

Story County Conservation Board
November 9, 2020
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa via Zoom

1. SPECIAL NOTE TO THE PUBLIC: Due To Recommendations To Limit Gatherings To No More Than Ten (10) People In Order To Help Slow The Spread Of The COVID-19 Virus, Public Access To The Meeting Will Be Provided Via Zoom.

2. CALL TO ORDER: 5:42 PM

3. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Jim Pease - present

Christine Laumer – absent

Nancy Franz – present

Craig Meyers - present

Ted Tedesco – present

Linda Murken – present

STAFF

Mike Cox

Marianne Harrelson

GUESTS

4. STATEMENT EXPLAINING WHY A MEETING IN PERSON IS IMPOSSIBLE OR IMPRACTICAL, PER CODE SECTION 21.8.1

5. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

7. STAFF REPORT – None.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 12, 2020. MOTION by Franz, with one typographical correction, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.

9. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz. Pease questioned the claim to RJ Thomas for a bench plaque, that the price includes the bench. Harrelson confirmed. Pease wanted to confirm the claim to TrafX was for trail counters. Harrelson confirmed and indicated it was for four counters. Pease also questioned the large payment to Howrey Construction. Harrelson noted the payment was for two projects – HOINT Phase 2 and HOINT Slater Connector. MCU.

10. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Pease wanted to know if the vault toilet for West Peterson would be installed this year and the location. Director Cox indicated that we plan to install it this year and it will be placed near the entrance to the beach.

11. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for December 14th. Pease noted that staff is being very creative with designing programs that involve the public while still being able to maintain social distancing.

12. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Action Forms

Conservation Aide seasonal rehire effective 11/16/20, Michael Parker @ \$11.75/hr. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. This will be Michaels's third time employed with us. MCU.

B. Consideration Of Purchase Of Kenwood Radios From RACOM For \$5,941.44.

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. These radios will be use specifically for prescribed burns. Murken wanted to know if the users could contact the fire department with these radios if needed. Director Cox indicated that these radios are only for line of site communication. There will be a ranger on site during the burn and they will have their radios. MCU.

C. Consideration Of Resolution #2021-01 Approving An Agreement Between Story County Conservation And The Iowa Department Of Transportation For Living Roadway Trust Fund Grant For A Herbicide Storage Cage And Shelving. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.

D. Consideration Of Resolution #2021-02 Approving An Agreement Between Story County Conservation And The Iowa Department Of Transportation For Living Roadway Trust Fund Grant For A Tandem Axle Equipment Trailer. Pease noted that the memo indicates the purchase of an 84' x 20' trailer should be 84" x 20'. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.

E. Consideration Of Resolution #2021-03 Supporting Story County Conservation's Fish Habitat Grant Application For A Walleye Rearing Pond And Fish Kettle At Hickory Grove Park. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco. Franz asked if the fish are reared in one location and then moved in to a kettle to mature. Director Cox indicated there is a small kettle connected to the rearing pond. The DNR would supply the fry and kept in the rearing pond for some time. The kettle is used to catch those and move out to the lake. Tedesco mentioned that we would be stocking Hickory, Ada Hayden and Don Williams parks. MCU.

13. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

A. Review of FY22 Budget Proposals

Director Cox gave explanations on the FY22 budget proposal. There are fewer capital projects than in the past, so our overall budget request for expenses and revenue are significantly less than the past two years. There might be FEMA claim added to the budget after a meeting scheduled next week. There is another emergency aid program that we are exploring that is listed in the budget, but we do not have a dollar amount figured for the budget at this time. Some board members had questions regarding some of the budget items/amounts and Director Cox or Harrelson responded to their questions. Budget work sessions with the Board of Supervisors should be scheduled in January.

B. Review Story County Conservation Capital Improvement Plan

Director Cox gave explanations and answered questions. Discussions were had regarding some of the costs allocated in the plan.

14. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the Hickory Grove sewer project. He received a first draft agreement with the City of Colo from the County Attorney that he is reviewing.

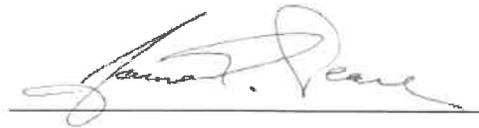
B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Franz worked the Team Day at McFarland Park building stairs on one of the trails. She also attended the tree planting at TELC. It was well organized and safety precautions were in place. She is on the Central Iowa Trails Facebook page and someone posted about the nine miles of pavement on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail. Lots of good work being done by staff and contractors. Meyers mentioned that he was glad to hear that we are making progress on the Colo sewer project and that he is meeting with the Outdoor Alliance on Thursday. Tedesco indicated that he and Director Cox are presenting at the Big Bluestem Audubon Society on the 19th. Pease attended a wetland mitigation program presented by JEO Consulting Group.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.



Recording Secretary



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