

MINUTES  
OF THE  
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION  
MEETING

FEBRUARY 14, 2013

HELD AT:

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

For Office Use Only

Date Minutes Approved By NRC: 3/14/13

Director's Signature: Chuck Gipp  
Chuck Gipp  
Director

RECORD COPY

File Name: ADM 1-1-1

NRC MINUTES

Sender's initials: KR

**TABLE OF CONTENTS (\* indicates consent item)**

Call to Order ..... 3  
 Commissioner Attendance ..... 3  
 Public Participation ..... 3  
 Approval of Agenda ..... 3  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 3  
 2. Approve Minutes of 01/16/13 and 01/25/13 NRC Public Meetings ..... 3  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 3  
 3. Director’s Remarks ..... 4  
 4. Honey Creek Resort State Park Update ..... 4  
     INFORMATIONAL ..... 4  
 \*5. Hardwood Timber Sale Lansing Wildlife Management Area ..... 4  
     CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA ..... 4  
 \*6. Contract with Johnson Helicopter Services for Aerial Deer Surveys ..... 4  
     CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA ..... 4  
 7. Wildlife Habitat Promotion With Local Entities Program Grant Review ..... 5  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 5  
 8. Fish Habitat Promotion With Local Entities Program Grant Review ..... 5  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 7  
 9. Memorandums of Understanding with Department of Administrative Services for Construction Management ..... 7  
     CARRIED AS AMENDED ..... 8  
 10. Engineering Construction Items ..... 8  
 10.1. Black Hawk Lake, Shoreline Armoring – Phase 2 ..... 8  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 9  
 10.2. Lake Icaria WMA – Zimmerman Pool, Wetland Restoration Project ..... 9  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 10  
 10.3. Lacey Keosauqua State Park, Campground Water And Electrical ..... 10  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 11  
 11. Small Construction Projects Contracts ..... 11  
     INFORMATIONAL ..... 12  
 12. Contracts for Big Creek State Park Sewer Expansions ..... 12  
     CARRIED AS AMENDED ..... 13  
 13. Engineering Professional Services Item - Big Creek State Park Wastewater Project ..... 13  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 14  
 14. Land Acquisition Projects ..... 14  
 14.1. Clear Creek WMA – Allamakee Vista Co. – Blair ..... 14  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 14  
 14.2. Elk Lake WMA – Palo Alto Co. – Janssen ..... 14  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 14  
 14.3. Barkley State Forest – Boone Co. – INHF ..... 14  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 15  
 14.4. Blue Wing Marsh WMA – Palo Alto Co. – INHF ..... 15  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 15  
 14.5. West Okoboji Wetlands Complex – Dickinson Co. – INHF ..... 15  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 16  
 15. Land Management Projects ..... 16  
 15.1. Pikes Peak State Park – Clayton Co. – Chapter 18 Lease, H.Moose ..... 16  
     CARRIED AS PRESENTED ..... 16  
 15.2. Pikes Peak State Park – Clayton Co. – Chapter 18 Lease, Knapp ..... 16

CARRIED AS PRESENTED .....17

\*15.3 Pictured Rock Area – Jones CCB – Management Agreement..... 17  
 CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA .....17

\*15.4 Idlewild Access – Floyd CCB – Management Agreement..... 17  
 CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA .....17

\*15.5 Brandon Road Access – Black Hawk CCB – Management Agreement..... 17  
 CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA .....17

\*15.6 Rainbow Bend Access – Calhoun CCB – Management Agreement ..... 17  
 CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA .....17

16. Division Administrator Remarks ..... 17

17. General Discussion ..... 17

Adjournment ..... 18  
 CARRIED – MEETING ADJOURNED .....18

Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates ..... 18

**MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission was called to order by the NRC Chair, Margo Underwood, on 02/14/13 at 9:30am.

**COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE**

Present

- Conrad Clement (by phone)
- Gregory Drees
- Richard (Kim) Francisco, Secretary
- Dr. Sally Prickett, Vice-Chair (by phone)
- Margo Underwood, Chair

Absent

- Janelle Rettig
- Dennis Schemmel

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**2. APPROVE MINUTES OF 01/16/13 AND 01/25/13 NRC PUBLIC MEETINGS**

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**3. DIRECTOR'S REMARKS**

Director Gipp provided an update regarding Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and noted that the legislature has not addressed budget issues at this time. Commissioner Clement commented he met with Governor Branstad and discussed the Lake Restoration Funds and a Des Moines Register article. He commented he understood that private property owners are going to the legislature directly for funds bypassing the DNR affecting the Lakes budget. Director Gipp provided information regarding revenue sources and the affects it has on funding levels.

**4. HONEY CREEK RESORT STATE PARK UPDATE**

Diane Ford, DNR Conservation and Recreation, presented information on budget, marketing, and public relations.

Diane Ford will follow up on Commissioner inquiries regarding DWOLLA credit card options, food and liquor costs, and coordinating a presentation on a HCR strategic plan and quarterly update.

INFORMATIONAL

**\*5 HARDWOOD TIMBER SALE LANSING WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA**

The Department requests Commission approval of the sale of an estimated 86,304 board feet of mixed hardwood trees at the Lansing Wildlife Management Area in Allamakee County. The sale consists of 615 trees. There are an additional 85 cull trees marked for harvest. These trees may be harvested, but are not included in the board foot volume of the sale. The harvest is in accordance a Forest Wildlife Stewardship Plan written and approved in 2006. Fifteen acres will be clearcut and replanted to regenerate oak. A Shelterwood Harvest will be done on 9 acres, to allow sunlight to stimulate the growth of oak and other shade intolerant already present on the site. Additionally, prescribed fire may be used as a management tool to stimulate oak regeneration and control competing vegetation following the harvest. A natural areas inventory was conducted and there are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest areas. This harvest is being done specifically to improve wildlife habitat and diversity. Wildlife den trees will not be marked and will be left standing. Best management practices (BMP's) will apply to the harvest. 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
Jones Wood Heating and Logging	McGregor, IA	\$30,030.00
Dan Jones Logging	Waterville, IA	\$29,536.00

