

Abstract of the Minutes of the State Board of Conservation

ISSN 0003-4827

Material in the public domain. No restrictions on use.



This work has been identified with a [Creative Commons Public Domain Mark 1.0](#).

Recommended Citation

"Abstract of the Minutes of the State Board of Conservation." *The Annals of Iowa* 13 (1922), 224-228.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.4333>

Hosted by [Iowa Research Online](#)

may be sold by giving the first opportunity of purchase to the Daughters of the American Revolution at the appraised valuation, as fixed and determined by said appraisers, and I hereby authorize my said executor and empower him to make, execute and deliver to the said Daughters of the American Revolution, or any others to whom sold, a good and sufficient conveyance upon the payment having been made; and I further direct that the grantees may have the privilege of paying for said property in installments not longer than five years at not less than 6% interest. The second privilege of purchase shall be given the Iowa Historical at Des Moines.

I also direct that there shall go with said property to the purchaser and belong with it, all Indian relics, historical collections, furniture and fixtures, (including one bed-stead and bedding therefor with one silk quilt), except books, post cards, and souvenirs said personal property being situated in the certain log cabin on said real estate and not elsewhere. There shall not be included in said sale of the above described property any copy-rights, now owned by me, unless a commission of 10% on cost price be paid to said grandchildren or their heirs forever for the privilege of publishing the books, photographs etc. copy-righted. But the purchaser at said sale may buy said copyrights from said heirs absolutely at such terms as may be agreed upon.

ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES OF THE STATE BOARD OF CONSERVATION

JANUARY 10-12, 1921

Resolutions.—Resolutions were adopted as follows: That as the citizens of Hamburg offer to donate a portion of the initial cost, that the Board recommend to the Executive Council the acquisition of the area near Hamburg when other areas in their order are taken care of and park funds become available; that as the citizens of Fort Atkinson offer to contribute approximately half of the initial cost that the Board recommend to the Executive Council the immediate acquisition of two blocks of ground in the town, including the historic fort and mission buildings.

Areas Considered.—Local citizens appeared in the interest of the following areas and the Board announced to them as follows: Park north of Council Bluffs, that funds are not now available, but when they are, and if local help is given, the Board favors acquisition; Estherville, citizens reported progress on obtaining options; Decorah Ice Caves, citizens said they would assist in purchase price, and they were told the Board is favorable but no funds are now available; Clarksville, citizens state they would contribute part, and were told the Board is favorable but no funds are now available; Clear Lake, citizens offer to contribute, Board told them it is favorable to obtaining the McIntosh woods, and the citizens say they will try to secure options; Beaman, citizens told

recommendation has been made and acquisition awaits condemnation, which the Board has recommended; Oakland, citizens were informed that the Board and Executive Council had taken favorable action and that condemnation proceedings were expected to be taken by the Executive Council; Tuttle Lake, citizens were informed that Game Warden Albert was recommended to make improvements to restrain and keep the water in the lake.

JANUARY 28-29, 1921

Condition of Park Fund.—Secretary Harlan reported that in answer to his requests he had received communications from the Treasurer of State and the Auditor of State giving information that warrants had been drawn against the park fund and paid without being first approved by the Board of Conservation. Mr. Kelso was appointed to inquire of the Executive Council as to subscriptions toward acquisition of state parks, deeds of land acquired by purchase or gift, and contracts for property, services or anything relating to state park funds whether made by the Board, State Fish and Game Warden, or Executive Council.

FEBRUARY 16, 1921

Resolutions.—Resolutions were adopted recommending the Executive Council to accept a gift of 168 acres from citizens of Jones County which cost them \$21,000, the land being near Anamosa, and lying on the right bank of the Wapsipinicon River and along Dutch Creek.

APRIL 22, 1921

Motions.—Motions were adopted as follows: That permission be given to hold a Y. M. C. A. summer camp in Dolliver Memorial Park, the park rules of the Board to be observed; that the proposed improvements on roads and grounds in the Anamosa State Park be referred to Kelso with power to act; that the Board recommend to the Executive Council that \$600 be set aside for the construction of bridges and roads in Dolliver Memorial Park and for the care of the park, to be spent under direction of Ford.

