

WINNEBAGO COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Annual Meeting and Regular Monthly Meeting: Monday, January 12th 2025 8:00 A.M.

Location: Hanson Nature Center 41600 Hwy 69 Leland, IA 50453

Board Members Present

Tim Missal

Nancy Helm

Mark Flatrud

Julie Hagenson

Jeff Schmidt

Guests

Susan Smith

Dan Ryerson

Board Members Absent

Staff Present

Chris Barber, Director

Lisa Ralls, Naturalist

Chairperson Hagenson called the annual meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

January 12th, 2025, annual meeting agenda was approved with a motion from Schmidt, seconded by Flatrud. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Following a motion by Hagenson, seconded by Helm, Executive board positions were approved with Schmidt becoming Chair, Flatrud becoming Vice-Chair, and Helm becoming Secretary. Unanimous. Motion carried.

The annual meeting was adjourned with a motion by Missal, seconded by Schmidt. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairperson Schmidt called the regular meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

The January 12th, 2026 meeting agenda was approved with a motion by Hagenson, seconded by Helm.

The December 8th, 2025 meeting minutes were approved after making a couple minor correction with a motion by Missal, seconded by Hagenson. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Work and budget reports were reviewed.

There was continued discussion on the proposed Ryerson land swap. We will further look into costs of reconstruction, general land value, and existing easement. No action was taken.

Discussion on the 2026 cabin rental rates and policy changes was tabled.

A motion was made by Missal, seconded by Helm, to approve the preliminary FY2026-2027 budget proposal. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Discussion on staff salaries was tabled.

Claims were approved for payment with a motion by Missal, seconded by Schmidt. Unanimous. Motion carried.

In other business, Susan Smith discussed the possibility of the nature center being available for use as an emergency shelter area during periods of extreme weather. Susan also inquired about repayment of the ARPA funds used during the construction of the nature center.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Helm, seconded by Missal. Unanimous. Motion carried.