The Department requests Commission approval to execute a contract with the high bidder, Jones Wood Heating and Logging for \$30,030.00.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

**\*6. CONTRACT WITH JOHNSON HELICOPTER SERVICES FOR AERIAL DEER SURVEYS**

Commission approval is requested for a 2 year contract with Johnson Helicopter Services, LLC, of Red Oak, IA. The contract period will begin on January 18, 2013 and terminate on December 31, 2014. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed \$32,500. Pursuant to the terms of this contract, DNR has the option to renew this contract as long as this contract and any extensions do not exceed a six-year period. Statewide aerial deer surveys are used to monitor deer populations in areas of special concern. This typically includes urban areas, county or state parks or other areas in need of or with localized deer population management. These surveys document the success of urban hunts, as well as identify areas that need additional work to better meet deer herd objectives. Johnson Helicopter Services was chosen using the informal competitive selection process. Selection criteria considerations were having a suitable helicopter (size and make) and experience. A bid was also submitted by Back Nine Aerial LLC for \$36,000. This contract will be funded through the Fish and Game Trust Fund.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

**7. WILDLIFE HABITAT PROMOTION WITH LOCAL ENTITIES PROGRAM GRANT REVIEW**

In 1979, the Iowa General Assembly passed legislation requiring hunters and trappers to purchase a wildlife habitat stamp. All revenue derived from the sale of habitat stamps are used within the state of Iowa for acquisition of land, leasing of land, obtaining easements from willing sellers for use as wildlife habitats, and for the development and enhancement of wildlife lands and habitat areas. At least 50 percent of the stamp revenues are apportioned to local entities (county conservation boards) on a semiannual basis. Cost sharing will not be approved for more than 75 percent of the approved appraised value. The Wildlife Habitat Stamp Fund Program is administered by the DNR in compliance with 571 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 23. Natural Resource Commission approval is requested for the wildlife habitat grant recommendations. The Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program Grant Review Committee met on January 18, 2013, to review a total of 7 county conservation board projects requesting \$1,104,838.00 in Habitat Funds. A total of \$450,070.00 was available for this grant review. The committee recommends fully funding the top three ranked projects and the remaining funds of \$92,375.00, along with any undistributed funds from previous grant cycles, to the next ranked projects. Undistributed funds may be available from cost savings on other projects and/or previous funds declined by county conservation boards. If the highest ranked project declines the funding, the Department requests authority to offer those funds to the next highest scored projects. Any remaining funds will be distributed in the next grant cycle.

Rank by Score	County	Project	Acres	Grant Request	Grant Awarded	Total Project Cost
1	Dickinson	Milford Woods	77.5	\$100,000.00	\$100,000	\$331,088.00
2	Howard	Eagle View	101	\$225,000.00	\$225,000	\$300,000.00
3	Decatur	Bishop Timber	49	\$32,625.00	\$32,625	\$43,500.00
4	Poweshiek	Fox Land	240	\$450,750.00		\$601,000.00
5	Lyon	Little Rock River Area	29.5	\$53,545.00		\$103,545.00
6	Tama	Salt Creek Wildlife Area	77	\$75,000.00		\$100,000.00
7	Butler	N Butler Wilderness Area	76.5	\$167,918.00		\$223,118.00

There were no unsuccessful grant applicants in this grant cycle.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**8. FISH HABITAT PROMOTION WITH LOCAL ENTITIES PROGRAM GRANT REVIEW**

Natural Resource Commission approval is requested for the fish habitat grant recommendations. All revenue derived from fish habitat fees, paid for as part of fishing licenses, is deposited in the state fish and game protection fund to be used for fish habitat development. In compliance with 571 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 35, at least fifty percent of all revenue from the sale of fish habitat fees is distributed equally among six county districts to county conservation boards. Each district is allowed to hold a two-year apportionment before money is reverted and redistributed equally among all districts. This program is a 90% cost share grant open to all county conservation boards for the development of fish habitat or acquisition of land to be used for fish habitat development purposes. The Fish Habitat Grant Review Committees met in December 2012 and January 2013 to review county conservation board projects. Each district forms a grant committee made up of at least five county

conservation board directors that rank and score all of the projects in their district. A district fisheries biologist sits on each committee for advisory purposes. The committee recommends funding the projects as follows:

**District I committee recommends funding the following seven (7) ranked projects.**

Webster County	\$ 8,190.00	Fishing Jetty/Spawning Bed Construction – Moorland Pond
Polk County	\$11,971.00	Diffused Aeration Installation – Two Dam Pond, Thomas Mitchell Pond
Marshall County	\$45,000.00	Silt Removal – Green Castle Recreation Area
Jasper County	\$22,419.00	Reimer Refuge Pond Project
Poweshiek County	\$15,867.00	Diamond Lake Shoreline Armoring and Repair
Tama County	\$10,527.00	Shoreline Armoring – Otter Creek Lake
Carroll County	\$20,950.00	Pond Construction at Tigges South Wildlife Area

**District I Total \$134,924.00**

**District II committee recommends funding the following four (4) projects.**

Mitchell County	\$10,980.00	Rock Creek Wildlife Area Crossing Removal
Chickasaw County	\$19,800.00	Haus Park Fish Passage Structure
Worth County	\$33,660.00	Sidney Swensrude Bank Stabilization
Winneshiek County	\$78,143.00	Lake Meyer Sediment Retention Basin

**District II Total \$142,583.00**

**District III committee recommends funding the following seven (7) ranked projects.**

Woodbury County	\$30,690.00	Snyder Bend Park Shoreline Armoring
Ida County	\$18,810.00	Crawford Creek lake Shore Armoring
Palo Alto County	\$10,716.00	Basswood Recreation Area River Rip Rap
Lyon County	\$27,859.00	Lake Pahoja Fish Jetty
Lyon County	\$23,490.00	Lake Pahoja Renovation of Fish Population
Monona County	\$18,000.00	Savery Pond Shoreline Armoring
O'Brien County	\$19,947.00	Dog Creek Lake Fish Population Renovation

