

Story County Conservation Board
January 13, 2025
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 – present
Erica Place – present
Linda Murken – present

STAFF

Mike Cox
Marianne Harrelson
Sara Carmichael

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

3. ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Pease administered the Oath of Office to Judy Levings, who will serve through 2029.

4. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS – Pease requested that item D be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

6. ELECT 2025 OFFICERS

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place, nominating Meyers as Chair, Laumer as Vice-Chair, and Place as Secretary. MCU.

Pease turned the gavel over to Meyers, who chaired to remainder of the meeting.

7. STAFF REPORT

Sara Carmichael, Watershed Coordinator, submitted a written annual report. She reviewed the report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 9, 2024, and December 16, 2024. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

9. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

10. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

11. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for February 10th.

12. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS

New Hire effective 1/23/25, Clarisse Roscio, Outreach Assistant @ \$13.75/hr. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumers. MCU.

13. 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 Between Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa And Story County Conservation For Natural Resources Improvements At The Skunk River Greenbelt For \$12,400
- B. Consideration Of Contract With J. Pettiecord Inc. For Tornado Damage Clean-Up At Jennett Heritage Area For \$92,000.00
- C. Consideration Of Contract With Historical Link, LLC For A Phase 1 Cultural Resources Survey For \$7,355.00 For The Deppe Family Conservation Property
- D. Consideration of Change Orders With Harold Pike – Removed for discussion.
- E. Consideration Of Contract With The Iowa Department Of Health And Human Services MOTION by Place, SECOND by Levings. MCU.

D. Consideration Of Change Orders CR-02, CR-06, And CR-07 With Harold Pike Construction For The McFarland Park Shop Project For \$16,189.71. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place. Pease asked for this item to be removed from the Consent Agenda to clarify why these items were not part of the original construction bid. Cox explained that the septic system was pulled from the original specifications and was replaced separately. During construction, it was determined that the lines between the new septic tank and the leach field to the new building needed to be replaced. Another part of the change order was for additional rock under the new building which was not known until the old pad was removed. MCU.

14. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of 2025 Legislative Priorities. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Pease. Levings asked for clarification on how these priorities were created and how we use the document. Pease and Cox provided an explanation. Place asked if one of the items could be removed. Others provided suggestions/comments for changes. The original Motion and Second were withdrawn and a new MOTION by Place for Cox to update the document with changes discussed, SECOND by Pease. MCU.

15. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox polled the board on the preferred location of the Dakins Lake Cabin and updated them on the HOINT snowmobile MOA.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Murken mentioned that the WMA joint meetings are encouraging. Place is assisting Director Cox with a communications plan for the bond, working with staff on the Service Enterprise recertification, and extended an invitation to the board to attend Celebrate Outdoors Day at the Capital on Thursday, March 20th. Place asked Levings to provide the board with details of her background. Pease again thanked Linda for representing the Board of Supervisors and everyone else for their efforts on the bond initiative.

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.


Recording Secretary


Story County Conservation Board