

Story County Conservation Board
August 11, 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

Ryan Wiemold

Marianne Harrelson

Russ DeWall

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Meetz mentioned his monthly update on KHOI with SCC staff.

5. STAFF REPORT

Russ DeWall, McFarland Shop Operations Supervisor, submitted a written annual report. He reviewed the report and was available to comment and answer questions.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 14, 2025 Minutes. MOTION by Levings, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Place questioned the Grounds and Maintenance line already being expensed over half of the budget. Harrelson explained there were several large, unexpected expenses that came up. We will continue to monitor that line and may have to ask for a budget amendment in the future. Pease questioned the IRVM equipment and machinery item on the budget amendment listed twice. Harrelson explained that we did not receive the LRTF grant for the truck, but we are still going to purchase the truck, so it needs to be moved from the LRTF grant account to the general fund account.

9. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for September 8th.

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 Quote With Denco Highway Construction Corp. For Crack Sealing At The McFarland Park Parking Lot For \$5,954.00. (Unbudgeted)

B. Consideration Of Memorandum Of Understanding With The Cities Of Ankeny, Madrid, Sheldahl, Slater, Woodward, And Conservation Boards Of Boone, Polk, Dallas, And Story Counties For The High Trestle Trail

- C. Consideration Of Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant Agreement #19-01417 Between The National Parks Service Through The Iowa Department Of Natural Resources And The Story County Conservation Board For \$156,250.00
- D. Consideration Of Contract With Brush And Weed Control Specialists For Brush Control For \$40,941.00.

MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

11. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of Establishment Of A South Skunk River Greenbelt Trail Working Group. This item was tabled at the July 14, 2025 meeting. Wiemold explained that Director Cox spoke with legal counsel and determined that this group can meet, gather information, and present options to the board. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place. Place asked how this group will be different than the Trails Advisory Committee. Wiemold indicated that this group will be focused on troubleshooting the trail gap between Peterson Park and Soper's Mill, where the TAC worked on county wide trail maintenance and the interest of different trail users. MCU.

12. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Wiemold updated the board on the LWCF grant and the HOINT ribbon cutting. He had a lengthy discussion with the board about the HGP accessibility project. He also updated the board on the Sandvold and Sather land purchases, and the snowmobile club MOU will be on next month's meeting agenda.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Laumer reminded the board of the Outdoor Alliance of Story County supporters' event on October 15th. Place mentioned that Prairie Rivers of Iowa is launching a new initiative to have a prairie seed bank. They will collect and store native seeds and will supply the seeds for prairie restoration projects. Pease presented on water quality at Project Aware, attended meetings on the new Conservation Center and the REAP committee, presented on Critters of the Little Sioux and attended the Polk County Water Quality presentation. Levings attended the REAP committee meeting and she also attended the Polk County Water Quality presentation.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM.


Recording Secretary


Story County Conservation Board