

## APPLICATION FORM FOR WOODBURY COUNTY BOARD/COMMISSION

Please Return To:

Woodbury County Board of Supervisors, Room 104, Woodbury County Courthouse,  
620 Douglas St., Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
Phone: (712) 279-6525 Fax: (712) 279-279-6577 Website: <http://woodburyiowa.com>

### Application for: Conservation Board

Date: 12/18/2017

E-mail Address [aaron.gehling@greatwesternbank.com](mailto:aaron.gehling@greatwesternbank.com)

Name: Aaron J. Gehling

Address: 4 Lakeview Lane Salix, Iowa 51052

Cell Phone Number: 712-574-2372 Business Phone: 712-522-4432

This form assists the Board of Supervisors in evaluating the qualifications of applicants for appointment to a board or commission. State law requires political subdivisions to make a good faith effort to balance most appointive boards, commissions, committees, and councils according to gender by January 1, 2012, and each year thereafter.

Female Male

- **Place of employment and position (and/or activities such as hobbies, volunteer work, etc. that you feel may qualify you for this position):**

I am the Market President of Great Western Bank in Sioux City, IA. I was raised at Brown's Lake near Salix, IA and still reside along its shoreline today with my wife and 4 children. I am the Chair of Siouxland Ducks Unlimited and also the Chair of the newly formed Mighty Mo Youth Trap Team. I am currently serving my 3<sup>rd</sup> and final term as Treasurer of the LaunchPAD Children's Museum in Sioux City. Woodbury Public lands/Parks are very important to me to preserve and improve. I feel my passion for the outdoors, financial background, fundraising ability and experience in local conservation groups has given me a great platform to bring value to the Woodbury County Conservation Board.

**The following questions will assist the Board of Supervisors in its selection.**

- **How much time will you be willing to devote in this position?**

I can devote up to 10 hours on a monthly basis with the understanding that some months will require less or more than that amount depending on need and circumstance.

- **Interest in Appointment: Describe in detail why you are interested in serving on a county board or commission. Include information about your background that supports your interest.**

Protecting and improving habitat and providing beautiful parks to enjoy in Woodbury County is very important to me. I was raised camping every weekend in the spring and summer at Little Sioux, Snyder's Bend and Brown's Lake campgrounds. This experience from my youth created a strong family bond and a quality of life benefit. I want other individuals and families to have the same or better opportunity in the future. Also I have spent the last 8 years volunteering on the local Ducks Unlimited committee and have seen first-hand how the Owego Complex has been such a habitat success. I want to continue to work on projects like this and provide more access to public lands to our residents. As a frequent user of the Woodbury public lands I feel my

perspective will give me a unique understanding of what will serve our lands and residents in the very best way possible.

▪ **Contributions you feel you can make to the Board/Commission:**

I feel my experience working in the banking industry specifically, commercial and agriculture lending will help me understand and discover ways to better manage the financial position of the organization. I do see some opportunities now to improve on driving more local and out of town visitors to our park systems/cabins by making our website more mobile friendly and receipt of electronic payments simpler. Also I know how we can reduce the cost (interchange fees from Visa/MC) for those electronic payments and put more money towards our bottom line. Lastly I enjoy fundraising and I think I could help make the Nature's Call event even better by gaining more sponsors and attracting my network of Woodbury County residents.

▪ **Direction/role you perceive of this Board/Commission:**

I have seen consistent investment back into the assets under control. The tornado shelter/restrooms at Brown's Lake Camp Ground and the new cabins at Synders Bend. Both are great examples of improving and maintaining our sites along with even pumping water for additional habitat of the Owego Complex prior to waterfowl migration. I am in agreement of the past boards decisions and hope to continue these same efforts.

▪ **In lieu of/in addition to the above, do you have any comments to add that may assist the Board of Supervisors in its selection?**

I feel I would be a very active member of the board and bring first-hand experience as the end user of the land and parks the board manages in the county.

**Please provide two references who may be contacted on your qualifications for this position.**

Name	Address	Phone number	Email address	Relationship
Greg Grupp	Dakota Dunes,SD	712-251-9956	unknown	Former Employer
Jay Morrison	Sergeant Bluff, IA	712-333-9360	claybreakercoach@gmail.com	Mighty MO Trap

I certify that there is nothing that would prohibit me from serving on this board or commission.

Signature  Date 12/18/2017

***YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE RETAINED IN OUR FILES FOR ONE YEAR***  
**THIS APPLICATION IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT AND AS SUCH CAN BE REPRODUCED AND DISTRIBUTED FOR THE PUBLIC.**