



Minutes

Benton County Conservation Board Meeting

Monday, February 9, 2026 at 5:30pm

Benton County Nature Center, 5718 20th Ave Drive, Vinton, IA

Board Members Present: Randy Scheel, Becky Van Wey, Dan Hill, Derrick Parker, Sam Hunter - Virtually

Board of Supervisors: Bruce Volz, Tracy Seeman, Ron Tippet

Staff Present: Shelby Williams, Eric Schares, Faith Hunt, Cara Harrill, Ethan Hennings, Cecilia Dirks, Austin Wille, Zach Parmater

Public: Bob Stolen, Bruce Vissor

1. Call to Order at 5:30pm by Scheel
2. Approve Agenda - Motion to approve by Van Wey, seconded by Parker. All aye, motion passed.
3. Guests or public participation (kept to a maximum of 3 minutes, the Board will not take any action on public comments at this meeting but may do so in future meetings) None
4. Discuss/Action Consent Agenda: Motion to approve consent agenda by Hill, seconded by Van Wey. All aye, motion passed.
 - a. Approve minutes from last regular meeting
 - b. Approve Conservation and IRM expenditures and revenues
 - c. Receive and file activity report
 - d. Tabled Items
 - i. City of Atkins – Atkins Roundhouse: Lease
5. Business
 - a. IRM Update and Discussion - Schares presented
 - b. Discuss/Action Budget FY27 - Scheel gave update
 - i. IRM Budget
 - ii. Conservation Budget
 - c. Discuss Atkins Property - Stolen gave update. Atkins is not interested in a lease for the entire property at this time.
 - d. Discuss/Action Atkins Tree Bids CDBG Grant - Williams gave update. Hill made a motion to obtain sealed bids for the second round of tree planting, Van Wey seconded. All aye, motion passed.
 - e. Discuss Animal Shelter and Cherveney Properties - Williams gave update
6. Board Member/Staff Reports
 - a. IRM Update
 - b. Education Update - Hunt gave update
 - c. Law Enforcement Update - Williams and Wille gave update
 - d. Properties Update - Harrill gave update on OCNT, Hennings gave update on South Unit, Parmater gave update on North Unit
 - e. ICCS Fall Conference Update - Williams gave an update. Date of conference is 9.15.26 - 9.17.26
 - f. Director Update - Williams gave update
7. Other discussion
8. Set next regular meeting on Monday, March 9, 2026 at 5:30pm, Nature Center 5718 20th Ave Drive, Vinton, IA.
9. Adjourn – Hunter moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:18pm, Hill seconded. All aye, motion passed.

Minutes Submitted by: Cecilia Dirks

Approved

Date