**District III Total \$149,512.00**

**District IV committee recommends funding the following seven (7) projects.**

Adams County	\$34,871.00	Lake Icaria Sediment Retention Ponds
Harrison County	\$25,200.00	Silt Retention Ponds—Willow Lake
Union County	\$25,538.00	Pond Renovation—Cedar Park
Audubon County	\$7,398.00	Littlefield Lake Wetland Restoration
Audubon County	\$13,950.00	Littlefield Lake Shoreline Restoration
Audubon County	\$8,331.00	Littlefield Lake Shoreline Dredging
Taylor County	\$2,700.00	Fish Restoration—Sands Timber Area

**District IV Total \$117,998.00**

**District V committee recommends funding the following three (3) projects.**

Appanoose County	\$31,500.00	Lelah Bradley Park Fishing Improvement Project
Marion County	\$69,741.00	Fish Habitat/Lake Renovation Marion Co. Park
Washington County	\$13,500.00	Marr Park Pond Restoration & Enhancement Project

**District V Total \$114,741.00**

**District VI committee recommends funding the following six (6) ranked projects.**

Dubuque County	\$10,335.00	Upper Catfish Creek Aquatic Habitat Improvement
Buchanan County	\$14,760.00	Grover Fish Jetties
Jackson County	\$37,925.00	Spruce Creek Park-Harbor Restoration

Iowa County	\$16,632.00	Gunderson Conservation Area East Pond Reconstruction
Dubuque County	\$16,000.00	Massey Marina Over-Winter Habitat Improve.
Jones County	\$42,406.00	Central Park Lake Restoration and Pond Construction

**District VI Total \$138,058.00**

The projects described in the table below represent the unsuccessful grant applicants. It is provided for the Commission's information but is not recommended for funding at this time.

Butler County	\$26,685.00	South Fork Park Pond Improvement
Hamilton County	\$38,700.00	Little Wall Lake Shoreline Armoring and Habitat
Kossuth County	\$7,141.00	Siems Park Aerator Project
Story County	\$24,000.00	Dakins Lake Expansion – Fish Habitat Enhancements
Taylor County	\$42,704.00	Sand's Timber Rec. Area Handicap Access. Jetty
Taylor County	\$19,800.00	Sand's Timber Recreation Shoreline Deepening Fish Habitat Improvement

The Department recommends the Commission to approve the aforementioned projects, as described above.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**9. MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING WITH DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT**

Commission approval is requested to enter into a series of memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with the Department of Administrative Services, State Design & Construction Resources Bureau. The total amount of these MOUs will not exceed \$758,322.00, which shall include project oversight, design and construction for each of the subject projects. Funding used will be Marine Fuel Tax matched with U.S. Coast Guard funding, NAWCA (*North American Wetlands Conservation Act*), and Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund. The parties propose to enter into a series of MOUs for the purpose of retaining Department of Administrative Service's State Design & Construction Resources Bureau to provide construction management services on projects that ~~are in need of outside design services~~ **cannot be handled inhouse (IA DNR) due to a backlog of projects because of insufficient staffing.** Each MOU will define a specific project (listed below) and will allow for the transfer of funds for project oversight, design, and construction costs for which the State Design & Construction Resources Bureau is responsible.

Location	Description	Construction Costs		Contingency	Design and Engineering	Total
		Federal Funds	State Funds			
Tug Forks	Boat Ramp Extension	10,000	10,000	5,000	6,000	31,000
West Nishnabotna River	Hwy 34 Boat Ramp	12,500	12,500	6,250	7,500	38,750
Red Rock	Box Car Access Repair	20,000	45,000	16,250	19,500	100,750
Williamson Pond	Boat Ramp/Gravel Parking	15,500	15,500	7,750	9,300	48,050
Keomah State Park	Boat Ramp Replacement	15,000	15,000	7,500	9,000	46,500
Rock Creek State Park	Concession Area Boat Ramp Replacement	25,000	25,000	12,500	15,000	77,500
*Olin Access	Boat Ramp	0	54,400	5,500	15,797	75,697
*DeWitt Access	Boat Ramp	0	75,000	7,900	17,225	100,125
Clear lake Wildlife Area	Ventura Marsh boat Ramp	7,500	7,500	3,750	4,500	23,250

Marble Beach & Triboji State Park	Boat Ramp Repairs	6,000	6,000	3,000	3,600	18,600
Emerson Bay	Boat Ramp Repairs	6,000	6,000	3,000	3,600	18,600
Hinshaw Bridge	Boat Ramp Replacement	30,000	30,000	15,000	18,000	93,000
Sny Magill	Boat Ramp Replacement	15,000	15,000	7,500	9,000	46,500
Trumbull Lake	Hydraulic Analysis for new outlet structure	0	0	0	40,000	40,000
<b>Total</b>		162,500	316,900	100,900	178,022	758,322

\*NOTE: Indicates two individual projects that are a part of the pilot with the Department of Administrative Service’s State Design and Construction Resources Bureau. Design is complete, no construction has commenced.

Motion – Commissioner Prickett move items 9 with a change in language in the second paragraph to read “...that cannot be handled inhouse (IA DNR) due to a backlog of projects because of insufficient staffing.”  
 Seconded – Commissioner Clement  
 Discussion – Kelley Myers, attorney, provided information that the Department is authorized to enter into this type of agreement with DAS through IA Code Chapter 28E with our collaboration and project involvement.  
 Decision – Approved as amended by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS AMENDED

**10. ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ITEMS**

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction projects:

**10.1. BLACK HAWK LAKE, SHORELINE ARMORING – PHASE 2**

**Project Summary:** The scope of this project involves installation of class “B” fieldstone revetment along 1,200 feet of shoreline at Cottonwood Point, Black Hawk Lake. This project will supplement the armoring placed under DNR Project No. 13-01-81-03 that was approved via teleconference January 25, 2013. At the time of bidding, for Project No. 13-01-81-03, it was anticipated there would not be enough fieldstone available to bid both projects. Since the bid, additional fieldstone has become available. The Lake Restoration Program will fund this contract as one of the significant public lakes prioritized for restoration. Lake Restoration Program guidelines recommend the Department give priority for funding to active lake projects so long as progress toward completion of the project remains consistent with the goals of the program. The project was designed and bid by the Engineering Bureau. **Function of the Project:** A shoreline assessment identified Cottonwood Point area has the greatest need of protection. Placement of native fieldstone will help protect this unique natural feature from erosion as well as help improve water quality. Cottonwood Point is now only a few feet wide in some areas due to previous erosion. The erosion on the point shall be mitigated by Phase 1. Phase 2 of this project is needed to protect the western shoreline of the base of the point. The use of fieldstone will also provide a more long-term solution vs. limestone as it does not break down over time under freeze-thaw conditions. **Construction Needed:** Work under this project includes a small amount of clearing to gain access to the shoreline. Contractors will then place a 4 to 6 foot wide revetment stone barrier along the existing eroded shoreline. A total of 1,100 Ton of class “B” fieldstone will be installed as part of this project. **Green Features:** This project will utilize reclaimed or repurposed fieldstones from farm fields.

