

MINUTES
OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2010

HELD AT:

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

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MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission was called to order by the NRC Chairperson, Gregory Drees on November 10, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. He then welcomed the public to the meeting and reviewed the public speaking forum guidelines.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

- Gregory Drees, Chairperson
- Richard (Kim) Francisco, Secretary
- Elizabeth Garst
- Tammi Kircher, Vice-Chairperson
- Dennis Schemmel
- Margo Underwood
- Janelle Rettig

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- John Downing – Iowa State University – Lake Monitoring Progress
- Merwin Briggs – Waverly, IA – Deer Depradation program

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion – Commissioner Francisco motioned to approve the agenda with the deletion of item 16.
Seconded – Commissioner Underwood
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

2. CONSENT AGENDA (*INDICATES PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA ITEM)

- *7.1 Wilson Island State Park, Pottawattamie County – Shower Building Pad & Utilities
- *10.2 East Okoboji Lake – Dickinson County – Ch. 18 Lease Renewal – Willadsen
- *10.3 Summerset State Park – Warren County – Warren Water District

Motion – Commissioner Kircher
Seconded – Commissioner Francisco
Decision – Approved as Presented

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 14, 2010

Motion – Commissioner Underwood
Seconded – Commissioner Garst
Decision – Approved as Amended by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS AMENDED

4. INTERIM DIRECTOR REMARKS

- Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund Public Input Meetings
 - Meetings in reference to hunting, fishing, and trapping in Iowa are being held around the state throughout the month of November.
- Budget Requests
 - Woodland Health \$2.5million
 - State Parks – \$890,000
 - Honey Creek Destination Resort State Park – Annual Bond Repayment
 - Green House Gas Permitting for Air Toxics – \$675,000
 - AFO/CAFO - \$700,000
 - Raccoon River Watershed - \$750,000
- ATV/Snowmobile Grants
 - Suggested informational item/possible presentation at next NRC meeting to discuss possible rule change requiring approval of the ATV/Snowmobile grants are brought before the commission.
 - 571 Chapter 28 approved April 2002 by NRC Link:
<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/aspx/ACODocs/ruleList.aspx?pubDate=11-17-2010&agency=571&chapter=28>
- Post Election Update
 - Iowa Water and Land Legacy amendment passed
 - Transition to Branstad Administration
 - New administration setting up transition team at old Mercy Capital building
 - No formal request received at this time for Director resignations
 - Attended Culver administration transition meeting
 - At will non-contract employees at risk
- Delhi Update
 - Emergency contract completed yesterday
 - Independent panel of engineers to report out on December 1st
 - Environmental Taskforce report due December 1st
- Meeting December 15th with IA Values Fund
 - Commissioners Kircher, Francisco and Garst will accompany
- RD&G State Parks Design Meeting December 10th

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

5. NRC LEGISLATIVE REPORT

- The Commission discussed the below as potential topics to include in their 2011 legislative report:
 - State Parks – Multi-year funding to support infrastructure and land management
 - Lead – not asking to do anything but informing that plan in progress
 - Communication / Outreach
 - Forest Health
 - Value of Economic Development
 - Expansion of out of state deer hunting license
 - Revitalization of hunting & shooting sports heritage
 - Recommend a dove hunt in IA

Motion – Commissioner Kircher motioned to table the item & schedule a commission workshop

Seconded – Commissioner Schemmel

Discussion – Commissioner Underwood stated that she hoped to move forward with discussion today. Commissioner Rettig agreed and stated she felt the topics discussed were a good basis (but opposed adding dove hunting) for the report and wanted to move forward.

Motion to table withdrawn – Commissioner Kircher

Roll Call Vote – To keep dove hunt recommendation in the legislative report

Commissioner Drees – Aye

Commissioner Francisco – Aye

Commissioner Garst – Nay

Commissioner Kircher – Aye

Commissioner Schemmel – Aye

Commissioner Underwood – Aye

Commissioner Rettig – Nay

Discussion – Commissioner Rettig strongly opposed keeping the recommendation of a dove hunt in the legislative report and stated that she would not sign a report containing such.

