

Story County Conservation Board  
May 9, 2022  
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 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  
Brandon Clough  
Maxwell McCarty  
Casey Struecker

GUESTS

Bruce Wright  
Dan Barr

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Director Cox introduced Max McCarty, HGP Conservation Technician and Casey Struecker, Outreach/Community Engagement Coordinator to the board.

Bruce Wright, with the Outdoor Alliance of Story County updated the board on some of the projects they have partnered with SCC and others.

5. STAFF REPORT – Brandon Clough, Natural Resource Specialist, submitted a written annual report. He reviewed the report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 11, 2022. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Cox noted that we are still trying to finalize some of projects and budgeted items before the end of the fiscal year. We submitted the budget amendments and the Board of Supervisors approved.

9. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>.

10. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

- A. Pay adjustment effective 5/22/22, Michael Cox, Director @ \$4,195.09/bw  
Pay adjustment effective 6/5/22, Ryan Wiemold, Park Superintendent @ \$3,072.73/bw  
Pay adjustment effective 6/5/22, Joseph Kooiker, Vegetation Mgmt. Biologist @ \$2,545.50/bw  
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Pease. MCU.

11. 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 With Brush And Weed Control Specialists For Roadside Brush Spraying For \$47,590
- B. Consider Approval Of Living Roadways Trust Fund Grant Applications For Material Handling Equipment
- C. Consider Approval Of LRTF Grant For Equipment Trailer  
MOTION to approve all Consent Agenda items by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

12. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Discussion And Consideration Of Purchase Of Replacement Tasers From Axon Enterprise Inc. For \$11,648.75 (Unbudgeted). MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. Cox explained that our current tasers are failing. One has failed completely and another one is not functioning 100%. These units are out of date and not being serviced by the manufacturer. They were not due for replacement for another two years. Since two are having issues, we would like to replace all four. MCU.
- B. Consideration Of 28E Agreement With Iowa Regional Utilities Association And City Of Colo For Wastewater Services At Hickory Grove Park And Membership Agreement With Iowa Regional Utilities Association. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz. Tedesco noted that this is a very important agreement and requested a move for a Division of the House vote be taken. Meyers thanked everyone involved throughout this whole process. MCU by roll call vote.

13. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board that the scoring committee for the LWCF grant (for purchasing the Deppe property) met and indicated that we have preliminarily scored first place. The BOS approved our \$3M request of ARPA funds to be used as a match for an upcoming grant request from Destination Iowa to complete paving on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail from 610<sup>th</sup> to Collins. If we do not receive the grant, we will not receive the requested ARPA funds. We are continuing to move forward with the Headwaters WMA. The contractor, JEO Consulting Group, has drafted three chapters and is actively working on an action plan. Our current Strategic Plan goes through the end of this fiscal, so we need to start working on the next plan. He recently completed his evaluation with the board chair and thanked all of the board for their support and encouragement for him and the organization. The USACE Cultural Chief completed his obligation of the land acquisition project prior to retiring. There are still a couple coordination items that need to be completed, but we are getting closer to completion.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Franz has been hiking the trails and removing garlic mustard. We invited Edna Clinton and she has tentatively accepted to be part of our DEI advisory group. The DEI committee met and they have come up with sub-committee members and advisory members. She presented to the ISU Women's Club Gardening group and then hiked around the lake. The Ames Climate Action Committee is waiting for their consultants to come back with very specific actions. She met with Ames Climate Action Team and they have asked her to be a representative for them. Pease attended the last two OWLS presentations. He met with Mark Ackelson regarding potential funding and he indicated that the Trust for Public Lands is not pushing anything forward in the near future. Meyers attended the City of Colo's

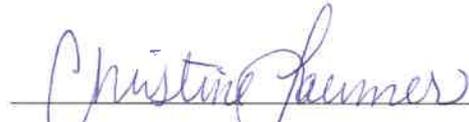
council meeting for the approval of the sewer connection. He just finished the judging the SCC photo contest with Mike Meetz and Lucy Martin. Tedesco has been going to TELC quite a bit to see the stream flowing through the park. He attended the prairie burn and commended the SCC staff for all of their work. He also mentioned that the donor recognition looks great and gives everyone proper credit. Laumer attended the Ames Reads Leopold program and has been visiting Hickory Grove and McFarland Park.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Meyer, SECOND by Tedesco, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.



Recording Secretary



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