- DNR Project Manager:** Jeff Felts, PE; Engineering Bureau
- Designer:** Jeff Felts, PE; Engineering Bureau
- DNR Inspector:** Jeff Felts, PE; Engineering Bureau
- Operating Bureau:** Fisheries
- Funding Source:** 100% Lakes Restoration; Capital Link #88
- Cost Estimate:** \$70,000.00
- Plans Issue Date:** 01/28/13
- Bid Letting Date:** 02/07/13
- Plan Holders:** 8

**Number of Bids Received:** 5

**Bidders**

L.A. Carlson Contracting, Inc.	Merrill, IA	\$64,225.00
Richards Construction Co., Inc.	Sac City, IA	\$67,750.00
Flewelling Earthmoving Inc.	Moville, IA	\$72,812.00
Nelson & Rock Contracting, Inc.	Onawa, IA	\$81,600.00
Schoon Construction, Inc.	Cherokee, IA	\$90,550.00

**IDNR recommends awarding the bid to L.A. Carlson Contracting, Inc.**

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**10.2. LAKE ICARIA WMA – ZIMMERMAN POOL, WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT**

**Project Summary:** The Lake Icaria Rock Chute Wetland is a crucial conservation practice, which insures quality drinking water is provided to residents of Adams and Montgomery Counties. In 2012 concerns over observed land use changes in the watershed prompted a land use assessment to be performed. Project sponsor concerns were verified with the assessment. Over 2,000 acres of what was once grassland had been converted to row crop. The change in land use prompted more erosion and sediment deposition in the lake. Constructed in 2004 as part of the Three Lakes Water Quality Project, the structure treats an 11,100-acre drainage area preventing 3,000 tons of sediment and 3,900 lbs of phosphorus from being deposited in the lake each year. The structure was the key practice that enabled Lake Icaria to be removed from the EPA’s 303d list of Impaired Water bodies. The structure also provides 60 acres of wetland habitat to migrating waterfowl as well as public hunting. The rock chute has suffered significant damage due to riprap spalling from frost action and riprap migration during large runoff events. The wetland rock chute is located at the north end of Lake Icaria. Work will include the replacement of the deteriorated existing chute riprap, installation of geotextile fabric, and cementing riprap with grout. Slurry grout will be used to bind the stones so that they will not dislodge during large rain events. This project includes a new outlet riser structure with approximately 80 LF of 30” diameter CMP outlet pipe, seeding, de-watering and minor earthwork. The Icaria Rock Chute was the first of its kind in Iowa, an innovative practice that treated large amounts of acres. Several more structures of this type have been constructed since 2004, each leveraging lessons learned since the construction of the Icaria structure. **Function of the Project:** This project will restore an existing wetland impoundment in the Lake Icaria WMA, which will continue to improve the water quality in the Lake. The wetland will enhance the area for increased growth of plants that are beneficial for waterfowl and other wetland species of wildlife. The wetland that is created will also increase hunting opportunities and water fowl viewing in the WMA. **Construction Needed:** The project will include the removal and disposal of an existing rock chute that was deteriorating and washing out due to previous storm events. New riprap of a higher quality will be placed in the chute area to restore the operation of the system. Construction will also include a new discharge structure that will provide for more management flexibility and control of the wetland water levels. A control structure will be added to improve the management of the wetland. This will allow managers to drain the wetland in the summer to allow moist soil vegetation to grow for the benefit of fall migrations. **Green Features:** The resulting wetlands will enhance the area for increased growth of plants that are beneficial for waterfowl and other wetland species of wildlife. The wetland that is created will also increase the opportunities for hunting and viewing of waterfowl in the WMA. By repairing the Rock Chute Wetland of Zimmerman Pool, it will ensure the longevity of practice and thus quality water in Lake Icaria.

**DNR Project Manager:** Butch Doorenbos, PE; Engineering Bureau  
**Designer:** Dave Rohlf, PE; Engineering Bureau  
**DNR Inspector:** Mark Johnson; Engineering Bureau  
**Operating Bureau:** Wildlife  
**Funding Source:** 50% Lake Restoration, 50% Other  
**Cost Estimate:** \$341,050.00  
**Plans Issue Date:** 12/31/12  
**Bid Letting Date:** 1/17/13

**Plan Holders:** 18

**Number of Bids Received:** 8

**Bidders**

Murphy Heavy Contracting Corporation	Anita, IA	\$333,924.00
Michael J. Lamb	Greenfield, IA	\$344,953.70
Kevin Kent Construction	Lucas, IA	\$353,252.50
Carley Construction, LLC	Treynor, IA	\$394,677.00
P & P Contractors	Winterset, IA	\$443,298.00
Nelson & Rock Contracting Inc.	Onawa, IA	\$443,550.00
TEK Builders Inc.	Mount Ayr, IA	\$450,382.00
K.M. King, Inc	Burlington, IA	\$595,910.00

**IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to Murphy Heavy Contracting Corporation.**

Motion – Commissioner Francisco  
 Seconded – Commissioner Prickett  
 Discussion – Gabe Lee provided information that the cementing of the grout will minimize the eroding water action and it is more resistant to the freeze/thaw cycle.  
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**10.3. LACEY KEOSAUQUA STATE PARK, CAMPGROUND WATER AND ELECTRICAL**