Motion – Commissioner Kircher motioned to proceed with writing the NRC Legislative Report with the primary writers being:

- Commissioner Underwood
- Commissioner Garst
- Commissioner Francisco

Discussion – Commissioner Drees volunteered to edit the final document

Seconded – Commissioner Francisco

Decision – 6-Aye's 1-Nay (Rettig)

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

6. HONEY CREEK DESTINATION RESORT STATE PARK – MONTHLY UPDATE

- Geoff Baekey, Capital Hotel Management, Andy Woodrick, HCR General Manager, and Linda Caird, Central Group Management reviewed with the commission:
 - State of the Industry
 - October Operating Performance
 - Strategic Initiatives Progress
 - STR Market Data
 - Guest Satisfaction
 - 90-Day Forecast

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

7. CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

***7.1 WILSON ISLAND STATE PARK, POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY – SHOWER BUILDING PAD & UTILITIES**

This project is for the construction of a rock pad and utilities to support a new prefabricated concrete shower building and a waste water septic system within the existing campground complex at Wilson Island State Park.

This project was designed by Mike Hameed, P.E. and Mark Johnson, of the Engineering Bureau, and will be inspected by Mark Johnson, DNR District Inspector. DNR estimate is \$95,000. Funding source is I-Jobs2. 6 sets of plans were issued and 3 bids were received.

Mark Hughes Construction	Glenwood, IA	\$98,737.97
Schroon Construction Inc	Cherokee, IA	\$119,512.69
Hanson Construction LLC	Clear Lake, IA	\$124,983.95

The DNR staff recommends awarding the project to Mark Hughes Construction.

APPROVED BY GENERAL CONSENSUS

7.2 FOX RIVER WMA, VAN BUREN COUNTY – LENTH TRACT DIKE REPAIR

This project consists of repairing an existing earthen dike, creating shallow water excavations and incidental work as required by the Plans and/or the DNR Construction Inspector. The purpose of this project is to repair existing dikes. The tops of the dikes need to be raised and reshaped. The back slope of the dikes will be extended to reduce erosion. Also, creating shallow water excavations will diversify the available habitat.

This project was designed by NRCS and will be inspected by Dave Heer, P.E., DNR District Inspector. NRCS estimate is \$86,312. Funding source is Federal NRCS (Capital Link #31) 6 sets of plans were issued and 3 bids were received.

Cole Construction Company Inc	Keosauqua, IA	\$67,685.20
Randy's Plumbing, Inc	Cantril, IA	\$87,223.04
Buford Dozing & Excavating	Bonoparte, IA	\$189,606.96

The DNR staff recommends awarding the project to the low bidder, Cole Construction Company Inc.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

7.3 LAKE DARLING STATE PARK, WASHINGTON COUNTY – SPILLWAY RENOVATION

This project consists of the removal of the existing concrete spillway, the drawdown pipe and valve chamber; the construction of an earthen dam including a rock cut core trench and two auxiliary earthen spillways; removal of trees within the construction area; the construction of a reinforced concrete inlet structure with a 72-inch diameter reinforced concrete principal spillway pipe and a gated 36-inch reinforced concrete drawdown pipe, and incidental work as required by the drawings, the DNR Construction Inspector, and/or the Construction Representative.

This project was designed by French-Reneker and Associates and will be inspected by Dave Heer and Heath Delzell, DNR District Inspectors and French-Reneker. DNR estimate is \$1,700,000. Funding source is Lake Water Quality Improvement (Capital Link #83). 34 sets of plans were issued and 5 bids were received.

