

Story County Conservation Board
March 7, 2022
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:32 PM

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

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

STAFF

Mike Cox
Marianne Harrelson
Sara Carmichael
Jake Smith
Hunter Simmons
Ryan Wiemold
Logan Heissel
Olivia VanderHart

GUESTS

Mike Meetz
Lorna Carroll
Clark Risdal
Lane VanderHart

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Mike Meetz notified the board that the Olav Smedal Conservation Award was presented to Trish Patrick.

5. APPOINTMENT OF PEACE OFFICERS – Board Chair, Laumer, appointed Olivia VanderHart and Logan Heissel as Park Rangers for Story County Conservation. Olivia and Logan recited the oath for appointments as Park Rangers for Story County Conservation. Wiemold provided a brief work history for Olivia and Logan.

6. STAFF REPORT – Ryan Wiemold, Park Superintendent, submitted a written annual report. He reviewed the report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 14, 2022. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

8. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

9. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES – Cox noted that we are on track with the current budget. There have been some unexpected expenses arise, but we believe that it will work out in the end. Staff is diligently working on completing budgeted project items before the end of the fiscal year.

10. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for April 11th.

11. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

A. Conservation Technician I, new hire contingent on pre-employment screening, Maxwell McCarty @ \$19.46/hr. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease. MCU.

12. 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 Contract Between Joseph Fullerton And Story County Conservation Board For Campground Attendant Duties At Hickory Grove Park From March 28 To November 1, 2022.
 - B. Consideration Of Contract Between Ernie Gummo And Story County Conservation Board For Campground Attendant Duties At Dakins Lake From March 28 To July 10, 2022.
 - C. Consideration Of Contract Between James Tongay And Story County Conservation Board For Campground Attendant Duties At Dakins Lake From July 11 To November 1, 2022.
 - D. Consideration Of Water Trails Development Program Grant Agreement With The Iowa Department Of Natural Resources.
 - E. Resolution No. 2022-04 Endorsing A Grant Application To The Land And Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) For Assistance In Purchasing The Deppe Family Conservation Area.
 - F. Consideration Of Approved CIRTPA And SRT Grant Agreement With The Iowa Department of Transportation.
 - G. Consideration Of Rescinding The Face Covering Requirement.
 - H. Consideration To Rescind The Conservation Center Use And Indoor Programming Management Protocols: COVID-19 And Adhere To CDC Guidance.
- MOTION to approve all Consent Agenda items by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

13. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of 2nd Reading of Revisions To Story County Rules And Regulations. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Pease. Harrelson confirmed the rate increase for reservable sites is \$1/night instead of the \$3/site as originally approved. A correction will be made on page 12 that was missed with this updated information. MCU with an amendment to the motion for the correction to be made.
- B. Consideration Of Contract Between The Iowa Department Of Natural Resources And Story County Conservation For A Cooperative Agreement To Establish A Prairie Seed Production Plot. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease. Pease questioned the number of acres this would represent. Cox indicated it was two acres. The DNR will provide the local ecotype seed and materials. Wiemold indicated this is a good way for us to gain some high-quality species. We hope to increase the number of acres in this program in the future. The initial planting will be at Hickory Grove with opportunities to expand to other sites if we decide to continue with this program. MCU.
- C. Consideration Of Concept Plan For Deppe Family Conservation Area. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco. Cox noted that the committee, specifically, Laumer and Franz, have worked extensively with RDG in drafting this document. RDG has been very responsive and has made all of the edits and corrections that have been requested. The committee is pleased with the plan and would like the board to approve it. Once approved, we will submit the grant application, move forward with fundraising, and continue to inform the community of the future plans for the property. MCU.

14. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

A. Update On The Story County Conservation Watershed Implementation Matrix. The in-house watershed working group has been meeting regularly and working to update this matrix. Sara Carmichael, Watershed Coordinator, has taken coordination duties of this process and is ready to present the information to the Board of Supervisors. She highlighted some areas of the matrix with the board and requested any comments or concerns. Once the BOS approves, she intends to continue to have regular meetings with the working group to get updates on projects.

15. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the status of the two carbon dioxide pipelines. The potential routes will cross the HOINT and the PRT. The companies have agreed to bore under the trails and any waterways along the pipelines. Boring under waterways is a new requirement of the county. Both pipelines will require easements that will need to be brought forward to the Conservation Board and the Board of Supervisors. Planning and Development will be coming to the April or May board meeting to give an update on their proposed natural resources ordinance. We are continuing to move forward with the Headwaters WMA assessment. The consultant will have the first couple of chapters available for review at the next meeting. We are currently interviewing for an Outreach/Community Engagement Coordinator. The wetland development at Dotson is at the fifty percent design level. The County's Drainage District Engineer will be reviewing the latest design soon. The Sensitive Area Inventory report is complete and will be sent to us on Thursday. We will work with Planning and Development on how to implement the report into the work plan and development review process. County Day at the Capitol is on Wednesday. We are waiting on a final agreement with IRUA for the Hickory Grove sewer project. Once that is complete we will be ready to take it to the City of Colo.

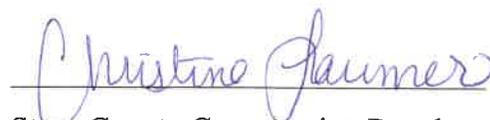
B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Franz has attended several EE programs and DEI webinars, and was interviewed by Iowa Public Radio about the Master Conservationist program. She continues to serve on the Ames Climate Action Committee. A survey has been sent out about individual carbon reduction behaviors and she asked everyone to complete the survey. Pease indicated that INHF and a Friends of Ada Hayden donor closed on the Sturgis property. They will be doing prairie restoration and wetlands on the site to prevent further damage to the lake. Tedesco noted that Park Superintendent, Ryan Wiemold will be presenting to the Ames Anglers on Saturday at McFarland Park. Laumer has been working with RDG on the Deppe project. She is looking over the Partners membership data to see how we can further develop relationships with those members.

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Pease, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM.



Recording Secretary



Story County Conservation Board