

Story County Conservation Board
November 4, 2024
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

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

STAFF

Mike Cox
Marianne Harrelson
Ryan Wiemold
Nathan Schmitt

GUESTS

Mike Meetz
Lorna Carroll

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Director Cox introduced Nathan Schmitt as the new IRVM Vegetation Management Specialist. Lorna Carroll asked if the Board could assist her with getting the speed limit reduced or wildlife signs installed on Dayton Road. Mike Meetz mentioned that the Olav Smedal Conservation Award nominations have closed and the winner will be selected soon.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 14, 2024. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Place. MCU.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES – Due to the meeting date's timing, we could not prepare the revenue report for October. It will be emailed out to board members once it's completed.

8. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for December 9th.

9. 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 Change Order No. 3 For Heart Of Iowa Nature Trail Paving Project Phases 4-6 For \$6,628.60 From Wicks Construction Inc
B. Consideration Of Amendment For Professional Services Agreement With Bolton And Menk For McFarland Shop Design To Include CACO For Not To Exceed Amount Of \$20,000.00

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

10. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Review Conservation Capital Improvement Plan. Cox reviewed the two plan (bond and no bond) scenarios with the board and answered questions. Once we know if the bond passes, the respective plan will be submitted for final review.

- B. Review FY26 Budget Proposals. Cox, Wiemold, and Harrelson provided explanations and answered questions regarding the proposals. We added columns to provide documentation of the process used to track budget changes through budget renditions. Before any of the board changes/updates, the tax asking request was approximately \$1M less than FY25. The IRVM budget remained relatively static with increases in inflationary costs.

11. UPDATES

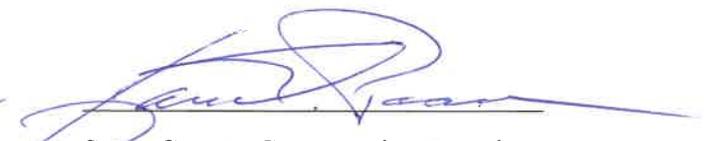
A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on a possible land acquisition, change orders for the Destination Iowa Grant (HOINT), meeting with the City of Ames Planning and Zoning staff and ISURP regarding the property near TELC, Jennette tornado debris removal, and reviewing the Naming and Memorials Policy.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Franz biked the new section of the HOINT and hiked at Christiansen Forest Preserve and six other county and three state properties. Place met with some citizens regarding the Ames Pollinator group, had a conversation with Brad Freidhof of Johnson County regarding their bond initiative, will be attending Cervis Enterprise training, and handed out *The Nature's Advocate* Guide to anyone who wanted a copy. Murken mentioned that the Headwaters of the South Skunk River and the Ioway Creek WMA are going to conduct joint meetings. Pease continues to speak at bond meetings.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.


Recording Secretary


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