CJ Moyna & Sons Inc	Elkader, IA	\$1,700,809.58
Peterson Contractors Inc	Reinbeck, IA	\$1,732,121.50
DeLong Construction Inc.	Washington, IA	\$1,783,428.39
JB Holland Construction	Decorah, IA	\$1,836,921.36
CERES Environmental Services	Brooklyn Park, MN	\$2,484,156.70

The DNR staff recommends awarding the project to the low bidder, CJ Moyna and Sons Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Francisco
Seconded – Commissioner Kircher
Discussion – Commissioner Underwood asked if any of the removed trees would be replanted. Mike McGhee explained that some of the trees may be replanted; but another alternative that has been discussed is establishing a prairie with native plantings in the area.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

7.4 BACKBONE STATE PARK, DELAWARE COUNTY – SLEEVE CABIN SEWER LINE

This project is for the sleeving/lining of the existing sewer lines at the Backbone State Park Cabin area. The Backbone State Park sewers were televised and inspected in 2006 to determine the condition of the sewer pipes, as the treatment system was receiving much higher flow than projected. After comparing the alternatives, it was determined that lining these pipes was an appropriate type of rehabilitation. There is a total of 5,541 linear feet of 8 inch and some 6 inch vitrified clay pipe. The pipe will be rehabilitated using cured in place pipe lining process. This process is much cheaper and simpler than laying new sewer lines.

This project was designed by Stanley Consultants and will be inspected by Mel Pacovsky, DNR District Inspector. DNR estimate is \$218,935. Funding source is LAWCON and REAP and I-Jobs (Capital Link #187). 2 sets of plans were issued and 2 bids were received.

Municipal Pipe Tool Co.	Hudson, IA	\$198,935.00
Visu-Sewer, Inc.	Pewaukee, WI	\$257,345.00

The DNR staff recommends awarding the project to Municipal Pipe Tool Co.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

8. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS – DELIVERY ORDER APPROVAL

8.1 WAUBONSIE SP – FREMONT COUNTY – NATURE CENTER RENOVATION – SCHEMMER ASSOCIATES

The Department has negotiated a delivery order under a master contract with **Schemmer Associates** to provide architectural and design consultation services for the renovation of the Waubonsie State Park Nature Center in Fremont County. The building is a 2 story structure built in the 1970’s as a Girl Scout Camp Program and Administration Building. The main level will be expanded to provide more space for the work/study area. The kitchenette will be upgraded and enlarged to better accommodate group functions. Restrooms on both floors will be remodeled and incorporate water conserving dual flush toilets. Wood windows throughout the facility will be replaced with energy efficient units. Interior and exterior finishes will be preserved where practical, as conditions warrant. Modifications to the exterior will be respectful of the original rustic appearance. The estimated construction cost for the renovation of this building is \$340,000.00.

Schemmer Associates will make a site visit to confirm dimensioning and further investigate areas needing attention with the remodel. Meetings between Schemmer Associates and IDNR will occur at 35% and 65% design levels to verify owner preferences and review anticipated construction costs. Schemmer Associates has proposed a schedule to complete the design work approximately 16 weeks from the receipt of a signed delivery order from IDNR.

The estimated cost of the work is **\$38,389.00**, with the work billed on a time and materials basis with a not-to exceed amount equal to the estimate. The billing rates shall be as established in the master contract. The funding source is I-Jobs.

IDNR recommends awarding the delivery order to Schemmer Associates Inc.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

8.2 VIKING LAKE SP – MONTGOMERY COUNTY – RETREAT CENTER DESIGN – SCHEMMER ASSOCIATES

The Department has negotiated a delivery order under a master contract with **Schemmer Associates** to provide architectural and design consultation services for the remodel of the Viking Lake State Park retreat center in Montgomery County. The building is a 2 story wood framed structure built in the 1990’s as a church camp retreat. Miscellaneous building code upgrades include a firesprinkler system, ADA accessibility for both levels, and foundation tiling for site drainage issues. The current kitchen is also a problem as it does not allow for food preparation for large groups. The kitchen will get cabinetry and appliance upgrades in addition to new floor and wall treatments. The plumbing, electrical, and HVAC systems will be reviewed to make use of existing infrastructure while updating where necessary to provide a durable remodel for rental to groups and families. The estimated construction cost for the remodel of this building is \$150,000.00.

