

Story County Conservation Board  
April 8, 2024  
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Jim Pease – present  
Craig Meyers – present  
Christine Laumer – absent  
Nancy Franz – present  
Erica Place – present  
Linda Murken – present

STAFF

Mike Cox  
Marianne Harrelson  
Madison Nolte

GUESTS

Dan Haug  
Jathan Chicoine

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Presentation On The Story County Water Quality Monitoring Plan By Dan Haug, Prairie Rivers Of Iowa. Dan presented 2023 highlights including accomplishments, key findings from the monitoring, and recommendations for the future.

Jathan Chicoine provided the board with information regarding an upcoming Oxbow Restoration Event fundraiser. He also talked to the board about his bison farm.

5. STAFF REPORT

Madison Nolte, Outreach/Community Engagement Coordinator, submitted a written annual report. She reviewed the report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 11, 2024. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Place. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Place. Board members questioned a few claims. Cox and Harrelson provided explanations. MCU.

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

9. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup>. The Supporters Dinner will be on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

10. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

A. Action Forms

New hire effective date change to 5/6/24, McKenzie Stewart, Conservation Aide @ \$13.75/hr.

MOTION by Place, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

11. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (All items under the consent agenda will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a request is made prior to the time the Board votes on the motion.)

Pease requested that Item E be removed for discussion.

- A. Consideration Of Residence Policy Revision
- B. Consideration Of Grazing Lease Agreement With Finch Livestock For Management Grazing On Parcel No. 1623100107
- C. Consideration Of Contract Between Nevada FFA And Story County Conservation For A Crop Lease At Hickory Grove Park For The 2024 And 2025 Cropping Seasons
- D. Consideration Of A Memorandum Of Understanding Between Iowa Department Of Natural Resources And Story County Conservation For A Seed Bank Study On Doolittle Prairie State Preserve
- E. Consideration Of Grant Agreement Between IDNR And Story County Conservation For Community Forestry Grant For Hickory Grove Park
- F. Consideration Of Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant Agreement Between The National Parks Service Through The Iowa Department Of Natural Resources And The Story County Conservation Board For \$200,000.00
- G. Interstate Power And Light Utility Permit Amendment
- H. Consideration Of Acceptance Of Temporary Construction Easement With GSP Family Farm LLC

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

## 12. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

## 13. UPDATES

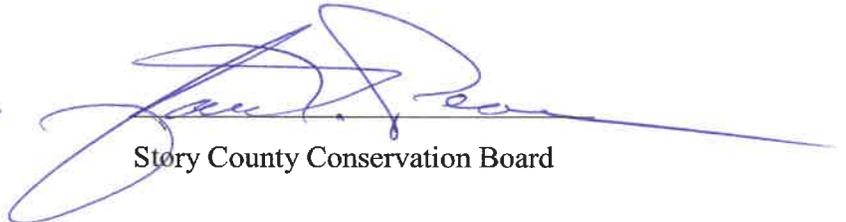
A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the trails plan public meeting in Nevada, the HOINT projects, Hickory Grove wastewater, the IRVM position, the solar eclipse attendance at McFarland Park, and the Memorials and Park Naming Policy.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Murken has attended some of the recent funding meetings. Franz participated in the Ames Reads Leopold, hiked several SCC properties, attended the OWLS presentation, participated in a couple of conservation DEI programs, the SCC Environmental Literature Club, the ISU Sustainapalooza, the Audubon Society program, and visited the new bison artwork at TELC. Place indicated that she is no longer able to volunteer for water quality monitoring but Sara already has someone in place to take on her site, she continues to work with Bird Friendly Iowa and would like some feedback on what the barriers are or where they should focus their efforts to promote more participation. Meyers has been visiting several SCC parks and mentioned that the Iowa Arboretum is seeking additional funding for their Treehouse Village. Pease has also been visiting SCC parks and continues to attend funding meetings.

## 14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Meyers, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM.

  
Recording Secretary

  
Story County Conservation Board