**Project Summary:** This project will entail the installation of new water and electrical service, site-specific excavation, compaction, seeding, mulching, overall site restoration and incidental items. The project will increase the amount of electrical campsites by 10 by converting some of the non-electric sites to 50-amp electric with a frost-free hydrant located at each site and one additional hydrant along the road for use by the campers in the remaining non-electric sites in the north arm of that campground section. The electrical campsites are consistently full on weekends while the majority of our non-electric campsites sit vacant. The Friends of Lacey Keosauqua and the DNR Parks Bureau have partnered to increased camping numbers and visitors to this park in rural southeast Iowa in Van Buren County. This project will benefit park users and visitors looking to camp with modern amenities. The Friends group raised approximately \$47,000 for this project and have lined up In-Kind donations including reduced cost of rock from a local quarry and donated site preparation work for the camp pads. The local electric provider has also donated some of the supplies needed for this project. The Friends group understands that increased campers have a positive impact on the local economy so they want this upgrade in order to be able to serve the campers who are now being turned away due to lack of vacancies on many of the weekends throughout the camping season. **Function of the Project:** This project will provide Lacey/Keosauqua State Park with 10 additional campsite pads that will offer water and 50-amp electrical service. An extra hydrant will be included in this project for use in the north arm of this campground where there currently is not one. We will increase camping numbers by adding these additional 10 sites. The new sites are larger, facilitating access and accommodating larger campers and vehicles. In addition, 50 amp services instead of 30 amp will work better for the larger campers. **Construction Needed:** Work includes setting a 400 amp distribution panel with primary mainline power connection, the installation of approximately 954 lineal feet of bored waterline with 10 associated campsite pad yard hydrants and one flushing hydrant, along with approximately 740 lineal feet of bored secondary electrical service with 50 amp post mounted electrical service boxes to each site, associated utility testing and site restoration. **Green Features:** This project utilizes underground boring installation in lieu of traditional open cut installation, which will be minimally invasive to nearby tree root systems.

- DNR Project Manager:** Bruce Flippin, PE; Engineering Bureau
- Designer:** Bruce Flippin, PE; Engineering Bureau
- DNR Inspector:** Bruce Flippin, PE; Engineering Bureau
- Operating Bureau:** Parks
- Funding Source:** Other – 100%
- Cost Estimate:** \$50,000.00
- Plans Issue Date:** 12/30/2012
- Bid Letting Date:** 02/07/2013

**Plan Holders:** 28

**Number of Bids Received:** 10

**Bidders**

Cicco Construction, LLC	Centerville, IA	\$58,092.79
Joiner Construction	Plano, IA	\$66,056.00
K.M. King, Inc.	Burlington, IA	\$67,134.62
Snyder LLC	Bonaparte, IA	\$72,446.51
WAG Trenching and Construction	Burlington, IA	\$77,239.16
Smith Seeding Inc.	Eldridge, IA	\$79,804.73
Schoon Construction Inc.	Cherokee, IA	\$82,767.40
Hennigar Construction L.C.	Fort Madison, IA	\$100,953.71
Meyers Driveway	Keokuk, IA	\$112,913.80
King Construction, LLC	Wall Lake, IA	\$157,409.65

**IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to Cicco Construction, LLC.**

Motion – Commissioner Drees  
 Seconded – Commissioner Francisco  
 Discussion – Gabe Lee provided information that qualifications for consideration, depending on the project, can include reviewing their insurance, bond agent, previous work, responsiveness, and verification they can work within Iowa.  
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**11. SMALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS CONTRACTS**

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

Bid Date	Project No.	Location	County	Summary	Cost Estimate	Bids
12/27/2012	13-02-77-06	Big Creek State Park	Polk	Directional boring of a 6" HDPE water pipe for approximately 300 feet under the spillway channel at Big Creek State Park.	\$30,000	<b>\$28,350</b>
1/17/2013	12-06-53-04	Maquoketa Wildlife Unit	Jones	Construction of an approximately 550 CY impoundment, including the installation of a water control structure.	\$15,000	<b>\$19,609.00</b> \$21,360.00 \$24,122.00 \$27,290.00
1/17/2013	09-06-52-9	Sutliff Boat Ramp	Johnson	Repair boat ramp undermining.	\$5,000	<b>\$5,700.00</b> \$7,119.00 \$8,750.00 \$10,980.00 \$11,597.01 \$13,800.00 \$24,500.00
1/24/2013	09-06-29-01	Geode State Park	Des Moines	Remove and replace culvert under roadway.	\$20,000	<b>\$11,368.20</b> \$12,324.80 \$12,597.55 \$14,121.10 \$19,683.00 \$20,937.07 \$24,604.00

The following CRD field staff managed projects have been let utilizing the Competitive Quotation process for projects \$100,000 or less:

Bid Date	Contract No.	Location	County	Summary	DNR Engineering Consultant	Bids
1/28/2013	13PI-CRDPBCHack-0002	Springbrook State Park	Guthrie	Install a perimeter collection system to collect and remove water in all forms. Install vapor barrier on all external walls which will also direct water to the perimeter system. Install direction system under window to direct water into perimeter system. Install sump system to collect from the perimeter system and discharge collected water away from residence.	Mark Johnson	8944.50 9680.00 10,022.00

INFORMATIONAL

**12. CONTRACTS FOR BIG CREEK STATE PARK SEWER EXPANSIONS**

Commission approval is requested for a two contracts, both of which support the Big Creek Sewer Expansion and Connection project (Project). Big Creek State Park (Park) currently utilizes a lagoon system for its wastewater treatment. The existing system is not functioning well and the Parks Bureau must either (1) repair the lagoons, at a cost of approximately \$750,000; or (2) connect to the Wastewater Reclamation Authority (WRA), which is a 28E organization comprised of 17 regional municipalities to collectively address wastewater issues, at a total cost of approximately \$750,000. This second approach is preferable in terms of budget, staff resources, and environmental compliance. All work must be completed by Summer 2014.