Schemmer Associates will make a site visit to confirm dimensioning and further investigate areas needing attention with the remodel. Meetings between Schemmer Associates and IDNR will occur at 35% and 65% design levels to verify owner preferences and review anticipated construction costs. Schemmer Associates has proposed a schedule to complete the design work approximately 16 weeks from the receipt of a signed delivery order from IDNR.

The estimated cost of the work is \$24,322.00, with the work billed on a time and materials basis with a not-to exceed amount equal to the estimate. The billing rates shall be as established in the master contract. The funding source is REAP OS Acquisition & Development.

IDNR recommends awarding the delivery order to Schemmer Associates Inc.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

8.3 LACEY KEOSAUQUA SP – VAN BUREN COUNTY – BEACH FACILITY / DAY USE LODGE DESIGN – SCHEMMER ASSOCIATES

The Department has negotiated a delivery order under a master contract with **Schemmer Associates** to provide architectural and design consultation services for the remodel of the Lacey Keosauqua State Park Beach House in Van Buren County. The building is a wood framed structure with stone veneer siding and a wood shake roof. Originally designed as a Beach House including facilities for male and female toilet rooms, the building is to be modified to allow for a large meeting room that could be rented to groups. The interior finishes including the ceiling, walls and flooring will be upgraded. Exposed stone areas will remain visible to preserve the architectural character. The original changing rooms on the ends of the building will be modified to to serve as outside patio areas. Drainage issues are to be addressed with corrections to the grading , paving and the addition of an underground drainage system to surround the building. The estimated construction cost for the remodel of this building is \$200,000.00.

Schemmer Associates will make a site visit to confirm dimensioning and further investigate areas needing attention with the remodel. Meetings between Schemmer Associates and IDNR will occur at 35% and 65% design levels to verify owner preferences and review anticipated construction costs. Schemmer Associates has proposed a schedule to complete the design work approximately 16 weeks from the receipt of a signed delivery order from IDNR.

The estimated cost of the work is **\$33,739.00**, with the work billed on a time and materials basis with a not-to exceed amount equal to the estimate. The billing rates shall be as established in the master contract. The funding source is I-Jobs-2.

IDNR recommends awarding the delivery order to Schemmer Associates Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Underwood

Seconded – Commissioner Garst

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

9. 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
10/7/10	11-01-71-01	O'Brien	Austin and Kilts	Siding/Roofing removal (asbestos)	\$6,000.00	\$7,496.00
						\$10,635.00
						\$14,095.00
10/14/10	11-03-17-01	Cerro Gordo	Ventura Access	Concrete fishing access	\$8,000.00	\$9,576.25
						\$9,715.50
						\$28,440.50
10/14/10	08-03-17-05	Cerro Gordo	Clear Lake - Ritz Access	Shore up undercut sidewalk	\$5,200.00	\$4,481.25
						\$7,875.00
						\$8,250.00
10/14/10	09-03-12-01	Butler	Big Marsh WMA	Repair spillway & structure	\$9,000.00	\$7,725.00
10/14/10	09-03-12-01	Butler	Big Marsh WMA	Repair spillway & structure	\$9,000.00	\$7,800.00
10/21/10	11-01-97-01	Woodbury	Winkle Tract	Excavation & Earthfill	\$6,500.00	\$8,460.00
						\$8,690.00
						\$13,034.00
10/21/10	09-06-23-01	Clinton	McCausland Access	Riverbank Erosion Repair	\$21,400.00	\$14,772.00
						\$19,641.04
						\$23,850.00

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

10. LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

10.1 CONTRACT AMENDMENT – IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY – TOPEKA SHINER STUDY

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve an amendment to a contract with Iowa State University through the Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit titled “Distribution and Abundance of the Topeka Shiner in West-Central Iowa”. The amendment will add an additional \$30,283.66 to the existing contract for a new total of \$126,058.66. The Topeka shiner is a federal endangered species.

