

Story County Conservation Board
November 5, 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

Ryan Wiemold

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

Leanne Harter

Cindy Hildebrand

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

Pease noted supplemental handouts and suggested that discussion of the watershed assessment implementation matrix be occur immediately after the action items.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Meetz reported that information on SCC's policy regarding non-toxic ammunition on county areas was announced at a recent hunter education course in Nevada.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 8, 2018

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Director Cox said that, overall, FY19 revenue and expenditures are on track.

8. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Cox announced that the legislators reception is scheduled for December 7. Pease reminded board members that the next board meeting is on December 10.

9. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Resolution #2018-11 Supporting a Fish Habitat Grant Application for Hickory Grove Park

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

B. Approve Story County Conservation FY20 Capital Improvement Project Plan

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.

Discussion: Director Cox reviewed the 10-year plan, highlighting projects identified in the FY20 budget proposals as well as multiple-year projects.

- C. Approve Story County Conservation Donor Recognition Plan
MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.
- D. Consider Change Order 7 for Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor – Bid Package 2 with Boulder Contracting, LLC for \$4,983.65 and recommend approval by the Story County Board of Supervisors
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

10. UPDATES

A. Countywide Watershed Assessment Implementation Matrix

County Outreach and Special Projects Manager Leanne Harter reported on work by the committee selected to put steps of the watershed assessment into effect. Action steps were identified, categorized, and recommended for implementation. Results of a survey were shared; Harter plans to evaluate the five highest and lowest priorities for further review.

A tentative date of November 27 was selected to hold a joint meeting with the Planning and Zoning Commission to review the matrix and give a report to the board of supervisors by early December. Harter added that the matrix will be part of the county's C2C plan and will be reflected in the FY20 budget proposal.

Harter asked board members to review questions she provided and give their feedback. The board thanked Harter and the rest of the committee for this document.

B. Story County Conservation Strategic Plan

Cox presented completed items and updates to the strategic plan. Franz asked board members to note new strategies or additional comments.

C. Review FY20 Budget Proposal Drafts

Director Cox gave an overview of the FY20 budget proposals. Both revenues and expenses are lower due to fewer capital projects and land acquisitions. Several items representing water quality are included as well as law enforcement needs, dam mitigation, playground equipment for two parks, and a feasibility plan for expansion of the conservation center.

The board discussed whether a proposed water quality position should be a staff or contract position. Parks Superintendent Wiemold provided more information on park improvements, law enforcement equipment, and staffing needs—specifically trails and natural resource work. He was asked to provide written rationale for an additional field position.

Pease commented that the items requested were reasonable, and he complimented staff for their work in presenting the proposed budgets.

A. General Updates – Director Michael Cox

- Praeri Rail Trail extension project - DOT bid letting is scheduled for January 16.
- Hickory Grove Lake restoration project - DNR bid letting is scheduled for November 15.

- Dakins Lake – In an effort to exhibit freedom rocks in multiple cities in the county, a rock has been identified for placement at Dakins Lake. The board was in favor of this effort; Cox and Wiemold will decide on the location.
- Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor - Construction is moving along quickly. Installation of the Filterpave is almost done, and a punch list has been developed. The stream restoration work has been delayed pending approval for mitigation from FEMA. A grand opening is still anticipated for June.

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

- Meyers attended a Story County Development Group meeting, where attendees were excited about TELC construction. Meyers reported that the Outdoor Alliance of Story County will be donating \$250 to help subsidize non-toxic ammunition costs.
- Laumer reported on the Story County Conservation *Partners* meeting. New events to replace the fall and spring festivals were discussed.
- Tedesco has been following progress at TELC and brought up needs for future SCC funding.
- Franz said the Trails Advisory Committee met last week at TELC and toured the park, reviewed 2018 projects, and made plans for 2019. Franz attended the Iowa Trails Summit. She also met with a focus group regarding expanded programming opportunities for women.
- Pease reported that he has attended several meetings regarding issues affecting SCC.

C. Closed Session

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco, to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5 (1) (J) to discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property or reduce the price the governmental body would receive for that property.

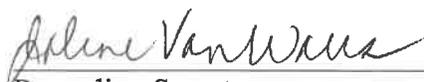
Roll call vote: Franz – Aye; Tedesco – Aye; Laumer – Aye; Meyers – Aye; Pease – Aye. Motion carried. The board went into closed session at 8:10 PM.

The meeting returned to open session at 9:06 p.m.

11. OTHER – none

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz, to adjourn the meeting. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.


Recording Secretary


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