

Story County Conservation Board  
April 14, 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 via conference call

Linda Murken – absent

STAFF

Mike Cox

Marianne Harrelson

Madison Nolte

GUESTS

Jamie Beyer

Steve Burgason

Todd Burras

Ava Smith

Bob Kindred

James Roth

Jacob Smith

Olivia VanderHart

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

Pease requested that Item B be removed from the Consent Agenda.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

5. STAFF REPORT

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

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 10, 2025 Minutes and March 21, 2025 Minutes. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Place mentioned a concern she had regarding the unspent funds in the contract labor line item. Harrelson indicated that she met with field staff to discuss the whole budget. Most line items are still anticipated to be spent by the end of this FY, but some may be amended to FY26.

9. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for May 12<sup>th</sup>. The Get Outdoors Day is June 14<sup>th</sup>, and the Conservation Department recognition/seasonal employees orientation start date is May 19<sup>th</sup>.

10. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

A. Action Forms. MOTION by Place, 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.)

Pease requested earlier that Item B be pulled from the Consent Agenda for further explanation.

- A. Consideration Of Contract With Hall's Backhoe And Trenching, LLC, And Story County Conservation For Dakins Lake Outlet Structure Repairs For \$4,900.00
- C. Consideration Of The Modification To Rules And Regulations Pertaining To Parking Violation Processing Procedure
- D. Consideration Of Amendment To Dakins Lake Cabin Design Contract With Shive Hattery For \$49,500.00

MOTION by Place with the exception of item B, SECOND by Pease. MCU.

- B. Consideration Of Memorandum Of Understanding By And Between The City Of Collins And Story County Conservation Board, Story County, Iowa. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place. Pease questioned if we have an agreement like this with any of the other cities along the HOINT. Cox indicated that this is unique, and we have not done a project like this before with a city-owned facility. We are using Destination Iowa Grant funds received by the county, which necessitates the need for this MOU. We have done coop projects with other cities. MCU.

## 12. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of Payment To Ansley Ames For Improvement Of TELC Connector Trail Easement Area For Inclusion Of Wetland For \$5,000.00. MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Place. Cox introduced some members of the Ansley Ames group and provided some background for this request. Steve Burgason and Jamie Beyer spoke to the board and provided more detailed information regarding this request. MCU.
- B. Consideration Of First Reading Of Revisions To The Story County Conservation Board By-Laws. MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Place. Cox noted that the last update to the By-Laws was in 2018. There are a few minor changes, but the majority of the changes are related to procurement. These changes reflect the current financial market and bring the Conservation Board By-Laws in line with Story County's Procurement Policy. MCU.
- C. Consideration Of Conservation Easement Granted By Claire Andreason And Steven Pecanka For Natural Resource Protection. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place. Cox provided a brief description of the request to protect this property by Claire. MCU.
- D. Consideration Of Change Order #4 With Harold Pike Construction For The McFarland Park Shop Project For \$18,060.00. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer. The board requested not to omit the clean-out for a cost reduction. MCU.
- E. Consideration Of Owner-Provided Items For McFarland Shop Project For \$13,799.00. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Levings. Board members requested that we look at other resources for possible cost-saving purchases. MCU.
- F. Consideration Of Professional Services Agreement With LT Leon Associates Inc. For Design Services For C.J. Shreck Water Trail Access Improvements For \$50,000.00. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Pease. Cox indicated that this contractor is highly recommended for their hydrology engineering. We have received a state water trail grant for engineering on this project. MCU.

13. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the DNR Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) reports for Hickory Grove Lake based on turbidity vs algae (written for 2016 reporting period), the IRVM storage building project, the Gladys Lieu estate allowing EOF surveying, a tree(s) planting for former board member Frantz, the new UKG system and lunches, and presented at the Outdoor Alliance meeting.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Laumer attended the Outdoor Alliance meeting. They are planning a supporters' event in October and coordinating Ames Reads Leopold recordings to be aired on KHOI in the future. Place has spent time on the HOINT and at Christiansen. She reminded the board to log their hours into the volunteer system. Pease spoke at the Ada Hayden Friends group annual meeting and thanked them again for their contribution towards the bond campaign.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

  
Recording Secretary

  
Story County Conservation Board