellow River State Forest where approximately 15 leases are currently administered. Invitations for proposals were advertised in newspapers both locally and statewide in the Des Moines Register. One proposal was submitted. Hertz Farm Management, Inc. submitted a proposal with an annual fee of $10.00 per managed acre, approximately $15,680 per year for a total contract fee of $78,400. Staff recommends approval of the contract.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco (see notes under item 12.3)
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

13. FY2011 WATER TRAILS PROGRAM GRANTS

The Iowa Legislature annually appropriates funds (Marine Fuel Tax) under Iowa Code section 452A.79. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources under Chapter 30 of 571 Iowa Administrative Code (Water Recreation Cost-share Program) designates a portion of these funds for the water trails granting program. The statewide water trails plan published in the fall of 2010 requires a new system for signage, new approaches to access design, and other changes. $32,000 was offered as enhancement grants for current projects to upgrade to the new requirements with a deadline of August 5, 2011. The enhancement funds were available only to local governments (city, county, school) and service organizations that are working toward designation, or already have a designated water trail on rivers, lakes, sloughs and other waterways in Iowa. This commitment leverages $42,763.60 in additional local matching funds. Seven projects submitted on or before August 5, 2011, have been ranked and screened by our scoring committee for viability, proper expenditure of public funds, and likelihood of success. Scorers for this round of applications include John Pearson (DNR), Robin Fortney (citizen), Mark Wise (citizen), Steve Hopkins (DNR), and John Wenck (DNR). The recommended state fiscal year 2011 awards are:

Rank	Project	Applicant	Amount Requested	Award Recommended	Scores
1	Winnebago River Water Trail	Winnebago CCB	$4,671.65	$4,671.65	90.6
2	Middle/South Raccoon River Water Trail	Guthrie CCB	6,596.00	6,596.00	87.4
3	Iowa River Greenbelt Water Trail	Iowa River Greenbelt Resource Trust	4,520.00	4,520.00	84.4
4	South Skunk River Water Trail	Story CCB	5,100.00	5,100.00	83.6
5	Black Hawk Creek Water Trail	Black Hawk CCB	4,743.15	4,743.15	82.6
6	Des Moines River Water Trail	Van Buren County Trails Assoc	6,818.30	6,369.20	70
7	West Nishnabotna Water Trail	Pottawattamie CCB	29,115.71	0	65

The Department recommends entering into cost-share agreements with the above-mentioned parties to accomplish the projects identified in their respective applications. If any applicants decline funds or are unable to meet their obligations, the funds from these projects may go to the unfunded projects or returned to the pool for future projects.

Motion – Commissioner Underwood
Seconded – Commissioner Francisco
Discussion – Commissioner Francisco offered kudos to Nate Hoogeveen and staff for the work

done on the Charles City low head dam removal and recreational resource it has now become.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

14. IOWA STATE PARKS DESIGN GUIDE

In April 2010 the Natural Resource Commission approved a professional services delivery order contract to RDG Planning and Design for the development of an "Iowa State Park Image Guide for the Built Environment." This guide will provide a visionary road map for tomorrow's park architecture that pays homage to our rich past, yet keeps a sharp eye on the needs and resources available for future generations. A project update was presented as an informational item in November, 2010. The Iowa State Park Design Guide is nearing completion and will soon be ready for dissemination. You will be receiving a final draft copy in the mail prior to the NRC meeting for your review and comment at the September meeting, at which time RDG Planning and Design will be presenting the highlights of the design guide. This is also being put on the DNR internal website for final input from park field staff. The anticipated project completion date is October 30, 2011.

Angela Corio stated she will be taking comments about the Design Guide until October 13, 2011.

Discussion – Commissioner Francisco extended high praise of the Guide and there has been a lot of good work done. He was pleased to see a lot of the environmental improvements incorporated in the plan. One editorial comment on page 24, third column, regarding avoid wildlife travel corridors, it should be maintain wildlife travel corridors. Commissioner Rettig echoed Commissioner Francisco and was interested in Chapter 4, a sustainable approach. There is one picture three times and staff may want to review that duplication. Regarding sustainability of moving people around, consider adding a sentence taking into consideration the ability to access areas without driving. Commissioner Underwood suggested some type of header on the page with the Iowa map (i.e. Welcome to Iowa State Parks). She informed this document will be available on the DNR website and is created to be a document that can be updated. She stated she was thrilled to serve with the group who worked on the Design Guide.