Funding is 75% Section 6 federal endangered species funds and 25% REAP License Plate funds. Previous funding for the current contract is also 75% section 6 and 25% REAP License Plate funds. At the time the project was submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for funding in 2007 it was determined that several years of Section 6 funds would be required to fully fund the study. The contract was initiated in late 2009 to allow selection of a graduate student and to begin field surveys in 2010. This is the last portion of the federal funding needed to complete the study. The final report for the study is scheduled for completion by September 30, 2012 and a summary of the study may be provided to the NRC upon request.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

***10.2 EAST OKOBOJI LAKE – DICKINSON COUNTY – CH. 18 LEASE RENEWAL - WILLADSEN**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve, for submission to the Iowa Executive Council for final approval, a lease renewal (16-R) with Mr. Hans Willadsen for a portion of East Okoboji Lake.

The leased area covers a portion of boathouse located below the ordinary high water line of East Okoboji adjacent to Lot #5, Block 4 of Osborne’s Addition to the Town of Spirit Lake, Dickinson County.

The building is approximately 54 feet wide by 80 feet long. All but approximately 27 square feet of the boathouse is on state property. The building is used to store two pontoon boats, kayaks, a lawn mower, and miscellaneous tools and garden equipment. All items are for personal use.

The lease was originally issued to Iowa Lakes Community College in 1984. In January 1993, Iowa Lake Community College sold the building to Mr. Willadsen and the lease was assigned to him.

The lease will be for a period of five years with an annual fee of \$300.00. If the IAC-571-18 fee schedule is amended during the term of this lease, the fee shall be adjusted to meet the revised schedule.

APPROVED BY GENERAL CONSENSUS

***10.3 SUMMERSET STATE PARK – WARREN COUNTY – WARREN WATER DISTRICT**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve issuance of a permanent water line easement to the Warren Water District to construct and maintain a water main. The water main is part of a project to upgrade the water district’s pump stations which provide water to Warren County. The main will parallel Highway 65/69, running the length of the west boundary of the park. The easement would be 32 feet in width and approximately 1000 feet in length.

Warren Water District has offered \$740.00 for the easement plus restoration and or compensation for any damages. Construction of the main would likely take place in the fall of 2010.

APPROVED BY GENERAL CONSENSUS

11. LAND ACQUISITION PROJECTS

11.1 MAQUOKETA RIVER – CLAYTON CO. – RICHMOND

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a permanent easement for angler access on a 1,560 foot segment of the Maquoketa River located in southwestern Clayton County and northwest of Backbone State Park. John and Jane Richmond offer this permanent easement encumbering 5.4 acres for \$13,500.

Rick Hansen negotiated the option for easement in compliance with Title 49 CFR Part 24 which allows the negotiator to negotiate without an appraisal from a value of \$10,000 to \$25,000 with the landowners waiving an appraisal.

This heavily forested region of the stream bank is located 1 mile northwest of the Backbone State Park boundary. In addition to public fishing, the easement allows DNR to stock and sample fish, install fish habitat, and conduct water quality/stream bank improvements. The easement corridor is 150 foot wide by 1,560 foot in length (75 foot on each side of the centerline of Maquoketa River). Excellent access is provided by a county, gravel-base road (400th Street) at the south boundary.

This easement will be monitored by the Fisheries Bureau.

