

Story County Conservation Board
Monday, July 14, 2014
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. Chair Joyce Hornstein called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS

Joyce Hornstein – present

Ted Tedesco – present

Craig Meyers - present

Allen Weber – absent

Jim Pease - present

Wayne Clinton – absent

STAFF

Mike Cox

Jolene Van Waus

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

Don Berning

2. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Guests were welcomed to the meeting.

4. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

Chair Hornstein noted the supplemental packet and reviewed the agenda.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meyers noted a typographical error on the word “Recreational” in the title of item 17, page 3.

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Pease, to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2014 board meeting as corrected. MCU.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Meyers, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on June 27, 2014. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco, to approve claims and receipts. MCU.

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Cox gave a brief summary of unexpended funds in the FY14 budget.

9. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Hornstein noted upcoming prairie walks and encouraged board members to attend. The IACCB Fall Conference registration deadline is August 17, and a program on the Skunk River was re-scheduled for August 17.

The next board meeting will be held August 20. The board will meet at the conservation center at 5:00 p.m., carpool to a site visit at Dakins Lake at 5:30, and hold the monthly business meeting at 7:00 at the Dakins Community Center. Tedesco suggested that the chair notify board member Weber to bring Subway sandwiches.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Meetz thanked the board for Story County Conservation staff support at recent hunter education courses.

12. CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR PHEASANTS FOREVER HUNTS

Don Berning was present to request variances for two Story County Pheasants Forever hunting events this fall: a veterans hunt at Ketelsen Greenwing Marsh and a youth hunt at West Peterson Park. Birds will be stocked for both hunts, and Pheasants Forever will publicize the events.

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Meyers, to approve a Pheasants Forever Veterans Hunt at Ketelsen Greenwing Marsh on September 20, 2014 and a Pheasants Forever Youth Hunt on October 11, 2014 at West Peterson Park. MCU.

Berning announced that the annual Story County Pheasants Forever banquet will be held October 18.

13. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION ENDORSING A REAP GRANT APPLICATION FROM THE CITY OF SLATER

Pease reported that the county REAP committee met earlier this evening and reviewed grant proposals. The committee supports this proposal.

.....MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Tedesco, to approve a resolution endorsing a grant application from the City of Slater for REAP funding to hard surface the Heart of Iowa of Iowa Nature Trail in Slater and accept ongoing maintenance costs. MCU.

14. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH JENSEN EXCAVATING FOR FEMA REPAIRS

Cox explained that this project will complete the last significant repairs on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail prior to re-surfacing portions of the trail damaged by heavy rains in 2013. Cox noted that the contract amount is below the amount approved by FEMA.

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco, to approve a contract with Jensen Excavating for FEMA repairs on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail. MCU.

15. GENERAL UPDATES

Hornstein commented that board members have attended meetings to give input on several projects during the past year (i.e. Army Corps land, ISU Research Park, legislators' reception, comprehensive plan), and she suggested that ongoing board subcommittees be formed. After some discussion, Tedesco suggested that board members review the SCC Strategic Plan to identify areas that need attention and help determine how to organize committees. Hornstein asked board members to think about the sub-committees and what they might be interested in. The board also sent a tentative date of November 14 for the legislators' reception. Meetz said the Story County Outdoor Alliance is interesting in partnering with SCC on this event. The invitation list and planning can begin prior to Election Day.

Cox asked Shive-Hattery to prepare a proposal to extend the sewer at Dakins Lake to some of the new campsites. The initial estimate is \$35,000 for ten sites, and Cox showed sites that could have full hook ups. Funding will need to be identified, with a decision to be made fairly soon. Board members agreed that this option should be investigated.

Tedesco suggested sending thank you letters from the board chair and director to Rep. King, Jeremy Davis in Rep. King's office, and Rep. Latham for their help on the Army Corps of Engineers project. All were in agreement of this idea, and Cox offered to draft the letters.

Hornstein shared that she sent a letter to the State Recreational Trails Committee to accompany the board's resolution in support of the grant to pave the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail between Huxley and Cambridge.

16. OTHER
None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Pease, that the meeting be adjourned. Chair Hornstein adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Story County Conservation Board