INFORMATIONAL

***15 CONTRACT WITH IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FORESTRY EXTENSION FOR THE DESIGN, PRODUCTION AND PRINTING OF WILDLAND AND PRESCRIBED FIRE PUBLICATIONS AND VIDEOS**

Commission approval is requested for a two year-service contract with Iowa State University Forestry Extension for the design, production and printing of a family of six wildland and prescribed fire publications and two short internet accessible fire videos. The total cost of this contract is $30,000. This contract will be one hundred percent funded through the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service Competitive Allocation Grant Process. It will specifically be funded through the grant entitled: Oak Woodland & Invasive Species Management through the use of Prescribed Fire received pursuant to the authority provided in Iowa Code section 455A.24(13). The federal grant dollars that fund this contract can be used only as specified in the Forest Service/IDNR grant agreements. Iowa State University will

provide match for this project. The Iowa Forestry Bureau within the DNR has worked with the United States Forest Service (USFS) for over sixty years to deliver financial, technical and related assistance to Iowa's rural fire departments and to assist them with wildland firefighting. This partnership has expanded to training firefighters, natural resource professionals and private citizens in the utilization of prescribed fire to encourage the management of fire dependent ecosystems such as oak woodlands, savannas and prairies. The Bureau also has a long history of partnering with Iowa State University Forestry Extension on forestry field days, conferences and publications. Through the design, production and printing of a family of six fire-related publications and two short internet accessible fire videos, we hope to raise the awareness of the benefits of fire as a forest management tool and promote its careful and safe utilization when and where its use is appropriate. The authority of the Forest Service to work with individual states is found in the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program which is authorized in Section 10(b)3 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (PL 95-313, as amended by the Forest Stewardship Act of 1990 (PL 101-624). The Forestry Bureau is authorized to enter into these agreements in Chapter 456A.24 (13) of Iowa Code. It is the mutual desire of the DNR and the Iowa State University Forestry Extension to develop publications to educate natural resource professionals and private landowners about the benefits and utilization of prescribed fire as a management tool. It is the belief of the cooperating parties that this agreement will be to their mutual benefit, the benefit of Iowa's fire dependent ecosystems and to the benefit of the people of Iowa.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

***16. HARDWOOD TIMBER SALE YELLOW RIVER STATE FOREST ($53,718)**

The Natural Resource Commission is asked to approve the sale of an estimated 85,440 board feet of mixed hardwood trees at the Yellow River State Forest. The sale consists of 434 trees.

Species	Number of Trees by Diameter				BF Volume
Diameter Class	12"-14"	16"-18"	20"-24"	26"+	
Red Oak	17	50	97	37	51100
White Oak	34	35	31	3	15280
Walnut	1		2	3	2160
Aspen	7	21	7		5340
Hickory	13	14	4		3480
Ash	7	13	13	2	6240
Other	16	5	2		1840
Total	95	138	156	45	85440

An even-aged management system will be used in accordance with the Yellow River State Forest Management Plan to conduct a timber harvest on 7 acres (sale area 2 on attached map). The harvest will allow sunlight to stimulate the growth of oak seedlings already present on the site. Seedlings will be planted following the harvest to supplement natural regeneration. Prescribed fire may be used periodically as a management tool to stimulate oak regeneration and control competing vegetation after the harvest. A natural areas inventory was conducted and there are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest area. Many aspen and oaks in this stand are declining due to disease. Harvesting and regenerating this stand will help prevent the spread of disease throughout the surrounding forest. Wildlife den trees will not be marked and will be left standing. Best management practices (BMP's) will apply to the site. No tops or harvesting residue will be left in adjacent waterways. Harvesting is to occur only when ground is firm or frozen to minimize soil disturbance. Skid trails and landing areas will be repaired

following the harvest. No skid trails will be allowed in the SMA (within 50 feet of the adjacent waterway) except at designated stream crossings. The following bids were received for the sale:

Company	Location	Amount of Bid
Dan Jones Logging	Waterville, IA	$53,718.00
Tracey Exports	East Dubuque, IL	$50,111.00
Kendrick Forest Products	Edgewood, IA	$45,956.00
Nelson Hardwoods	Prairie du Chien, WI	$44,291.00
Todd Jones/ Jones Wood Heating	McGregor, IA	$43,262.00
Grau Logs & Lumber	Elkader, IA	$34,887.00
Bob Frommelt	Guttenburg, IA	$28,386.00
J. Kubitz Logging LLC	Dubuque, IA	$10,252.00

The Commission is requested to approve a contract with the high bidder, Dan Jones Logging for $53,718.00.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

***17. HARDWOOD TIMBER SALE YELLOW RIVER STATE FOREST ($54,040)**

The Natural Resource Commission is asked to approve the sale of an estimated 105,185 board feet of mixed hardwood trees at the Yellow River State Forest. The sale consists of 788 trees.

