

**MINUTES OF THE DUBUQUE COUNTY REAP COMMITTEE**  
**(Resource Enhancement and Protection)**

**August 4, 2025**

**Members Present:** Harley Pothoff (Chairperson, Dubuque County Board of Supervisors), Mary Ann Knapp (City Clerk, Rickardsville), Chris Errthum (Council Member, Rickardsville), Stacey Bauer (Peosta Community Center Director)

**Members Present on Zoom:** Stacy Conforti (Dubuque County Conservation Board), Janet Berger (City Clerk, Epworth), Sandy Gassman (Mayor of Epworth)

**Staff Present:** Brian Preston (Dubuque County Conservation Board), Lisa Schroeder (Dubuque County Conservation Administrative Assistant), Steve Fehsal (City's Park and Recreation)

**Staff Present on Zoom:** Mark Wagner (Dubuque County Conservation Board) and Jack Studier (ECIA)

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. by Chairperson, Harley Pothoff in the Supervisors' Chambers, 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Dubuque County Courthouse and over zoom link <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82266866114?pwd=A5APaESag9NcmKkrqOgaRvM0hW4gAb.1>  
Meeting ID: 822 6686 6114, Passcode: 850489

Motion to approve the minutes of August 5, 2024, Dubuque County REAP Committee was made by Knapp and seconded by Bauer. Motion carried unanimously.

Preston showed an informational video about REAP <https://www.iowadnr.gov/programs-services/resource-enhancement-protection-reap>

REAP will expire in 2026. Preston encouraged talking to your local state representatives to extend REAP. 2025 is an odd year. We have REAP assemblies in odd years which give the public an opportunity to give input, set priorities and goals for the program. More information will be coming about the REAP assemblies.

Motion to approve the FY 2026 through FY 2030 Dubuque County REAP Plan was made by Errthum and seconded by Knapp. Motion carried unanimously.

**Review and approval of funding application:**

Errthum presented for the City of Rickardsville. Their REAP Grant funds are requested to help enhance the existing, park pavilion to make the space larger as well as enclose it for multi-season use with heat and air conditioning. Rickardsville was able to secure a grant from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for part of the project, however additional funding is still needed. The application amount requested is \$50,000.00 -

\$75,000.00. Motion was made Knapp and seconded by Conforti to approve the City of Rickardsville's REAP application. Motion carried unanimously.

Bauer presented for the City of Peosta. Their REAP Grant request is for \$50,000.00. To develop an 8 ft wide trail from Burds Road to Kelly Oaks Park. This is a cornerstone project in Peosta's long- term vision for connectivity throughout the city. Currently, the only access to Kelly Oaks Park from Cox Springs Road is via the roadway itself, which poses safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists. There is no dedicated path for families or individuals to walk or bike to the park without sharing the road with vehicles. By constructing this new trail, they are providing a safe, nonmotorized route for residents to access the park, encouraging healthier and more sustainable transportation options. The trail will also run alongside Seton Elementary School, offering students a safer route to and from school. Additionally, it will create opportunities for Seton to utilize the park for educational and recreational activities throughout the school year in a secure and convenient manner. Motion was made by Fehsal and seconded by Errthum to approve the City of Peosta's REAP application. Motion carried unanimously.

Berger and Gassman presented for the City of Epworth. Their REAP Grant request is for Tower Park. Proposed improvements include a family-style restroom with two changing areas, a 6 ft. roof overhang to provide shade, and water and sewer service lines to the building. This will improve the functionality of the park space. The amount requested is \$70,000.00. Motion was made by Errthum and seconded by Fehsal to approve the City of Epworth's REAP application. Motion carried unanimously.

Fehsal presented for the City of Dubuque. Their REAP Grant request is for Eagle Point Park. Implement environmental restoration management plan which is phase 3 of the project. Storm water runoff and park enhancements. Motion was made by Knapp and seconded by Bauer to approve the City of Dubuque's REAP application. Motion carried unanimously.

For next year's REAP meeting, Pothoff recommended August 3, 2026, at 1:00 P.M., in the Supervisors' Chambers, 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Dubuque County Courthouse.

REAP applications are due by August 15, 2025, submitted online before 5:00 P.M.

Pothoff adjourned the meeting at 1:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Schroeder  
Administrative Assistant  
Dubuque County Conservation Board