

Story County Conservation Board
October 8, 2018
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Jim Pease - present

Craig Meyers - present

Christine Laumer - present

Ted Tedesco – present

Nancy Franz – present

Rick Sanders – present

STAFF

Mike Cox

Jolene Van Waus

Jerry Keys

GUESTS

Hannah Manson

David Anderson-Calderon

Ryan Noack

Andrew Smith

Alex Andrade

Mike Meetz

Gerald Kuehn

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

Chair Pease noted modifications to the agenda packet with inclusion of the proposed 2020 IACCB conference planning agreement.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pease invited guests to introduce themselves and welcomed them to the meeting. Mike Meetz reminded the board that nominations for the Olav Smedal Award are due the end of October.

CyBIZ Lab Team Report

Members of the team gave a PowerPoint presentation summarizing their findings regarding surveys done at Dakins Lake, Hickory Grove Park, and Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor. Components of each project included survey results, economic analyses, marketing suggestions, and fundraising suggestions. Board members asked several questions and added that they look forward to reading the reports on each park.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers to approve the September 10 minutes. Franz noted that the second sentence of item 10.D should include additional wording as follows: “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.” Franz moved that the board adopt the minutes with this change. Second by Meyers. MCU.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Director Cox remarked that vehicle maintenance and repairs are running higher this year.

8. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

An IACCB conference planning meeting will be held on October 11 at 1:30, and the Trails Advisory Committee will meet on October 25 at 6:30 p.m. for a tour of the Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor. A reception will be held at the conservation center on October 29 for the 2018 Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation's Hagie Award recipients, George and Trish Patrick.

9. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Employment of Brayden Crew, Conservation Aide, effective 10/9/18.
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

B. Approve Corrected Salaries with Longevity Adjustments for Luke Feilmeier effective 3/17/19 and Daniel Simcox effective 5/12/19
MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.

C. Approve Resolution 2018-10 Approving an Agreement between Story County Conservation and the Iowa Department of Transportation for a Refurbished Truax Drill
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

D. Consider Change Order 6 for Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor – Bid Package 2 with Boulder Contracting, LLC for \$6,528.65 and recommend approval by the Story County Board of Supervisors
MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

E. Approve Agreement with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Conference Planning & Management for the 2020 Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards Fall Conference and recommend approval by the Story County Board of Supervisors
Board members reviewed the draft of the agreement and identified several corrections needed. The board discussed holding a special meeting to approve the agreement or defer it to the board of supervisors for action.

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers, to authorize the chair to review the final version of the document and forward it to the board of supervisors for approval. MCU.

10. UPDATES

A. Environmental Education Program

Jerry Keys, environmental education coordinator, reported that in the past year, SCC received three national and state awards, presented over 1,000 programs and outdoor experiences resulting in 36,589 contacts, and offered several new public programs. Staff is planning to co-sponsor more events with other conservation-related groups and is updating the Dial and Discover program with input from ISU independent study students. Keys has submitted an application for a sixth-month AmeriCorps position, and staff is working on future public outreach and team building programs at the Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor.

B. General Updates – Director Michael Cox

- The new Bear Creek bridge (in a different location) has been completed. The help of ISU Civil Engineering students was greatly appreciated.

- Bid letting for paving on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail (Phase I--from Slater to Huxley) is scheduled for March 2019.
- Bid letting for the extension of the Praeri Rail Trail is scheduled for January 2019.
- Several land acquisition projects are being researched. Cox will be meeting with the IDNR and the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation to explore possibilities.

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

- Meyers continued to work on gathering funds to offset costs for non-toxic ammunition.
- Franz scheduled focus group meetings on November 1 and November 4 to generate new ideas for programming.
- Tedesco reported that the permeable surfacing has been installed at the Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor. Signage blocks will arrive next week.
- Pease reported that he and Meyers attended the Story County Pheasants Forever Banquet on October 6.

11. ADJOURNMENT – 7:15 p.m.


Recording Secretary


Story County Conservation Board