I-JOBS funding will be used to acquire the easement. No survey or fencing costs are anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Motion – Commissioner Kircher

Seconded – Commissioner Rettig

Discussion – Commissioner Garst asked if there would be a public parking area. Travis Baker explained that the public would be allowed to park along the roadside, a parking lot would not be constructed. Commissioner Underwood asked about future opportunities for a parking lot if additional land was obtained through an easement. Travis Baker responded that it is unlikely as it is not part of the current land acquisition strategy. Commissioner Rettig asked how the public would know they can access the area. Travis Baker explained that there would be signage placed in the area as well the information would be available in the trout fishing handbook.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

12. CONTRACT WITH NORTHEAST IOWA RC&D FOR TARGETED FOREST RESERVE OUTREACH AND WOODLAND STEWARDSHIP OUTREACH IN THE DRIFTLESS AREA

The Commission is asked to approve a two-year \$110,000.00 contract with Northeast Iowa RC&D Inc. to deliver forestry resource outreach via direct mailings and follow-up site visits to Forest Reserve landowners in the Iowa’s Driftless Area. Work will occur in Allamakee, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette, Jackson, Jones and Winneshiek counties. The RC&D will also develop television and radio ads, billboards, and promotional materials promoting woodland management and health. “Call Before You Cut” program materials will also be promoted and distributed through this contract.

Funding for this contract comes through a United State Department of Agriculture Forest Service competitive Forest Stewardship Project grant entitled “Maximizing Forest Reserve Potential through Targeted Outreach and Mass Media Utilization in the Driftless Area”.

Funding for this project is authorized under Section 456A.24(13) of Iowa Code.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

13. HARDWOOD TIMBER SALE YELLOW RIVER STATE FOREST – PC10_14

The Natural Resource Commission is asked to approve the sale of an estimated 82,760 board feet of mixed hardwood trees at the Yellow River State Forest. The sale consists of 438 trees.

Species	Total Volume (bd.ft.)	Number of Trees
Walnut	760	3
Red Oak	30960	113
White Oak	25720	123
Hard Maple	5180	55
White Ash	4920	28
Red Elm	220	1
Basswood	1540	12
Aspen	11960	90
Cherry	200	2
Hickory	1300	11
Total Sale Volume	82760	438

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. The harvest will allow sunlight to stimulate the growth of oak seedlings already present on the site. 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
Troendle Logging	Dorchester, IA	\$41,380.00
Kendrick Forest Products	Edgewood, IA	\$38,960.00
Grau Logs & Lumber	Elkader, IA	\$36,800.00
Nelson Hardwoods	Prairie du Chien, WI	\$35,139.00
Dan Jones Logging	Waterville, IA	\$33,775.00
Todd Jones/ Jones Wood Heating	McGregor, IA	\$28,710.00

The Commission is requested to approve a contract with the high bidder, Troendle Logging for \$41,380.00

Motion – Commissioner Kircher
Seconded – Commissioner Garst
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

14. HARDWOOD TIMBER SALE YELLOW RIVER STATE FOREST – PC3_2

The Natural Resource Commission is asked to approve the sale of an estimated 63,240 board feet of mixed hardwood trees at the Yellow River State Forest. The sale consists of 356 trees.

Species	Total Volume (bd.ft.)	Number of Trees
Walnut	4440	16
Red Oak	47520	244
White Oak	3100	30
Hard Maple	180	5
White Ash	6120	43
White Elm	380	5
Red Elm	280	2
Basswood	780	4
Aspen	120	1
Hickory	320	6
Total Sale Vol.	63240	356

An even-aged management system will be used in accordance with the Yellow River State Forest Management Plan to conduct a timber harvest on 5 acres. The harvest will allow sunlight to stimulate the growth of oak seedlings already present on the site. 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
Kendrick Forest Products	Edgewood, IA	\$41,994.00
Dan Jones Logging	Waterville, IA	\$40,050.00
Nelson Hardwoods	Prairie du Chien, WI	\$38,779.00
Troendle Logging	Dorchester, IA	\$36,600.00
Todd Jones/ Jones Wood Heating	McGregor, IA	\$33,416.00
Grau Logs & Lumber	Elkader, IA	\$32,850.00

The Commission is requested to approve a contract with the high bidder, Kendrick Forest Products for \$41,994.00.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

15. CONTRACT WITH IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FOR URBAN FISHING FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT AND CASE STUDY

Recommendations:

Commission approval is requested for a thirteen-month service contract with Iowa State University of Ames, Iowa. The contract will begin on January 1, 2011 and terminate on January 31, 2012. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed \$54,000. DNR shall have the option to renew this contract long as this contract and any extensions do not exceed a six-year period.

