

Story County Conservation Board
September 10, 2018
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL
Board members present: Jim Pease, Craig Meyers, Christine Laumer, Ted Tedesco, Nancy Franz. Absent: Rick Sanders. Staff present: Mike Cox, Jolene Van Waus, Luke Feilmeier.
3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS
Cox announced that the review of the C2C Plan is postponed until October. The Indian Creek Unit update was moved ahead of the action items.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 13, 2018
MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.
6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS
MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.
7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES
Pease noted expenses are on track for this time of the fiscal year.
8. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS
Pease announced that the OLLI River Stewardship course and lab sessions were cancelled.
9. INDIAN CREEK UNIT UPDATE
Park Ranger Luke Feilmeier updated the board on 2018 projects and activities at the Indian Creek Unit, including completion of the campground showerhouse, new park entrance signs, and advent of online camping reservations at Hickory Grove; renovation of the pond at Robison Wildlife Acres (fish habitat grant project); and completion of seeding and second-year maintenance mowing at Jennett Wildlife Area.

Heavy rains this summer affected parks, trails, and the drawdown of Hickory Grove Lake for the lake renovation project. Feilmeier would like to pave problem areas on the trails at Hickory Grove and looks forward to completing the trail around the lake and improving the facilities at the park.
10. ACTION ITEMS
 - A. Approve Employment of Michael Parker, Conservation Aide, @ \$11.00/hour effective 9/11/18, Allison Stegmann, Vegetation Management Aide @ \$11.50/hour effective 9/17/18, and Tanner Christiansen, Vegetation Management Aide, @ \$11.50/hour effective 9/17/18.
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

- B. Approve Agreement with K-Korner Inc. for Construction and a Perpetual Easement for the Extension of the Praeri Rail Trail through Zearing
MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz. MCU.
- C. Approve Professional Services Agreement with WHKS & Co. for Survey and Design Services for a Site Plan and Foundation Design for Hickory Grove Beach House and Accessible Parking for \$29,100
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.
- D. Approve Revisions to the Story County Conservation Employee Handbook
MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

Discussion: Board members liked the new format mirroring the county's handbook with the ability to make updates more efficiently. Franz suggested that a dollar limit on use of facilities and programming for employees and board members be considered when the handbook is reviewed next year.

- E. Approve Resolution 2018-7 Temporarily Suspending the Refuge Status at Hickory Grove Park for a Controlled Goose Hunt for the period of September 29-October 14, 2018, October 20-December 11, 2018, and December 22, 2018-January 19, 2019
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. MCU.
- F. Approve Resolution 2018-8 Endorsing a Grant Application to the Federal Recreational Trails Program for Improvements on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail
MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.
- G. Approve Change Order #4 for Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor – Bid Package #2 Trail Paving and Park Amenities with Boulder Contracting, LLC for \$7,769 and recommend approval by the Story County Board of Supervisors
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

Discussion: An additional 200 tons of field stone was hauled to TELC by Boulder Contracting.

11. UPDATES

A. General Updates – Director Michael Cox

- An addendum to the agreement with Shive-Hattery for Phase 3 of TELC construction is nearing completion.
- Funding options for an exploratory phase for removal or modification of the Hannums Mill Dam on the South Skunk River Water Trail were reviewed. SCC could: 1) apply for a \$20,000 Water Trails Program grant, which would require a resolution of support and landowner approvals; or 2) utilize \$53,000 in energy transfer funds. In discussion, board members said they would prefer to use energy transfer funds and would consider that request at their next meeting.
- A tour of the TELC construction project with the board of supervisors was rescheduled for September 14 at 2:00.
- Site assessments for solar fields at Dakins, Hickory Grove, and McFarland will be conducted this fall.
- The DNR will be presenting 90% plans for the Hickory Grove Lake renovation

project tomorrow. Cox showed an early concept design and added that material dredged from around the island will be used for fishing jetties, expansion of the island, boat launches, and a parking area closer to the lakefront.

- Cox distributed a handout with talking points on SCC's non-toxic ammunition policy as well as a "Leading the Way" brochure with an insert adapted to Story County Conservation rules. The brochure will be available at the conservation center, sporting goods stores, and through SCC law enforcement staff.
- Cox also distributed a handout for board members' review and comments assessing the board's readiness for a local funding measure.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meeting Updates, and Announcements from the Board

- Meyers will be meeting with the Outdoor Alliance of Story County later this week. He will be asking the group for monetary support to offset the cost of non-toxic ammunition.
- Laumer enjoyed the Jordan Wildlife Area dedication and took some photos of Hickory Grove Lake before heavy rains filled the lake.
- Tedesco attended the construction meeting at TELC on Friday and gave presentations (with Cox and Parks Superintendent Wiemold) to Town & Country Kiwanis and Northcrest.
- Franz reported that she and two trails committee members attended a first aid class. She met with Wiemold to revamp the Trails Advisory Committee meeting/work day schedules. Fall work days will include a river clean-up and building a bridge at Bear Creek. Franz and Laumer attended a meeting to gather information at the 2018 IACCB Conference to assist in planning the 2020 conference. Franz will be attending the Wild Women of the Woods program this weekend and plans to ask attendees to participate in a focus group. Per Mike Meetz's request, Franz announced that the deadline for Olav Smedal Award nominations is October 31.
- Pease and Meyers spoke about SCC's non-toxic ammunition policy at a recent staff meeting, addressing effects on wildlife and humans. He and Franz met with design/build firms regarding the Dakins Lake cabin. He distributed a handout listing items that could be included in the cabin design for the board's review.

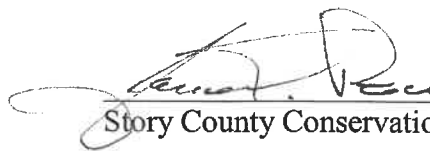
11. OTHER

A special board meeting was scheduled for Monday, September 17, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. to consider an amendment to the agreement with Shive-Hattery for Phase 3 of TELC construction and funding for an exploratory phase for the removal/modification of the Hannum's Mill Dam.

12. ADJOURNMENT – 8:07 p.m.



Recording Secretary



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