**Contract between the Department of Natural Resources and Polk City:**

The first contract is proposed between the Department and Polk City (City). The contract will authorize the voluntary annexation of portions of Big Creek State Park into the City and will serve as the rate agreement for the City’s management of Big Creek’s wastewater. The City is part of the WRA, and as part of WRA, the City may provide wastewater treatment services to properties within its city limits only. Coincidentally, WRA may not provide wastewater treatment service directly to customers but only to its member municipalities. Therefore, the portions of the Big Creek State Park which shall benefit from the wastewater treatment provided by the City must be annexed into the City and DNR must enter into a rate agreement with the City for its treatment of Big Creek’s wastewater. This first agreement will set the annual rate which the Department must pay for wastewater treatment services as well as the payment for the initial purchase of capacity from the system, which shall not exceed \$575,000. The rates are consistent with other ratepayers in Polk City and are more competitive than paying to improve, operate, manage and maintain the lagoons. (The City is also working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to annex federal property at the Park currently managed by the Department through lease.)

**Contract between the Department of Natural Resources, Polk City, and Knapp Properties, Inc.:**

The second contract will be among the Department, Polk City and Knapp Properties, Inc. (Knapp), for the installation of sewer lines across Knapp-owned property. Knapp is in the early stages of developing its properties in the area and the Department can realize approximately \$25,000 to \$60,000 in savings by purchasing capacity from Knapp’s sewer lines that will run through its property, as opposed to installing sewers in county- and city-owned rights-of-ways to another connection point. The agreement will authorize the Department to pay Knapp an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00, which represents the portion of the sewer line attributable to the Department’s use thereof.

The Department will be requesting approval from the Commission for a subsequent construction contract at a future meeting. The purpose of that construction project will be to install a meter pit and connect the sewer line at

the terminus of the Knapp property to the existing infrastructure at the Park and to complete the necessary infrastructure within the Park. The agreement for professional architectural and engineering design services for such work is before you as a separate agenda item at this meeting. The wastewater treatment capacity contemplated in the two agreements will be funded through Parks Infrastructure funds. Future wastewater treatment by the City will be paid by Park's operations funds.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco

Seconded – Commissioner Drees

Commissioner Underwood recommended discussing this brief in two parts as 12.1 and 12.2.

Motion Amended – Commissioner Francisco moved to amend his motion to separate the brief to review the two contracts separately under 12.1 and 12.2.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco moved to approve 12.1

Seconded – Commissioner Drees

Discussion – Gabe Lee, Engineering, and Kevin Szcodronski, State Parks, provided information that currently water is pumped to an existing lagoon in the park to equalize the flow and by controlling the load we can control the flow. The lagoon water comes from the day use, restrooms, and concessionaire facility in the park. Polk City completed a study and our contribution to this project is a fair price. They are treating the Department like they are treating the other households in the calculations. The city is overwhelmingly in favor of this partnership. If we do not participate in this option and move to upgrade the current system and add a cell, this cost is estimated at \$750,000 with continued long term lagoon maintenance and operations costs and we will also be in noncompliance with environmental regulations by 2014.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

Motion – Commissioner Drees moved to approve 12.2

Seconded – Commissioner Francisco

Discussion – Kevin Szcodronski, State Parks, provided information that the Department will be responsible for the sewer lines in our park to the manhole outside the park. If approved, design and engineering can begin right away with the possibility of being completed by early winter.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS AMENDED

### 13. ENGINEERING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ITEM - BIG CREEK STATE PARK WASTEWATER PROJECT

The Department has requested proposals of a Delivery Order under a master contract with the five consulting firms currently contracted in the Environmental and Sanitary Master Contracts. These five firms have been invited to submit a proposed Delivery Order by February 7, 2013 for professional services in preparing designs for completing the wastewater pumping facilities on the east side of Big Creek State Park in Polk County, Iowa. The DNR evaluation team has reviewed four submitted proposals and recommended their choice for the selected firm. This document is to update the NRC the evaluation team's recommendation for the chosen consultant for the NRC meeting of February 14, 2013. **Function of the Service:** The wastewater treatment facilities at Big Creek State Park are not adequate. The solution to this problem is to collect the wastewater generated on the east side of the lake and pump it to the wastewater collection system that serves the city of Polk City, Iowa. Services necessary consist of survey and design of the pump stations, force main, piping work and metering facilities that are necessary to convey the wastewater to eventual treatment at the Des Moines Wastewater Reclamation Agency regional treatment plant. **Design Needed:** The contract will include topographic survey work, soil boring information at the site, and preliminary and final design of the wastewater pump station, force mains, piping work and wastewater metering equipment.

**DNR Project Manager:** Butch Doorenbos, PE; Engineering Bureau

**Selected Consultant:** Stanley Consultants

**Operating Bureau:** Parks Bureau

**Funding Source:** 100% State Revolving Fund

**Contract Cost:** \$34,513.00 (not to exceed)

**IDNR recommends awarding the contract to Stanley Consultants not to exceed \$34,513.00**

Motion – Commissioner Drees  
 Seconded – Commissioner Prickett  
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

#### 14. LAND ACQUISITION PROJECTS

##### 14.1 CLEAR CREEK WMA – ALLAMAKEE VISTA CO. – BLAIR

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Allamakee County adjacent to state-owned and managed Clear Creek Wildlife Management Area. George and Angela Blair offer this 35-acre tract for the appraised price of \$114,444. The offer to the State of Iowa prohibits the extraction of surface and subsurface minerals, specifically for the purpose of hydraulic fracturing of natural gas or oil. Steve Badger, Licensed Appraiser of Marshalltown, Iowa, submitted the appraisal. Rick Hansen negotiated the purchase agreement. This rectangular-shaped property is located 6 miles southwest of New Albin in northeastern Allamakee County. The moderately sloping to steep, heavily wooded tract has a "dry creek" extending from east to west, as well as goat prairie at the west central portion of the tract. Oak and Hickory are the prevalent species within the heavily forested tract. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by a 66 foot wide permanent access easement extending 318 feet east of county, gravel-base Blair Road as well as through existing State of Iowa (DNR) land adjacent south. This tract will provide for wildlife habitat, protection of Clear Creek trout stream, and enhance public recreation to this area. Valuable goat prairie will be restored as well as restoration of open woodland habitat. The Wildlife Bureau will manage the property in accord with the area management plan. Acquisition funding will be \$63,400 from State Wildlife Grant (federal), and \$51,044 from Wildlife Habitat Stamp (state). The tract will remain on the property tax rolls. No fencing or survey costs is anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Staff recommends approval of the land acquisition.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

