

Story County Conservation Board
Monday, December 5, 2011
Story County Conservation Center, McFarland Park

1. Chair T. Tedesco called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Tedesco thanked W. Clinton for conducting the November meeting.
2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS	STAFF	GUESTS
Ted Tedesco – present	Mike Cox	None
Wayne Clinton – present	Jolene Van Waus	
Jim Pease – present		
Joyce Hornstein – present		
3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS – There were no guests.
4. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS
No changes were made to the agenda.
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 22, 2011 BOARD RETREAT
MOTION by W. Clinton, SECOND by J. Hornstein, to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2011 board meeting. MCU.
6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 28, 2011 MEETING
MOTION by J. Pease, SECOND by W. Clinton, to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2011 board meeting. MCU.
7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS
MOTION by J. Pease, SECOND by J. Hornstein, to approve all claims and receipts as submitted. MCU.
8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES
There were no comments or updates in addition to the information in the board packet.
9. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS
The calendar of events and meetings was reviewed.
10. COMMUNICATIONS
J. Pease reported that he heard from one of the director applicants who was dissatisfied with the notification process. This person felt he/she should have received a letter acknowledging receipt of his/her application and was disappointed to read about applicants selected for interviews from a newspaper article. Pease wanted to share this information for future reference.
11. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None.
12. APPROVE FY13 BUDGET PROPOSALS
Director Cox noted several changes to the budget proposals, including re-estimated totals for FY12. Cost estimates for water line repairs at Hickory Grove Park were clarified.

Collection for damages from the contractor may be possible—but only after repairs are made. Anticipated utilities savings for wind energy were reduced, and an estimate for furnace replacement(s) at the conservation center was increased.

Cox explained that the cost estimates for wind energy are substantially higher. Viryd Technologies' initial report called for an 8kw turbine, but the feasibility study indicated the need for a 30kw turbine at McFarland Park and a 50kw unit at Hickory Grove. Cox added that he is still seeking answers to several questions regarding these estimates, including available credits and rebates, lease options, net metering, and storing/purchasing energy. The board recommended leaving these estimates in the proposal and discussing it at the budget worksession with the board of supervisors.

There were no changes to the IRVM budget proposal. Cox reported on his discussions with Scott Wall and Rick Sanders re: drainage district work administration and expenses. These expenses are “net zero” additions to the budget through levying to the drainage districts. Upfront costs are paid from the general fund, and there is normally one levy per year to recoup those expenses. The estimated revenue total reflects expenses for additional staff position(s), benefits, and supplies. It may be possible for Secondary Roads staff to generate and track billing from their office.

MOTION by W. Clinton, SECOND by J. Hornstein, to approve the Conservation and IRVM FY13 budget proposals with amendments discussed. MCU.

W. Clinton encouraged board members to attend the budget worksession on January 12 at 9:00 a.m. Clinton left at 8:50 p.m.

13. APPROVE TRADEMARK AND COPYRIGHT LICENSE AND AGREEMENT FOR USE OF CENTRAL IOWA TRAILS SIGNAGE LOGOS AND DESIGNS WITH THE CITY OF DES MOINES

Referring to page D-26, J. Pease questioned whether SCC would need to get permission each time a sign is put up. J. Hornstein felt this statement dealt with the marketing/media aspect of the license agreement, and Director Cox agreed that the language is included in case any problems occur. Board members were in agreement that SCC could use its own interpretive signs.

MOTION by J. Hornstein, SECOND by J. Pease, to approve the trademark and copyright license and agreement for use of Central Iowa Trails signage logs and designs with the City of Des Moines. MCU.

14. APPROVE 2012 STORY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING DATES
The tentative schedule for 2012 was discussed by the board. The January, February, March, November, and December meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month, while the remaining meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. Due to the Veterans Day observance and budget preparation, the November meeting will be held the third Monday of the month. J. Hornstein asked that the meeting times be posted on the website.

MOTION by J. Pease, SECOND by J. Hornstein, to approve 2012 meeting dates and times as amended. MCU.

15. GENERAL UPDATES

- Director Cox distributed copies of the Hickory Grove Lake Watershed newsletter. Aaron Andrews is the new watershed coordinator and is getting the project back on its feet. A committee meeting was held last week, and the plan is to continue to wrap up monitoring and apply for implementation grants in 2013. Data have shown that geese are definitely a contributor to decreased water quality, and optic brighteners have been found—indicating a septic system connection. Concerted attempts will be made to have individual meetings with landowners, and more in-park efforts will be done. Cost-share involvement is needed—perhaps through the implementation grant. Erv Klaas offered assistance from a RC&D board member.
- Cox shared the good news that the board of supervisors passed a Tax Increment Finance resolution last week, setting aside a debt of \$500,000 for three projects, including \$100,000 for Dakins Lake development. The BOS would like to see a timeline for the project and funding needs. Their vision is that Phase I be completed in calendar year 2013, with Phase II following in 2014. Formal requests for 2013 funding need to be submitted no later than September 2012. Funds will be up front and bonded.

A draft of a proposed timeline was distributed to board members. Cox would like to get together with a project manager, prepare requests for proposals, review those, assign a review team, and then refine the timeline as needed. The Department of Natural Resources is excited about this project, as is adjoining landowner/Dakins family member Bernadine Schaeffer.

- Cox will be reviewing comments sent by board members from their strategic planning session as well as input from facilitator Jean Eells. The staff's strategic planning session will be held December 28, and a joint board/staff meeting is planned for sometime in January or February.

16. IOWA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARDS UPDATE

J. Hornstein reported that: 1) about 25 percent of the comprehensive surveys have been returned, 2) approximately 70 percent of the Outdoor Adventure Guide updates have been submitted, and 3) only four counties are delinquent in paying their annual dues. Tom Hazleton has been going to a lot of district meetings, visiting various counties, and giving presentations about IACCB's purpose and contributions.

17. OTHER

Chair Tedesco thanked the staff and board for their hard work during the past year and congratulated Director Mike Cox for a fine job during his first six months of employment. He wished everyone a happy holiday season and new year.

Chair Tedesco adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.