Resolution.—The following resolution was adopted: That the deed for the Theodore F. Clark tract near Traer, Tama County, together with its conditions be transmitted to the Executive Council with the recommendation that they be accepted.

Communications.—The following communications were received: A letter from L. W. Maxwell of Turkey River, concerning a gift of some twenty acres on a high point on the Scenic Route, directed answered with the statement it would be given attention later; a letter from Seth J. Temple of Davenport, concerning a marker for Camp McClellan, action deferred awaiting word from the Attorney-General; a petition from citizens of Lansing for the creation of a park of Mount Hosmer, placed on file; a letter from Ella L. Ralston concerning a proposed park near Washta, referred to Ford; a letter from J. N. Weidenfeller concerning Rock Bluff, four miles northwest of Ottumwa, on the Des Moines River, placed on file,

Condition of Park Fund.—The Treasurer of State being present he was asked to co-operate, and gladly agreed to do so, with the committee of the Board to ascertain the details as to monies paid out of the park fund, monies received from the state fish and game fund and from private subscriptions, deeds received and their present whereabouts, abstracts of title, contracts under which payments have been made and those under which continued expenditures are authorized, etc.

JUNE 17-18, 1921

To Get Opinion of Attorney-General.—A letter being received from the Attorney-General's office saying that in order to get an opinion with reference to the action necessary on the part of the Executive Council in accepting the gift of the marker for Camp McClellan, it would be necessary for the Executive Council to request an opinion from that department, it was ordered the secretary submit the file touching this matter to the Executive Council with the request that it ask for the opinion.

Motions.—The following motions passed: That as the acquisition of the Carlisle area had been recommended to the Executive Council that it again be referred to them for their further action; that the matter of the road leading to Farmington Park be referred to Harlan with power to act; that the subjects of renting land and putting up tents at Oakland Mills Park be referred to Harlan with power to act; that the Board ask the Executive Council to approve the appropriation of \$1200 a year for the custodian of Lacey-Keosauqua Park, with the upkeep of a house, two horses, a pony, one cow, and poultry, and \$300 additional for current expenses; that in the matter of repairs of buildings, estimates should be sent to the Board for its approval before expenses are incurred, and that there be filed with the secretary a monthly report by the custodian; that the Board recommend to the Executive Council that \$1200 be set aside for the Backbone Park and \$300 additional for current expenses; that \$300 additional be added to that allotted to Dolliver Memorial Park for current expenses; that \$400 be set aside for custodian and \$200 additional for current expenses for Anamosa Park; that \$400 be set aside for four months for the Ledges Park with an additional \$50 for current expenses; that an amount be set aside sufficient to meet contingencies at Morehead Caves Park not to exceed \$150 subject to the approval of Kelso; and that \$400 be set aside for four months for Farmington Park.

Parks Allotted for Superintendence.—The Board allotted to its members the parks for superintendence as follows: Backbone, Anamosa, and Morehead Caves to Kelso; Lacey-Keosauqua, Farmington, and Oakland Mills to Harlan; Theodore F. Clark, Dolliver Memorial, Lepley, and Medium Lake to Ford; Ledges, Eldora-Steamboat Rock, and Fort Atkinson to Pammel.

Monies Allotted to Areas.—The Board recommended to the Executive Council the allotment of monies out of funds to be available July

1, 1921, for acquisition of areas not to exceed the amounts as follows: Ledges, Boone County, \$42,000; Eldora-Steamboat Rock, \$10,000; Hamburg, \$4,000; Twin Lakes, Calhoun County, \$3,500; Lost Island Lake, \$7,200; Oakland, \$3,000; Wall Lake, Wright County, \$2,000; Roosevelt, \$2,000; Fort Atkinson, \$2,100; Morehead Caves, \$7,500; Wild Cat Den, \$8,000; maintenance of parks and compensation of custodians, \$5,500; improvements at Medium Lake, \$8,000; current expenses of Board, \$4,000.

