

Story County Conservation Board
July 12, 2021
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa and via Zoom

1. SPECIAL NOTE TO THE PUBLIC: This Meeting Is Also Being Offered Via Zoom.

2. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

3. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Craig Meyers – present
Christine Laumer – present
Nancy Franz – present
Jim Pease – present
Ted Tedesco – present via Zoom
Linda Murken – present

STAFF

Mike Cox
Marianne Harrelson
Erica Place
Sara Carmichael

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

4. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Mike Meetz commented on the programs/activities that were going on at the Hickory Grove Park Grand Opening/Colo Crossroads Days. He mentioned that the county REAP meeting is scheduled for August 9th. Meyers and Cox introduced Sara Carmichael, SCC Watershed Coordinator, to the other board members.

6. STAFF REPORT – Erica Place, Outreach Coordinator, submitted a written annual report. She reviewed the report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 14, 2021. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

8. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

9. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES – Pease commented he was pleased we ended the fiscal year with a surplus of approximately 15%.

10. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Place explained that we would like to begin using a link to the SCC website calendar so that it is more accurate and up to date at the board meetings. The next board meeting is scheduled for August 9th and will be held in person at McFarland Conservation Center.

11. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Consideration Of Additional Alternative Analysis With Houston Engineering Inc. For \$3,950. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease. Cox noted there are two landowners involved with this project. We have support from one and resistance from the other. We are proceeding with the project, except for the area owned by the resistant landowner. MCU.

- B. Consideration Of Contract With Brush And Weed Control Specialists For Roadside Brush Spraying For \$48,776. Cox explained why we are not recommending the low bid for this contract. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz. MCU.
- C. Consideration Of Conservation Easement With The Office Of The State Archeologist For A Portion Of Lands To Be Transferred To The County From The U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Laumer. Pease had some questions about the areas on the maps. Cox indicated that "1A" is north and south of Anderson Access and "1B" is just north of Soper's Mill. The areas in red are the buffer and the easement is inside the outer limits of the buffer. This is the last step prior to the Corps. signing and sending it for approval. MCU.

12. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board that we are tentatively scheduling a staff appreciation for August 5th. There are 97 people registered for the ICCS conference, including all SCC staff. Tom, with ICCS, would like to reduce our county financial obligation by half. Franz mentioned that she and other staff have been on tours of all locations, the program listings, signage, AV, and volunteers are being finalized. Cox mentioned how much having a planning consultant has helped out with the conference and hopes that other counties use a similar service in the future. He thanked board members and staff for all of their work at the Hickory Grove Park Grand Opening/Colo Crossroads Day activities. Members from the Crossroads committee indicated that they would like to consider continuing to hold the festival at Hickory Grove in the future. The county will be receiving federal money from the American Rescue Plan and some of the funding may be able to go towards some of SCC projects. The Board of Supervisors will make amendments in August.

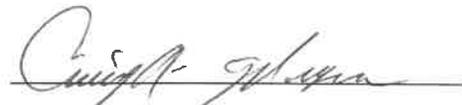
B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Laumer is continuing to reach out to "Fuel Story County" for fundraising efforts. Franz asked about the sculpture that is out at TELC. The City of Ames is handing out brochures and asking people to vote for their favorite sculpture. It was determined that the sculpture at TECL is not on the brochure. Cox explained that TELC is not part of the Ames sculpture program. Meyers indicated how pleased he is that Erica Place is doing monthly radio broadcasts on KHOI. He also thought that the events at Hickory Grove were a great success. He was very surprised by how many people were there.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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



Recording Secretary



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