Funding Source:

This contract will be funded through the Aquatic Education Federal Aid to Sportfish Restoration Grant 125E.

Background:

Over the past two years DNR has worked cooperatively with Iowa State University Extension and City of Des Moines staff to determine feasibility of smaller urban waterbodies to become sustainable fisheries. This contract is for completion of plans for developing those waterbodies that show the greatest potential for supporting urban fisheries based on initial sampling and analysis. ISU staff will complete follow-up sampling in selected waterbodies and analysis of surrounding watersheds, and provide recommendations for improving four priority waterbodies to provide quality urban fisheries in the City of Des Moines.

Purpose:

Through this partnership, we will collect information necessary to develop plans to improve four priority waterbodies so they provide urban fisheries in the state's capitol city. The resulting plans will guide improvements for these sites and will also be used to secure resources needed to complete those improvements.

Contractor Selection Process:

Iowa State University was chosen using the Sole source, 28E process. Iowa State University was chosen for this project because of their experience in working with smaller urban systems as well as their familiarity with this specific initiative.

<p>Motion – Commissioner Francisco Seconded – Commissioner Underwood Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote</p>

<p>APPROVED AS PRESENTED</p>

16. CONTRACT WITH QCI FOR SPECIAL EVENTS SYSTEM APPLICATION MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT

Commission approval is requested for an amendment to an existing contract with QCI of Clive, IA. The contract will be amended to extend until December 31, 2011, and for an amount not to exceed \$27,000. These amendments are for application maintenance and enhancement support to accommodate the changes mandated by ITE for credit card processing and change orders the Department is requesting.

The original funding for the Special Events System was provided by a \$219,750 Iowa Access Grant which covered the original contract with QCI. The funding to support the \$27,000 amendment request will be from special event receipts and/or the Trust Fund.

The Department held a meeting and follow up communications with users and stakeholders for input into the usability of the Special Events System. The proposed changes will allow several program areas to integrate improvements requested by users and stakeholders, including “shopping cart” functionality added to the online payment of fees. This amendment will allow us to complete these changes.

The parties propose to enter into this Contract for the purpose of retaining the Contractor to provide information technology services. In the spring of 2009, QCI was chosen through the RFP process by high score and they have provided competent and quality service through the creation of the Special Events System.

ITEM REMOVED FROM AGENDA

17. DONATIONS

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

Donation To:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:
Chariton Research Station	\$120.00	6 pair PPE Earphones	Carrie Shaw, Monsanto
Law Enforcement - Furharvester Class	\$172.00	18 - 1 ½ Duke coil spring traps, 18 bottles coon lure	Wayne Funke, Funke Trap Tags & Supplies
Law Enforcement - Furharvester Ed. Program	\$85.00	5 dozen snares, 15 can Koozies, 15 trapping supply catalogs	Jeromy and Lisa Sommerfeld, The Snare Shop
Green Valley State Park	\$540.00	Cut cedar trees and anchor to bottom of lake for fish habitat.	High Lakes Outdoor Alliance
Green Valley State Park	\$5,000.00	Donation toward the construction of a camping cabin	High Lakes Outdoor Alliance
Green Valley State Park	\$1,150.00	Labor toward the construction of a camping cabin	Mark Bonneville Home & Farm Improvement Co.
Green Valley State Park	\$12,000.00	Donation toward the purchase of playground equipment in memory of Greg Haley	Traci Haley, Greg Haley Memorial Fund