Favorably Considered Areas.—The Board reported to the Executive Council that the following areas have received favorable consideration and should be acquired as soon as funds are available: Clear Lake, Pilot Knob, Palisades, Estherville, Sunk Grove, Peterson, Starr's Cave, Devil's Backbone, Madison County, Balsam Fir Grove, Allamakee County.

JULY 19, 1921

Resolutions.—Resolutions were adopted as follows: That the Board recommend to the Executive Council to accept the proposition of citizens of Winnebago and Hancock counties to donate \$7,000, the state to assume some \$10,000 more, in order to secure some 235 acres in Pilot Knob area so as to preserve from destruction the wooded lands adjacent to Pilot Knob and Dead Man's Lake; that Mr. Harlan's authority be continued to complete his investigations of the business of acquiring and administering the parks at Keosauqua, Farmington, and Mount Pleasant, and that he be urged to complete reports of the investigation, and to distribute copies to the members of the Board and to the Executive Council; that as the Executive Council has expressed its opinion that the direction of state parks should be under the Board, that it be requested to formally advise all concerned of said opinion in such terms as shall adequately confer on the Board ample authority for directing custodians already employed and other employees engaged in work on the parks; that the Executive Council be requested to confer on the Board the power to employ new and discharge old employees for cause.

Motions.—Motions were adopted as follows: That custodians at present in charge of state parks under the provisional arrangements shall be continued until changes are authorized by the Board; that the Board approves the appointment of C. F. Henning as custodian at the Ledges at \$100 a month for four months.

OCTOBER 15, 1921

Resolution.—The following resolution by Harlan was adopted: That the Board proceed no further, except with unfinished business, until there shall have been adopted by the Executive Council and the Board a system that shall have the approval of both bodies and shall embrace (1) a general accounting showing all receipts and expenditures up to November 1, 1921, with the authority upon which each was made; (2) a statement showing all areas acquired and those authorized to be acquired, with a showing as to remaining areas under consideration, with the status of negotiations therefor; (3) a statement of gifts, whether of

lands, monies or services, with conditions going therewith set out in each instance; (4) a method of record-keeping, with forms of current business, with uniform maps showing areas in original and improved state, the roads existing and proposed both within and connecting with the areas; (5) the employment of a competent person or firm of efficiency engineers directed to make the necessary survey and report for carrying into effect the business of the Board and Executive Council relating to state parks.

OCTOBER 21, 1921

Motions.—The following motions were adopted: That the Board approve Harlan's offer to file information and prosecute the person who cut a tree in the Oakland Mills Park, if the local parties complaining will obtain the necessary facts; that the Board request the Executive Council for permission to have a certain tree in the Eldora-Steamboat Rock Park examined and, if necessary, treated, said tree being a rare, native white pine tree and being recently damaged by fire started by hunters.

Communication.—A communication was received from parties at the Pilot Knob area requesting authority to construct fences, and the matter was deferred to the next conference with the Executive Council.

Conference on Anamosa Park.—A conference was held with Anamosa citizens in which they orally reported the improvements being made in that park, nearly all the labor being done with convict labor, and requested additional authority and funds. The Board awaits a formal report in writing, the same then to be taken up with the Executive Council.

Resolution.—Resolution by Harlan was adopted as follows: That the Board respectfully urge the Executive Council to rescind its resolution of October 10 whereby it ordered the discontinuance of the employment of all custodians of state parks on November 1, and that they allow custodians to remain in charge at Dolliver Memorial, Anamosa, Lacey-Keosauqua, and Ledges parks in order to protect the property, trees, etc., in those large areas, from vandals and irresponsible visitors; also, that if the Board shall be in whole or part permitted to direct the custody of the Backbone Park, the custody shall be upon substantially the same considerations as those advanced herein for application to the other parks mentioned.

“I will dictate peace in the city of Mexico on the first of September,” said Gen. Scott as he left New Orleans for Vera Cruz. And on the 24th day of August the city of Mexico was at his mercy, and the negotiations for peace were in progress at his bidding! The whole programme of his prediction has been turned to history.—*Weekly Miner's Express*, Dubuque, Iowa, October 27, 1847. (In the newspaper collection of the Historical Department of Iowa.)

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.