

Story County Conservation Board  
May 12, 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

Pat Shehan

GUESTS

Alissa Wignall

Jerry Keys

Mike Meetz

Jamie Beyer

Luke Hoffman

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

It was requested that the Public Comments and the Staff Report be switched around.

5. STAFF REPORT

Patrick Shehan, Special Projects Ranger, submitted a written annual report. He reviewed the report and was available to comment and answer questions.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Luke Hoffman, with the Iowa Bicycle Coalition, presented on the Economic and Health Impacts of Bicycling and Trails in Iowa.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 14, 2025 Minutes. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Cox explained that the staff is working hard to complete FY25 budgeted projects. We anticipate being under budget. Harrelson noted that the FY25 budget amendments were submitted and will be on the May 20<sup>th</sup> BOS agenda for approval.

9. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup>. The Get Outdoors Day is June 14<sup>th</sup>, the Landers Dedication is May 18<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 Pease, SECOND by Place. 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.)

A. Consideration Of Cooperative Agreement Between Prairie Rivers Of Iowa RC&D And

Story County Conservation From July 1, 2025 To June 30, 2026 For Water Quality Monitoring Services For \$34,000.00

- B. Consideration Of Contract With Bo's Outdoor Solutions For Mowing The Praeri Rail Trail In McCallsburg For \$10,200.00
- C. Consideration Of A Temporary Construction Easement With Phyllis Jean Maxwell Living Trust For Construction Of Two Field Accesses To Their Property On Both Sides Of 630th Avenue In Sections 29 And 30 Of Indian Creek Township
- D. Consideration Of Shared Use Access Easement With Phyllis Jean Maxwell Living Trust For Perpetual Use Of Story County Property For Farm Access
- E. Consideration Of Closure Of The Conservation Center On June 6th, 2025 For Staff Training
- F. Consideration Of Memorandum Of Understanding With Project Aware For Loan Of Canoes

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

## 12. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of Second Reading Of Revisions To The Story County Conservation Board By-Laws. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Pease. MCU.
- B. Discussion And Direction For Story County Conservation Employee Meal Periods  
After a lengthy discussion, the board asked Director Cox to bring forward a policy change for meal periods to be deducted from employee timesheets. They also requested that we provide employees with enough notice for the transition.

## 13. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on bond projects, the Deppe funeral service, HOINT ribbon cutting event, TELC residences, next month's board meeting at McFarland shop, and board member mileage reimbursement.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Laumer provided an update from the Outdoor Alliance meeting. Place mentioned that the Service Enterprise training has been completed, and then funding was been discontinued. She has been spending a lot of time at Christiansen. Pease has been attending meetings with Director Cox, visiting McFarland Park, and he recently presented at Iowa Bird Fest and the ISU Christian Petersen Museum. Levings attended the workday at Christiansen Forest Preserve and has been visiting multiple parks in Story County. Meyers has been attending meetings with Cox and Pease and presented to the Des Moines Audubon Society.

## 14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Laumers, SECOND by Levings, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.



Recording Secretary



Story County Conservation Board