

Story County Conservation Board
September 18, 2017
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. Secretary Craig Meyers called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS	STAFF	GUESTS
Nancy Franz – present via phone	Mike Cox	None
Jim Pease – present	Jolene Van Waus	
Craig Meyers – present	Luke Feilmeier	
Ted Tedesco – present		
Christine Laumer - present		
Rick Sanders - present		

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

The agenda was reviewed; the Indian Creek Unit report will be presented before the action items.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer, to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2017 board meeting. MCU.

5. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Franz, to approve claims and receipts. MCU.

Vice-chair Pease arrived at 5:37 p.m. and conducted the remainder of the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Director Cox stated the budget is on target for this time of the year.

7. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Upcoming events were highlighted. Cox pointed out that as part of the strategic planning process, there will be a stakeholder meeting on October 9 at 7:30 p.m. and a joint board/staff work session on October 24 at 2:30 p.m.

8. INDIAN CREEK UNIT UPDATE

Luke Feilmeier, park ranger, gave a report on Indian Creek Unit projects over the last year:

- Although it was a long process, construction on the Breezy Bay Campground showerhouse has been completed--with floor repairs and final verification of the project pending.
- Work is in progress on the new entrance monument/kiosk at Hickory Grove Park.
- The trail at Hickory Grove Park was extended from the maintenance shop to Snow Bunting Lodge and from Oriole Lodge to Goldfinch Shelter. Plans are to continue the trail around the entire lake, possibly utilizing soil removed during dredging of the lake.
- Conservation Corps Iowa replaced the steps at Snow Bunting Lodge as well as steps at McFarland Park.

- Fish habitat grant work at Robison Wildlife Acres started in June with notching of the dam to drain the pond. Feilmeier added that he would like to see further enhancements at this park after completion of the pond restoration.
- The Hickory Grove Lake restoration project is in progress with a public meeting held on September 12 to share information and take questions from park users on improvements to the lake and future park enhancements. SCC and IDNR staff are exploring possibilities for a walleye fishery, and Feilmeier said staff will complete other tasks (i.e. dock maintenance) while the lake is drawn down.

Future projects include a five-acre prairie seeding at Jennett Heritage Area, facilities renovations, shelter maintenance, beach renovations, and septic system upgrades.

9. **CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT OF SEASONAL CONSERVATION AIDE**
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers, to approve employment of Joel Born at \$10.50/hour effective September 19, 2017. MCU.
10. **CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS #2017-04, #2017-05, and #2017-06 APPROVING LIVING ROADWAY TRUST FUND GRANT AGREEMENTS**
MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco, to approve three agreements between Story County Conservation and the Iowa Department of Transportation for Living Roadway Trust Fund grants to purchase: 1) a tumble drum mixer (\$6,308); 2) a Kubota RTV (\$10,000); and 3) a chemical safety cabinet (\$680). MCU.
11. **CONSIDER RESOLUTION #2017-07 TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING THE REFUGE STATUS AT HICKORY GROVE PARK**
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers, to approve Resolution #2017-07 temporarily suspending the refuge status at Hickory Grove Park from September 30-October 8, 2017 and October 21, 2017-January 15, 2018 for a controlled goose hunt.
12. **CONSIDER COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR STABILIZATION WORK AT WEST PETERSON PARK**
Director Cox stated this is the same project approved on June 13 and that updates to IDNR contract templates in July requires re-approval of the agreement. Cox added that SCC is responsible for project materials; the IDNR is paying for excavation.

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz, to recommend to the Story County Board of Supervisors that they approve Cooperative Agreement #18CRDLWBNNHOOG-0004 between the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Story County Conservation for stabilization work at West Peterson Park. MCU.
13. **CONSIDER CONTRACT FOR STABILIZATION WORK AT WEST PETERSON PARK**
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer, to recommend to the Story County Board of Supervisors that they approve a contract between Story County Conservation and Hall Backhoe and Trenching for stabilization work at West Peterson Park for \$10,000. MCU.
14. **CONSIDER CONTRACT FOR POND OUTLET REPLACEMENT AND EXCAVATION WORK AT ROBISON WILDLIFE ACRES**
MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco, to recommend to the Story County Board of Supervisors that they approve a contract between Story County Conservation and Daniel

Moody for pond outlet replacement and excavation work at Robison Wildlife Acres for \$56,560. MCU.

15. CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH SHIVE-HATTERY, INC. FOR TEDESCO ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CORRIDOR
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer, to recommend to the Story County Board of Supervisors that they approve an amendment to the agreement between Shive-Hattery, Inc. and Story County Conservation Board for Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor, Bid Package #1, for \$101,200. MCU.
16. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH CENTRAL IOWA WATER ASSOCIATION
Cox explained that this utility work will occur east of the Ed Powell Wildlife Area between McCallsburg and Zearing.
MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco, to recommend to the Story County Board of Supervisors that they approve an easement agreement with Central Iowa Water Association on the Praeri Rail Trail. MCU.
17. STORY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE
Franz reported that after the stakeholder meeting and the board/staff work session, she and Cox will prioritize visions to create goals, outcomes, and strategies and develop a final plan for approval at the November board meeting. Cox emphasized that the process to update the plan is due to Franz's work, guidance, and expertise.
18. GENERAL UPDATES
Director Cox reported on the following:
 - There is a public hearing on September 19 regarding TIF funding for the Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor, Phase 2.
 - The REAP review committee will meet on September 20. Decisions on grant awards should be available that day.
 - Cox presented the introductory session of the OLLI class last week, and he found participants excited to learn about Story County Conservation.
 - Cox has received an analysis for solar power at McFarland Park, Dakins Lake, and Hickory Grove Park. He will review the analysis and give a report to the board.
 - PCI is on site at TELC and has started grubbing and mulching.
 - Three county departments are researching options for a shared facility at the former county home site. A proposal for a combined sheriff office/maintenance facility on the county's CIP plan will be revised to include storage space for IRVM. Each department is working on more detailed space requirements and assessing equipment storage needs.
 - SCC is still awaiting a signed memorandum of understanding from the railroad for the Praeri Rail Trail extension in Zearing.
 - Cox met with the Story County Attorney's office to discuss procedures for placing items on board of supervisors meeting agendas.
19. BOARD REPORTS
 - Franz spoke with Supervisor Olson regarding changes to the board member selection process and encouraged other board members to provide feedback on the process prior to discussion at the October 4 board of supervisors meeting.


- Pease and his wife spent two weeks in Wyoming at Teton Science School on a Roads Scholar trip where they hiked, canoed, rafted, and participated in a service project. He said Story County Conservation should consider bigger cabins!
- Meyers toured several SCC areas last weekend with out-of-state friends and enjoyed seeing numerous Red-headed woodpeckers at Robison Wildlife Acres.
- Tedesco announced that family members will be donating money for trees at the Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor in honor of Ted and Joanie Tedesco's 60th wedding anniversary.
- Laumer and her husband participated in TEAM Day last Saturday at the Brotherson tract and were fascinated by the items unearthed during the clean-up day.

20. OTHER

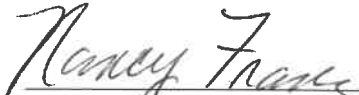
Board members supported the new procedure of receiving e-mailed meeting packets with printed agendas at the meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer, to adjourn the meeting. MCU.
Vice-Chair Pease adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.



Recording Secretary



Story County Conservation Board