

Boone County Conservation Board  
Minutes  
Tuesday January 13, 2026  
Boone County Courthouse 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Gary Nystrom

**Roll Call:** Gary Nystrom, Pat Hagan, Brian Bales, Lisa Kobernusz, Chelsie Wilson (Executive Director)      Absent Jennifer Schieltz

**Approval of Agenda:** The meeting agenda was presented for approval. It was moved by Brian Bales, second by Pat Hagan, the meeting agenda be approved as presented. Motion was carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (December 16, 2025):** It was moved by Lisa Kobernusz, seconded by Brian Bales, that the minutes of the board meeting December 16, 2025, be approved as presented. Motion was carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** Shawn Bryant, Boone County Board of Supervisor, represented the Boone County Conservation Board at the Ames Regional Economic Alliance annual meeting at the Iowa State Memorial Union on January 8, 2026, to accept the Community Impact Award for Don Williams Recreation Area. He presented the award to Chairman Gary Nystrom on behalf of Boone County Conservation.

There were no other public comments either verbal or written to be presented.

**Approval of Monthly Bills:** Chelsie Wilson presented the list of monthly bills and respective invoices totaling \$33,444.75 for approval as well as noted expenses which needed further explanation. It was moved by Brian Bales, seconded by Pat Hagan, that the monthly bills be approved as presented and be paid. Motion was carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

**Clubhouse Update:** Cindy Garvey, representing Friends of Don Williams Golf Course, reported that \$55,000 was received from Leonard A Good Testamentary Trust for their grant application for the new clubhouse at Don Williams. Friends of Don Williams Golf Course paid Burkett Construction directly the \$50,000. The remaining \$5,000 will be used to furnish the building

Chelsie Wilson reported that the old clubhouse was cleaned out with the possibility of the main floor being used for storage of supplies and materials for the clubhouse while the basement would meet the guidelines of a safety shelter in the future.

Chelsie Wilson gave an update on the progress of the construction of the clubhouse.

**FY 27 Budget Update:** On January 7, 2026, Chelsie Wilson presented the budget to the Boone County Board of Supervisors. The Supervisors commented that they appreciate the completeness of the presentation with her verbal and written narratives for the conservation department FY 2027 budget request, as well as the handout with comparative financial history of expenses and revenues of the Boone County Conservation over the last 3 years along with comparative graphic data for ranger and ops manager wages for the last 4 years with 6 counties being presented for comparison.

Also present at the presentation to the Boone County Board of Supervisors were Gary Nystrom, Lisa Kobernusz and Cooper Sanor

The Supervisors commented on the County budget increases/decreases in overall would not be significant.

Hopefully by the end of January Boone County Conservation will know the Supervisors response to our FY 2027 Budget request.

### **New Business**

#### **Iowa Forest Resiliency Partnership Program Grant Award:**

Chelsie Wilson reported that Boone County Conservation received a \$90,278 IFRPP grant for the forest reserve program at Buffalo Grove and Beaver Creek Wildlife locations in Boone County. The potential project cost to Boone County Conservation would be \$8,000. The maximum time allowed for the completion of this project shall be no later than May 31, 2029. Buffalo Grove---127 acres of prairie and woodlands with Beaver Creek passing through the park located in Southern Boone County near Perry, Iowa.

Beaver Creek Wildlife—25-acre wildlife area with natural and planted trees with Beaver Creek passing through the area also located in Southern Boone County near Perry, Iowa.

**Clubhouse Camera System:** After investigating the potential cost and finance of installing 3 security cameras (2 exterior and 1 interior), discussion with law enforcement and the Boone County attorney as well as a presentation by John Allen from Vanguard Computer systems (December 16, 2025 board meeting) 3 bids were submitted for the Security Camera System installation which are as follows:

Vanguard Computer System	\$5,865.00
A+ Communication & Security	\$3,763.65
ASTRA	\$3,644.45 with a monthly subscription fee \$20.50

After board discussion it was moved by Brian Bales second by Pat Hagan, the Board award the Security camera system purchase/installation to A+ Communications & Security for \$3,763.65. Motion was carried unanimously.

**Clubhouse Patio Extension:** Chelsie Wilson presented a proposal on a concrete patio extension of thirty-two feet by twenty-five feet at the clubhouse received from Distinctive Landscapes in the amount of \$24,083.87, and two other estimates from different companies.

After board discussion it was moved by Brian Bales seconded by Lisa Kobernusz, that the board move forward on the clubhouse patio extension if the Boone County Conservation Foundation would pay for ½ of the cost of the project. Motion was carried unanimously.

**Other Board Discussions:** There were no further items of discussion before the board.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business the meeting of the Boone County Conservation board adjourned at 2:30. Brian Bales moved to adjourn the meeting and Pat Hagen seconded the motion. Motion was carried unanimously.

---

Gary Nystrom, Chairman

Lisa Kobernusz, Acting Secretary

Next Board Meeting: February 17, 2026, beginning at 6:00 pm in the fourth floor Conference room of the Boone County Courthouse

Election of Officers