

Story County Conservation Board
March 10, 2025
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Craig Meyers – present
Christine Laumer – present
Erica Place – present
Jim Pease – present
Judy Levings - present
Linda Murken – present

STAFF

Mike Cox
Marianne Harrelson
Ryan Wiemold

GUESTS

Mike Meetz
Wade Nasheim

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Mike Meetz mentioned that both eagles by Soper’s Mill are sitting on the nest. Wade Nasheim indicated that he is attending the meeting to request that the board review and approve a change to the conservation easement on some property he is purchasing. Meyers noted that no action could be taken during this meeting, but it could be discussed. Cox provided some information and requested that the board set a special meeting date to consider an easement amendment within the next couple of weeks. A meeting was scheduled for Friday, March 21st, at 5 PM to be held via Zoom only.

5. STAFF REPORT

Ryan Wiemold, Park Superintendent, submitted a written annual report. He reviewed the report and was available to comment and answer questions.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 10, 2025 Minutes. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Pease, 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 April 14th.

10. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

A. Action Forms. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer. 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.)

Place requested Item G to be pulled from the Consent Agenda for further explanation.

A. Consideration Of Contracting With Hall’s Backhoe And Trenching For Potable Water Hydrant Replacement At Dakins Lake For \$4,750.00

B. Consideration Of A Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement With The Great Outdoors Foundation

- For The Hannum's Mill Dam Mitigation Project
- C. Consideration Of Amendment To The Cash Rent Farm Lease With Chance Flynn For Farming Portions Of The Deppe Family Wildlife Area
 - D. Consideration Of Change Order #3 With Harold Pike Construction For The McFarland Park Shop Project For \$5,501.47
 - E. Consideration Of Professional Services Agreement With US Fish And Wildlife Service (USFWS) And Iowa Soybean Association (ISA)
 - F. Consideration Of Small Grant Agreement Between Iowa DNR And Story County Conservation For Prairie Restoration At Doolittle Prairie For \$4,200.00
 - H. Consideration Of Water Trails Development Program Grant Agreement #25-01 With The Iowa Department Of Natural Resources For \$40,000
- MOTION by Place with the exception of item G, SECOND by Levings. MCU.

- G. Consideration Of Story County Commercial Drivers License Agreement With Nathan Schmitt, Vegetation Management Specialist. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place. Cox explained the new Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration law that requires an individual to complete an Entry-Level Driver Training course prior to obtaining a CDL. This agreement is set up similarly to the Law Enforcement Agreement for Park Rangers. MCU.

12. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of The Second Reading Of The Story County Conservation Rules And Regulations. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place. Cox explained that this second reading removed the items related to snowmobile use on the trails. Pease questioned the Iowa Code referenced on Page 13, Item 17. Cox and Wiemold provided context to the code. The title of this code will be added to the document. MCU.
- B. Consideration Of Accepting And Approving The Story County Trails Plan. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer. Board members discussed the document and requested some updates/changes. After the discussion, the original motion and second were voted down. MCU. A new MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer with changes discussed. MCU.
- C. Review And Approve The Story County Conservation FY24 Annual Report. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place. Board members discussed the report and requested some corrections. After the discussion, the original motion and second were withdrawn. A new MOTION by Pease with changes discussed, SECOND by Levings. MCU.

13. UPDATES

- A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the Legislative updates, bond funding, the IRVM storage building project, the upcoming ISAC Conference, and the LWCF grant.
- B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Pease attended the Outdoor Alliance annual meeting. Meyers indicated that they would like one of the SCC board members to attend their monthly meetings and their periodic meeting with Director Cox. Levings met with several SCC staff. Murken gave a brief update on the WMA meetings, and they are working on scheduling a Field Day.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.



Recording Secretary



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