

Story County Conservation Board
July 14, 2025
Story County Conservation McFarland Shop, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Craig Meyers – present

Christine Laumer – present

Erica Place – absent

Jim Pease – present

Judy Levings – present

Linda Murken – present

STAFF

Mike Cox

Marianne Harrelson

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

Lorna Carroll

Laura Beskow

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorna Carroll and Laura Beskow presented to the board about the Lights Out Ames project.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 14, 2025 Minutes. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Harrelson explained that the reports are final for FY25, and budget amendments from FY25 to FY26 will take place in August.

8. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for August 11th. The HOINT ribbon cutting and bike ride is on August 9th.

9. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

A. Action Forms. MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Levings. MCU.

10. 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 Proclamation Declaring August 2025 As National Water Quality Month

B. Resolution No. 2026-01 Endorsing A Resolution To Temporarily Suspend The Refuge Status At Hickory Grove Park For A Controlled Goose

C. Resolution No. 2026-02 Endorsing A Resolution To Temporarily Suspend The Refuge Status At Leopold Woods For A Controlled Deer Hunt

D. Consideration Of Final Change Order With Harold Pike Construction For The McFarland Park Shop Project

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

11. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of Offer To Buy Real Estate And Acceptance For A Tract Of Land In Section Nineteen Of Howard Township. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer. Cox indicated this property is located south of E18 on the South Skunk River and is scheduled for a Public Hearing at the Board of Supervisors meeting tomorrow for approval. Levings noted an error in the document that will be corrected. MCU.
- B. Consideration Of Contract With Shive Hattery For Design Engineering On Tedesco Phase 4 Project For \$93,800.00. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Levins. Cox confirmed Pease's question about whether this was a pre-fab building. This is a time and material contract, and the full amount of the contract will not be billed if not needed. MCU.
- C. Consideration Of Agreement With Snyder & Associates Inc. For Preliminary Design Services For The R-38 Bike Lanes Alternatives For \$92,300.00. MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Levings. Pease indicated that he would like Snyder to be more aggressive about looking at alternatives other than R-38. Cox noted that that will be done. MCU.
- D. Consideration Of Agreement With Bolton & Menk Inc. For Preliminary Design Services For The Deppe Family Conservation Area For \$9,500. MOTION by Levings, SECOND by Laumer. Cox noted that this agreement will begin with the layout for the area, followed by takeoffs for grading and utilities. Further detailed considerations will need to be vetted as their work progresses. MCU.
- E. Consideration Of Establishment Of A South Skunk River Greenbelt Trail Working Group. MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Pease. After a brief discussion, Laumer and Pease withdrew their original motions and entered a new MOTION and SECOND to table this item to seek legal opinion on this item. MCU.

12. UPDATES

- A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the implementation process of the UKG system and lunch deductions, lighting changes in our parks, Polk County's water quality report and a future workshop, and the upcoming REAP meeting.
- B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Laumer advised the board that the Outdoor Alliance of Story County will be holding a supporters' event in October and reminded everyone about the upcoming Rummage Rampage. Pease attended the Get Outdoors Day and the Sensitive Area Inventory landowner field day. Levings also attended the Get Outdoors Day event. Murken mentioned the Ioway and Headwaters Water Management Authority's cover crop field day, and on a personal note, her farm was approved for CRP. Meyers attended the Get Outdoors Day event.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Levings, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM.



Monique Peterson

Recording Secretary



Craig A. Johnson

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