

Story County Conservation Board
February 8, 2021
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa via Zoom

1. SPECIAL NOTE TO THE PUBLIC: Due To Recommendations To Social Distance 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: 5:30 PM
3. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS	STAFF	GUESTS
Craig Meyers – present	Mike Cox	
Christine Laumer – present	Marianne Harrelson	
Nancy Franz – present		
Jim Pease - present		
Ted Tedesco – present		
Linda Murken – present		
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
January 11, 2021. MOTION by Franz with two typographical corrections, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.
9. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS
MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer. Board members questioned a few claims. Cox and Harrelson provided explanations. MCU.
10. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES
11. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS
The next board meeting is scheduled for March 8th.
12. ACTION ITEMS:
 - A. Consideration Of Contract With Finco Tree/Wood Service LLC For The Firewood Sales At Hickory Grove Park Campground And Dakins Lake Campground. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. MCU.
 - B. Consideration Of Contract Between Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa And Story County Conservation For Natural Resources Improvements At Carroll Prairie For \$12,465.60. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

- C. Consideration Of Postage Meter Lease Agreement - Upgrading Current Machine. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.
- D. Consideration Of Amendment To The Story County Conservation Law Enforcement Policy. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease. Franz noted that the addition on page 10, section H, letter e, needs to be reworded to “Park Officers are prohibited from using chokeholds except in those situations where deadly force is allowed by law.” MCU.
- E. Consideration Of First Reading Of Revisions To The Story County Conservation Rules And Regulations. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Tedesco. Cox explained that Harrelson updated all of the State Statues section of the Rules and Regulations to match the State Code. Several other minor corrections were pointed out by board members. Pease questioned if we needed to add clarification regarding motor usage. Cox indicated that he would look into adding proper wording to the document. MCU.

13. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox indicated that he sent an email out to the board regarding Strategic Planning. He asked to board to review and edit the Strategic Plan with strategies and outcomes through the end of FY22. The goals are not changing at this time. There is also a survey with a few questions to answer about the organization in 5 and 10 years. Staff reviewed and provided suggestions for updating our COVID protocols. There was a three phased plan for programming and opening the building. Staff suggested making changes to the original parameters set because they may not be realistic. They also would like to combine Phase 1 and 2. After a very lengthy discussion, the Board requested that we provide additional scientific, best practices, and mitigation information and request guidance from Story County Public Health, Board of Supervisors and other local medical professionals. Prairie Rivers will be at next month's board meeting to present the Water Quality Monitoring plan. Cox, Murken and Pease met with some representatives with Polk County and ISU Extension regarding implementing a saturated buffer and bioreactor program in Story County similar to one in Polk County in Polk County. They have had tremendous success at getting edge of field practices installed. They have developed a plan that takes a lot of the workload away from the landowner and puts a portion of it on a fiscal agent. Representatives from Polk County are going to give a presentation to some different entities in the county in the near future. We have been working on getting the Headwaters of the South Skunk River WMA grant contract approved, develop an RFP for consultants, and get a board meeting set up. The budget work session with the Board of Supervisors was held at the end of January. They were supportive with most of our requests with the exception of the TELC project. They requested that we meet with ISU Research Park and the City of Ames to request the \$400,000 from them since the county has already invested almost \$4M and have agreed to fund another \$500K. SCC board members stated that they are willing to talk to the city council members and the mayor prior to requesting time to present at the city council meeting. They approved the Watershed Coordinator position, removed the full time Natural Resource Technician but approved the part time position. Dean Robinson with ISU College of Ag and Life Sciences has asked Cox to serve on the search committee for the NREM chair.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Pease attended a couple meetings with Cox. One was on wetland mitigation banking and the other was on Hannum's Mill lowhead dam. Franz and Cox attended an Outdoor Alliance meeting during which, Keith Abraham, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Ames, gave

an update about upcoming projects. She attended the ECIC annual conference virtually. The ICCS Conference committee has restarted. She hiked at TELC a couple times, took some new people there, and will be leading a hike there next week with the ISU Women's Club. She also took a couple people skiing at Hickory Grove Park. Meyers is excited about the saturated buffer project coming up and is hoping that we can get the Hickory Grove sewer project taken care of as well. Murken mentioned that the January meeting minutes indicated that we should meet with the Iowa State Association of Counties about the master matrix meeting review. That has already been done by the Story County BOS. A recommendation was sent for the legislative packet last year and it was adopted. She sent a copy to Director Cox to send out to the board members.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.



Recording Secretary



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