##### 14.2 ELK LAKE WMA – PALO ALTO CO. – JANSSEN

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Palo Alto County adjacent east of Elk Lake Wetland Complex. Marvin and Jane Janssen offer this 66-acre tract for the appraised price of \$82,300. Greg Tritle, Licensed Appraiser of Sanborn, Iowa, submitted the appraisal. Rick Hansen negotiated the purchase agreement. This property is located three miles south of Ruthven in west central Palo Alto County. The undulating tract consists of 62 enrolled in a permanent Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) easement (September 2011), and 4 acres of public road right-of-way. Restoration reflects an upland native seed mix as well as the existing semi-permanent wetland habitat. A county gravel-base road along the south and a county blacktop road along the west provide excellent access to the property. This tract will be managed for outdoor recreation. The acquisition will provide water quality benefits and assist in improving a future shallow lake project. The Wildlife Bureau will manage the property. Acquisition funding will be provided by a federal NAWCA grant. No surveying or fencing costs is anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Staff recommends approval of the acquisition.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

##### 14.3 BARKLEY STATE FOREST – BOONE CO. – INHF

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the acquisition of a tract of land located 1.5 miles north of Frazier and 8 miles north of Boone adjacent on the south boundary with DNR land. This 75.72-acre parcel is offered by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation for \$116,250.00. The property appraised for \$155,000.00. The property has been approved for a REAP Public/Private cost share. The grant recipient's responsibility is 25% with the REAP fund paying 75%. Licensed appraiser, David Nebel, Hertz Appraisal Services, Nevada, Iowa submitted the appraisal. The purchase agreement was negotiated by Jerry Gibson. The subject property consists of 75.72 acres of timber adjacent to existing DNR property. The tract is timbered with steep sloping ravines about one mile north of the Des Moines River. It has been several years since the land was logged. Acquisition funding will be REAP Public/Private cost share. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Real estate acquired by the DNR with REAP funding is eligible to remain on county property tax rolls. Staff recommends approval of land acquisition.

Motion – Commissioner Prickett

Seconded – Commissioner Francisco

Discussion – Paul Tauke, Forestry Bureau Chief, provided information about the area's landscape and unique features.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

#### 14.4 BLUE WING MARSH WMA – PALO ALTO CO. – INHF

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the acquisition of a tract of land located 2 miles northeast of Ruthven approximately 300 feet east of the eastern shoreline of Lost Island Lake. The 10-acre tract is offered for the appraised price of \$75,000.00. The land was part of a 60-acre tract acquired by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation in January 2012 for \$471,000.00. Licensed appraiser, Brett J. Blanchfield, Blanchfield Appraisal Services, Des Moines, Iowa submitted the appraisal. The purchase agreement was negotiated by Jerry Gibson. The subject tract has been used as cropland in conjunction with the larger parcel to the East, and has public access from 330th Street on the north edge of the property. [There is 0.131 acre of road right-of-way, and 3.5 acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program.] It borders land on the west that has rental cabins and campground; DNR land on the Southwest corner; and land north of 330th Street that is owned by Palo Alto County Conservation Board. There are no buildings. The average CSR is 73. The DNR will seed 9 acres to native prairie plant species, and restore a one-acre wetland. Acquisition funding will be \$40,000 from NAWCA, and \$35,000 from Lake Restoration funds. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Staff recommends approval of the land acquisition.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco

Seconded – Commissioner Drees

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

#### 14.5 WEST OKOBOJI WETLANDS COMPLEX – DICKINSON CO. – INHF

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the acquisition of a tract of land located 1.5 miles south of the junction of Iowa Hwys. 9 & 86 (west of Spirit Lake), and 0.75 mile west of West Okoboji Lake. The 40-acre tract is offered by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation for the bargain sale price of \$101,000.00. The tract was appraised for \$337,000.00. The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation received a grant of \$75,000.00 from the Dickinson County Water Quality Commission toward acquisition, and contributed \$50,000.00 from the LaVonne Foote Estate bequeath. Licensed appraiser, Greg Tritle, of Vander Werff and Associates, Sanborn, Iowa submitted the appraisal. The purchase agreement was negotiated by Jerry Gibson. This property is part of a larger tract of 120 acres acquired by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation in December 2010 for \$680,000.00. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has an option to acquire the south 80 acres. This portion of the larger tract consists of 37 acres of tillable land, and 3 acres of non-cropland. After restoration the tract will have 23 acres seeded to native prairie species, and 17 acres of restored wetlands that will provide watershed protection. There are no buildings. It's reported that the option acquired by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service includes an easement reservation to access the subject tract from 170th Street. Average CSR is 66. Acquisition funding

includes \$21,000 Lake Restoration and \$80,000 federal NAWCA. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. Staff recommends approval of the land acquisition.

Motion – Commissioner Clement  
Seconded – Commissioner Prickett  
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**15. LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

**15.1 PIKES PEAK STATE PARK – CLAYTON CO. – CHAPTER 18 LEASE, H. MOOSE**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve, for submission to the Iowa Executive Council for final approval, a Chapter 18 Lease with Hubert Moose. The Moose lease will cover a portion of blacktop driveway, wood shed and fence.

We are adding the following stipulations to the Chapter 18:

1. Any and all personal belongings shall be removed from State property.
2. The structures shall be properly maintained.
3. No additions or changes shall be made to the existing structures.
4. If the structure deteriorates beyond repair or is destroyed by natural causes, the structure may not be rebuilt or replaced and the remnants will need to be removed.
5. Landscaping of and removal of trees from State property is prohibited.
6. Limit mowing to grass only. Avoid removing woody vegetation and/or shrubs of any kind.