Species	Number of Trees by Diameter				BF Volume
	12"-14"	16"-18"	20"-24"	26"+	
White Oak	106	204	166	7	67834
Red Oak	9	10	26	2	8856
Walnut	0	3	0	0	287
Aspen	44	74	11	0	14364
Hickory	21	19	5	2	5839
Other	30	34	15	0	8005
Total	210	344	223	11	105,185

An even-aged management system will be used in accordance with the Yellow River State Forest Management Plan to conduct a timber harvest on 15 acres (sale area 1 on attached map). The harvest will allow sunlight to stimulate the growth of oak seedlings already present on the site. Seedlings will be planted following the harvest to supplement natural regeneration. Prescribed fire may be used periodically as a management tool to stimulate oak regeneration and control competing vegetation after the harvest. A natural areas inventory was conducted and there are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest area. Many aspen and oaks in this stand are declining due to disease. Harvesting and regenerating this stand will help prevent the spread of disease throughout the surrounding forest. Wildlife den trees will not be marked and will be left standing. Best management practices (BMP's) will apply to the site. No tops or harvesting residue will be left in adjacent waterways. Harvesting is to occur only when ground is firm or frozen to minimize soil disturbance. Skid trails and landing areas will be repaired following the harvest. No skid trails will be allowed in the SMA (within 50 feet of the adjacent waterway) except at designated stream crossings. The following bids were received for the sale:

Company	Location	Amount of Bid
Dan Jones Logging	Waterville, IA	$54,040.00
Todd Jones/ Jones Wood Heating	McGregor, IA	$42,062.00

Kendrick Forest Products	Edgewood, IA	$40,731.00
Grau Logs & Lumber	Elkader, IA	$38,304.00
Tracey Exports	East Dubuque, IL	$27,255.00
J. Kubitz Logging LLC	Dubuque, IA	$26,900.00
Nelson Hardwoods	Prairie du Chien, WI	$22,550.00
Bob Frommelt	Guttenburg, IA	$16,410.00

The Commission is requested to approve a contract with the high bidder, Dan Jones Logging for $54,040.00.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

18. DONATIONS

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the following donations:

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:
Ledges State Park	$20.00	Funds to assist with flood clean up	Hallie Johnson
Fish and Game Trust Fund	$50.00	Funds toward the Upper Wapsi Wildlife Management Area in memory of Edgar, the family's black lab, and how he enjoyed hunting in the area	Randy and Sherry Schott
Shimek State Forest	$50.00	Funds for use at Shimek State Forest	Ruth Hassman
Wapsipinicon State Park	$50.00	Funds for use at Wapsipinicon State Park	Duke Synder
Lacey-Keosauqua State Park	$89.50	Repair broken hand railing at beach	David McQuoid
Walnut Woods State Park	$120.45	Bird seed for feeders at bird watching area	Stan Holt
Lake Macbride State Park	$245.64	Funds for Lake Macbride Park improvements.	Transamerica Life Insurance Company
Lake Macbride State Park	$254.34	Funds for Lake Macbride Park improvements.	Connie Mutel
Shimek State Forest	$400.00	Hauling 4 loads of rock	Larry Holmes
Lake Macbride State Park	$1,000.00	Funds for Lake Macbride Park improvements.	Solon Beef Days Committee
Lake Macbride State Park	$1,000.00	Funds for Lake Macbride Park improvements.	Cargill Incorporated
Walnut Woods State Park	$1,500.00	Materials and labor for park bench with roof	Jacob Hoogensen

Motion – Commissioner Schemmel

Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

19. GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Proposed October meeting and tour be held at Loess Hills State Forest
  - Discussion occurred regarding Commissioners' schedules and ability to make quorum. Decision made to hold October's meeting in Des Moines, IA.
- Commissioner Clement requested information on how the rifle deer hunting is going in the southern two tiers of Iowa. Staff will provide. He would also like, next year, for the NRC to look at the license fees for out of state deer hunters and how to make that better.
- Commissioner Prickett inquired about the progress of a third zone waterfowling option, if there was a plan, and how to approach it. Director Lande reported a Kaizen will be done on that process and it should be scheduled in the next thirty days. Commissioners are welcome to attend.
- Commissioner Underwood suggested Legislative/Governor's report ideas: State Parks Design Guide completion and Forest Health funding with Paul Tauke's input on how the $100,000 funding will be spent and how it could be used in future years.
- Commissioner Drees thanked Director Lande for addressing a joint meeting of several of the Lakes Associations and they had the opportunity to tour the area together.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting – Commissioner Francisco.
Seconded - Commissioner Schemmel.
Decision - Approved by Unanimous Vote.

With no further business to come before the Natural Resource Commission, Chairperson Drees adjourned the meeting on 09/08/11 at 3:26 p.m.

CARRIED – MEETING ADJOURNED

UPCOMING NRC MEETING DATES:
DATE – LOCATION - TIME

October 13, 2011 – Henry Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, 9:30am
November 10, 2011 – Henry Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, 9:30am