Green Valley State Park	\$1,000.00	Donation toward the purchase of play-ground equipment in memory of Greg Haley	Rick and Annette Rice
Green Valley State Park	\$6,000.00	Donation toward the purchase of play-ground equipment in memory of Greg Haley	Crestland Community Betterment Foundation
Green Valley State Park	\$4,260.00	Donation toward the purchase of 3,000 walleye fingerlings	High Lakes Outdoor Alliance
Green Valley State Park	\$990.00	Two benches and labor to install them in memory of Greg Haley	Jeff Haley, Relatives of Greg Haley
Lake Macbride State Park	\$6,000.00	Funds to make improvements in Lake Macbride State Park	Marty Andreas, Solon-Andreas Foundation
Manchester Trout Management and Hatchery	\$500.00	Funds to be used toward repair of 2010 flood damage to the handicapped sidewalk, stream, and trout habitat in the stream at Richmond Springs in memory of Richard Sperflage who loved trout fishing at Richmond Springs in Backbone State Park.	Richard W. Sperflage Family
SE District Law Enforcement	\$2,000.00	Boat slip dock at Scales Point Marina on the Coralville Reservoir	Scott Anderson, Scales Point Marina
Spirit Lake Fish Hatchery	\$28,000.00	Information broadcast radio system	Joe Fitzgibbons, President; Okoboji Protective Association
Volga River Recreation Area	\$625.00	Sprayer that will be used to spray the weed in the recreation area	Joyce and Warren Trotter

Motion – Commissioner Kircher

Seconded – Commissioner Underwood

Discussion – Commissioner Underwood asked if there was an opportunity for an article in the Iowa Outdoors magazine or media coverage be done on the donations to Green Valley State Park. Kim Rasler explained that communications bureau gets donation list and will follow-up with Kevin Baskins the communications bureau chief to emphasize this donation

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- 2011 Schedule
 - Meeting start time when in Des Moines will be 9:30am when commission has not stayed the previous night and 8:30am if commissioners have stayed the previous night.
- Commissioner Drees
 - Reported that the shallow lakes restoration area on Diamond Lake previously toured by the commission last September is now being heavily used by water fowlers, kayak/canoe enthusiast, and bird watchers.
- Commissioner Garst
 - Great experience purchasing Hunting License Deer Tags with new ELSI II system, total time was about two minutes.
 - Recently attended 'Burn School' training for Burn Managers with headed by Iowa Prairie Network and was disappointed there was no representation from the DNR.
- Commissioner Francisco
 - Recently heard on Talk of Iowa radio broadcast a discussion of alternative ways to celebrate Thanksgiving and one of the ideas was to hold at an alternate location such as Backbone State Park cabins and thought it was a great idea.
 - Commended the fisheries department for taking a leading role in conquering the Gizzard Shad issue in the state.
<http://www.iowadnr.gov/news/10oct/gizzardshad.html>
- Commissioner Kircher
 - Requested that the department review the possibility to install a restroom at the Lake Sugema boat ramp.
- Commissioner Schemmel
 - None
- Commissioner Underwood
 - None
- Commissioner Rettig
 - IWill not a real step forward as the new Governor elect has pledged to cut:
 - State government by 15%
 - Property tax rate by 50%, which means there will no more local conservation if this happens as county government across the state would not be able to fund their county conservation boards

ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

- ATV/Snowmobile Presentation/Discussion
- DNR IJobs Projects Update

UPCOMING NRC MEETING DATES:

- 12/9/10 – Henry Wallace State Office Building, Polk County
- 1/12/11 – 1/13/11 – Henry Wallace State Office Building, Polk County

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Francisco to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Kircher. Approved by Unanimous Vote. With no further business to come before the Natural Resource Commission, Chairperson Gregory Drees adjourned the meeting on November 10, 2010 at 2:27 p.m.

APPROVED – MEETING ADJOURNED

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