

Story County Conservation Board  
October 14, 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 – absent

STAFF

Mike Cox  
Marianne Harrelson  
Jacob Smith

GUESTS

Mike Meetz  
Laura Beskow  
Lorna Carroll  
Jerry Miller

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Lorna Carroll introduced Laura Beskow to the board. She grew up in Ames and has recently returned to Ames. They are involved with the Lights out Ames initiative and a pollinator task force with the City of Ames. Jerry Miller recently attended one of the information meetings regarding the Water and Land Legacy bond and would like to know more about the Conservation Board. Mike Meetz reminded the board that he is accepting nominations for the Olav Smedal Conservation Award. He noted that the Story County REAP document needs to be updated with the newest version. He also mentioned that he is promoting the Water and Land Legacy bond by adding a couple of the board members interview videos to his programs.

5. STAFF REPORT – Jacob Smith, Hickory Grove Shop Operations Supervisor, reviewed his annual report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 9, 2024. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Place, SECOND by Meyers. 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 November 4<sup>th</sup>.

10. 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.)

A. Consideration Of Contract With Matthews White Plumbing For Winterizing And Re-Opening The Campground Building And Shelter At Dakins Lake And The Campground Building And Beach House At Hickory Grove Park For \$5,045.00

B. Consideration Of Federal Work-Study Program Agreement With Iowa State University

- C. Approval To Sponsor Iowa Bike Coalition's Economic Impact Survey Studying Cycling And Trails For \$5,000.00  
MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Place. MCU.

11. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Discussion And Consideration Of Bid Award To HPC, LLC For Replacement Of The McFarland Park Shop For \$765,000.00. Director Cox explained that we received two bids that were much higher than the engineers estimate and the board needs to decide how to move forward with options provided. After discussion, the board agreed to go with option number 3 – Recommend award of bid and fund the difference with Trust Fund funds and request additional support from the Board of Supervisors (BOS). The SCC board requests the BOS to fund half of the outstanding balance with general fund money and SCC will fund the other half with the Trust Fund. If the BOS votes no, then the outstanding amount will be paid by the Trust Fund. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Meyers. MCU
- B. Consideration Of Easement With Hunziker Development Group LLC For Placement Of A Stormwater Outlet On The Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor. Director Cox provided a map to show the areas that this stormwater line will be located. Hunziker has been accommodating to all of our suggested changes. There were only two options for this stormwater line. The option represented in this easement is to build a basin on the south side of the buildings and outlet that to the stream. The outlet will be located further downstream to avoid the conservation practices that are in place as well as putting it in a place that is well armored. Hunziker will pay Story County \$50,000.00 for this easement. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Place. MCU

12. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the Destination Iowa Grant enhancements, FY26 budget, volunteer workdays, Service Enterprise program, SAI field day, Motus tracking, status of the Conservation Easement from last month, Wild Women of the Woods, and crappie stocked in McFarland Lake.

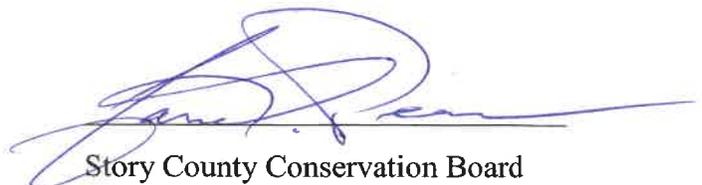
B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Place is looking forward to using the new bridge at Christiansen Forest Preserve and hiked the new trail steps at McFarland Park. She appreciates the content that is being shared on our Facebook page and thought Brandon did a great job on the Midland Coop video. She also wanted to know the progress of the Trails Master Plan. Cox and Franz indicated that we should be receiving information in the next couple weeks. Franz has been visiting several SCC properties, conducting bond conversations, hosted a table at the HGP trick or treating event, biked at TELC, and hiked with the women's club and at McFarland. Meyers has been participating in bond conversations and hiking the trails at HGP. Pease has been speaking at bond meetings, the Pheasants Forever banquet, and the Iowa Nature Summit.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Recording Secretary



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