

**SPECIAL MEETING
JASPER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD
Conservation Office, Armory Building
September 19, 2025, 8:30 A.M.**

Board Members Present: Willie Yeager, Andy Stone, Chris Herbold, and Carol Kramer

Board Members Absent: Thad Nearmyer

Staff Present: Keri Van Zante

With a quorum present, the special meeting was called to order by Chairperson Yeager at 8:34 am.

APPROVAL OF BAXTER REAP GRANT- ACTION 26-26. In May 2024, severe flooding filled Baxter's Geise Park retention pond with sediment, reducing its storage capacity and damaging its recreational potential. The City is pursuing a REAP grant to dredge and to restore the pond's function and water quality, paired with the development of a safe, ADA-accessible loop trail. This project directly responds to public feedback gathered through the Iowa Living Roadways Community Visioning program, which identified a fishing pond and trail as top priorities to provide residents and children with safe access to recreation without biking along the busy F-17 Highway to a private pond. The restored pond and trail will be maintained through proper vegetation management, shoreline protection, and regular inspections to ensure long-term usability and environmental health. Motion by Herbold, second by Stone to approve the REAP grant that will be submitted by the city of Baxter for recreational improvements in Geise Park. Motion carried unanimously.

RANKING AND APPROVAL OF RFP FOR UHLENHOPP PUMP WETLAND PROJECT- ACTION 26-27. Board members discussed the 3 proposals that were received for the Uhlenhopp Pump Wetland Project. All the companies that were prequalified by IDALS for pump wetland construction were contacted to submit an RFP for this project. RFPs were ranked by four board members and two staff (Yeager, Kramer, Stone, Herbold, Van Zante, and Oldsen). Out of a possible high score of 40, Eocene received an average score of 17.9, Bolton & Menk a score of 22, and Shive-Hattery a score of 35.5. Shive-Hattery was discussed further, and it was notated that we had already had a very positive and successful experience with this company through the Mariposa Lake Restoration Project. In addition, the board was impressed with cost and hour details provided, as well as the discussion regarding the kinds of pumps that might be utilized based upon site conditions. Motion by Stone, second by Kramer to select Shive-Hattery as the engineer for the Uhlenhopp Pump Wetland Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Member Concerns. Nothing identified.

ADJOURNMENT- ACTION 26-28. With no further business appearing, motion by Stone second by Herbold that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:05 a.m.

Chris Herbold, Secretary