The proposed lease will be for a five year period. The annual fee is \$300.00 with a condition that the fee may be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. Staff recommends approval of the agreement.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**15.2 PIKES PEAK STATE PARK – CLAYTON CO. – CHAPTER 18 LEASE, KNAPP**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve, for submission to the Iowa Executive Council for final approval, a Chapter 18 Lease with Donald and Lois Knapp. The Knapp lease will cover portions of a mobile home court. A boundary survey revealed several encroachments in the area which total 2,408 square feet. The nature of the encroachments are four storage buildings and portions of four mobile homes.

We are adding the following stipulations to the Chapter 18:

1. Any and all personal belongings, sheds, LP tanks, piles of woods, boats, etc. shall be removed from State property leaving ONLY the mobile home.
2. If title to the mobile home is sold or transferred to another party, the mobile home shall be removed from State property.
3. If an existing tenant leaves the residence, the mobile shall be moved off State property prior a new tenant moving in.
4. The existing structures are to be properly maintained. No additions or changes shall be made to the existing structures.
5. If the structure deteriorates beyond repair or is destroyed by natural causes, the structure may not be rebuilt or replaced and the remnants shall be removed by tenant.
6. All flower beds and landscaping shall be removed from State property.
7. Removal of trees from State property is prohibited.
8. Limit mowing to grass only. Please avoid removing woody vegetation and/or shrubs of any kind.

The proposed lease will be for a five year period. The annual fee is \$300.00 with a condition that the fee may be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. Staff recommends approval of the lease agreement.

Motion – Commissioner Clement

Seconded – Commissioner Drees  
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

**\*15.3 PICTURED ROCK AREA – JONES CCB – MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the renewal of a management agreement with the Jones County Conservation Board and the DNR. This agreement authorizes the Jones County Conservation Board to manage the Pictured Rocks Area through 2037. The agreement covers 68 acres located south of Monticello. It is named for the steep limestone bluffs that enclose the narrow river valley. The area offers primitive camping, hiking and access to the Maquoketa River. The area has been managed by Jones County since 1987. The county desires to continue the agreement. Staff recommends approval of the management agreement.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

**\*15.4 IDLEWILD ACCESS – FLOYD CCB – MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the renewal of a management agreement with the Floyd County Conservation Board and the DNR. This agreement authorizes the Floyd County Conservation Board to manage the Idlewild Access through 2037. The agreement covers approximately 40 acres and has been maintained as a river access for boats and fisherman, as a small campground and day-use facility for the public. The area features an improved canoe ramp, fishing access, hunting and hiking trails. The area has been managed by Jones County since 1961. The county desires to continue the agreement. Staff recommends approval of the management agreement.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

**\*15.5 BRANDON ROAD ACCESS – BLACK HAWK CCB – MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for a management agreement with the Black Hawk County Conservation Board and the DNR. This agreement authorizes the Black Hawk County Conservation Board to manage Brandon Road Access through 2037. This tract is adjacent to the Klima Wildlife Area also managed by Black Hawk County and can be accessed by the public as a river access for boats, fishing and hiking. The County desires to manage the area. Staff recommends approval of the management agreement.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

**\*15.6 RAINBOW BEND ACCESS – CALHOUN CCB – MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the renewal of a management agreement with the Calhoun County Conservation Board and the DNR. This agreement authorizes the Calhoun County Conservation Board to manage Rainbow Bend Access through 2037. The area consists of approximately 19 acres adjacent to the Raccoon River Wildlife Area owned by the County. There is a boat ramp to provide access to the river for boating and fishing. The area is also accessed by the public for hiking and hunting. The County desires to continue to manage the area. Staff recommends approval of the management agreement.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

**16. DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR REMARKS**

Diane Ford, legislative liaison, provided information regarding the Division staff doing great work providing the legislature with information presentations. Willie Suchy, Wildlife Bureau, and Diane Ford provided information on the 2012 deer herd management strategies, outcomes, license sales, and upcoming legislation.

**17. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- Waterfowl Working Group Update – Commissioners Drees and Francisco provided an update on the status of the working group. The invitation letter will go out today noting the first meeting will be held March 6, 2013. A timeline of future meetings will be provided to the NRC after the first meeting, where discussion will determine the direction and needs.

- Public Land Management and Public Land Use – Commissioner Underwood requested to discuss the Department’s response to the request from the field trialers a few months ago and open up a discussion on this issue to end with a sense of direction. Commissioner Francisco provided information on his personal experiences of prairie management as options for the Department to consider. He recommended reviewing the Pleasant Creek Recreation Area land management plan and considering more specific goals and objectives because we will not be able to be everything to everybody. Kevin Szcodronski, State Parks Bureau Chief, provided information about the land layout, the multiple uses of the area, and the varied needs of users. Commissioner Drees suggested a stakeholder meeting of users of the area. Kevin will review the plan and discuss with the Park Manager about holding another stakeholder meeting and will keep the Commission informed.
- Commissioner Francisco reported he was going to write a response to a gentleman who had concerns about the unavailability of law enforcement officers in his area. Commissioner Francisco researched with staff the availability of Conservation Officers and who the public should contact, e.g. local enforcement or sherriff, for certain issues.
- Commissioner Underwood encouraged the Commissioners to invite Director Gipp to speak at public events. He spoke at a January Rotary Club meeting and he did a good job and presents well. She, also, shared that she met with Senator Dearden and Senator Reagan to review the NRC annual report. Senator Dearden said he supports the report and talked about his efforts in trying to secure funding. Senator Reagan will also be working on some of the Commission’s priorities. On 02/22/13, Commissioner Underwood will be attending the Parks Foundation meeting for Commissioner Prickett.
- Commissioner Prickett stated she has received a request for the DNR to consider having a Missouri River biologist, similar to the one along the Mississippi River.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting – Commissioner Drees

Seconded – Commissioner Francisco

Decision - Approved by Unanimous Vote

With no further business to come before the Natural Resource Commission, Chair Underwood adjourned the meeting on 02/14/13 at 1:24pm.

CARRIED – MEETING ADJOURNED

#### UPCOMING NRC MEETING DATES

- March 14, 2013 – Business Meeting: Henry Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, 9:30am
- April 11, 2013 – Business Meeting: Henry Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, 9:30am
- May 9, 2013 - Business Meeting: Mines of Spain/EB Lyons Interpretive Center, Dubuque, IA, 8:30am