

Story County Conservation Board
November 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

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Meetz indicated that he spoke with our two Park Rangers, and their interviews will be on KHOI radio tomorrow. They will also be available via the radio station archives. The nominations for the Olav Smedal Conservation Award are under review by the committee.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 13, 2025 Minutes. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Place, SECOND by Levings. Board members emailed their questions, and Harrelson provided explanations prior to the meeting. MCU.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

8. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for December 8th.

9. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer. 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. Resolution No. 2026-03 Endorsing A Grant Application To The Wildlife Habitat With Local Entities Grant Program (Wildlife Habitat Grant) For Assistance In Acquiring The Longnecker, Schuster, And Harmon Properties.

B. Consideration Of A Contract Between Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa And Story County Conservation For Natural Resources Improvements At Various Parks For A Total Of \$3,720.00.

C. Consideration Of Contract With Terracon For Geotechnical Services At Hickory Grove Park For \$9,900.00.

D. Consideration Of Agreement To Terminate And Rescind Lagoon Pumping Contract With Midwest Dredging And Pond Care.

E. Consideration Of Contract With Haan Services, LLC For Oxbow Restoration At Wicks

- Wildlife Area For \$57,275.00.
- F. Consideration Of Contract With Haan Services LLC For Oxbow Restoration At Carroll Prairie For \$16,071.00.
 - G. Consideration Of Temporary Construction Easement With Fairview Development, LLC. For Wicks Wildlife Area Oxbow Restoration.
 - H. Consideration Of Temporary Construction Easement With The Steven Walters Trust For Oxbow Restoration At Carroll Prairie.
- MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Place. MCU.

11. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of Professional Services Agreement With Uncurbed For Hickory Grove Park Accessibility And Universal Design Consultation For \$10,600.00. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer. Cox indicated this company is local and has done extensive accessibility work for Polk County. This will bring a much-needed component to both HGP projects. MCU.
- B. Review And Approve The Story County Conservation FY25 Annual Report. MOTION by Place, SECOND by Laumer. Board members discussed the report and requested some changes and corrections. They approved the report to be finalized after the requested updates were made. MCU.
- C. Review Conservation Capital Improvement Plan. Cox reviewed the plan with the board and answered questions. Most of the projects in the plan are partially bond-funded. The spreadsheet shows two lines for each project. The top figure is the anticipated total cost of the project, and the lower figure is the bond funding amount towards that project.
- D. Review FY27 Budget Proposals. Cox and Harrelson provided explanations and answered questions regarding the proposals. The overall operations budget is only up by \$100K over FY26. The IRVM budget remains relatively static.

12. UPDATES

- A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the R-38 survey being mailed out, bond funds, IRVM staff chemical overspray, and the Strategic Plan needing to be updated.
- B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements on the Board: Place attended the Story County Community Foundation reception, the Pheasants Forever banquet, and wanted to let members know about the Republican Party chili supper. Pease has been sorting through 15 years of papers and found a couple of documents that he shared with the group. Meyers mentioned attending the Story County Community Foundation reception and the Pheasants Forever banquet.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Levings, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.


Recording Secretary


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