

Story County Conservation Board  
June 13, 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 – absent

STAFF

Mike Cox

Marianne Harrelson

Pat Shehan

GUESTS

Rick Dietz

Lisa Odens

Kyle Riley

Les Uhlmeyer

Nate Hoogeveen

Ron Garnder

Scott Randall

Dale Lenz

Piper Wall

David DenHaan

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

5. STAFF REPORT – Patrick Shehan, Special Projects Ranger, submitted a written annual report. He reviewed the report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 9, 2022. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz. 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 projects and budgeted items before the end of the fiscal year. We will be under budget overall but will need to amend some items to the FY23 budget. Revenue is where we anticipated.

9. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for July 11<sup>th</sup>.

10. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

A. Step and Longevity Adjustments for July 2022

Effective 7/3/22, Brandon Clough @ \$25.48/hr.

Effective 7/17/22, Sara Carmichael @ \$26.19/hr.

Effective 7/17/22, Tyler Kelley @ \$23.72/hr.

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. 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 Resolution #2022-06 Approving FY23 Salaries For Story County Conservation Employees

B. Resolution No. 2022-05 Resolution Endorsing A Grant Application To The State Recreational Trails Program For Hard Surfacing/Trail Improvements On The Heart Of Iowa Nature Trail From 610th Avenue To County Road S-14.

MOTION to approve all Consent Agenda items by Pease, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

12. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

A. Consideration Of Hannum's Mill Lowhead Dam Mitigation Alternatives. Director Cox introduced some of the partners involved with the project and provided some background information leading up to the different alternatives being presented. Alternative number one would be a full dam removal; Alternative number two would be a full dam removal with rock arch rapids; and, alternative number three would be a half dam (north section) removal with bank stabilization. The third alternative was added after concerns from one of the adjoining landowners. Franz questioned the safety factor with alternative number three. Nate Hoogeveen responded that it will be safer than what is there now, but when the river is flowing fully, there could be a safety hazard with the half dam still in place. Mr. Randall stated that when he was originally provided information, there were only two alternatives and was told that the only option was alternative number one, because of the cost associated with alternative number two. He never asked for the third alternative and thinks that it is a foolish solution. Franz asked Mr. Randall if he had any other solutions to increase the safety and water quality. He would like the board to consider alternative number two. Mr. Uhlmeier wanted to know if alternative number two would lower the profile of the river. Lisa Odens with Houston Engineering indicated that the rock arch rapids will maintain the existing water levels. It will lower the river elevation in a controlled manner. The Skunk River Paddlers were asked for their comments regarding the alternative designs. Mr. Gardner just asked for the dam to be removed first then any other designs or amenities can be dealt with after the removal. Mr. Dietz stated that if the rock arch rapids are approved, to make sure that they are designed to pass boats. Mr. Lenz wants to make sure that any alternative takes into consideration the water flow rate and bank stabilization for landowners located upstream of the dam. The board determined that with the information received from the public, to not take action on this item at this time. MOTION by Tedesco to table any decision until the August meeting, SECOND by Meyers. Four members voting aye, one member nay.

B. Consideration Of Change Order For Tile Repairs At Hickory Grove Park For \$22,390.00 From Dan Moody Excavating (Unbudgeted). MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco. Director Cox indicated that the funds for this will come from the general fund operations budget. There were some miscommunication issues with the procedure process and the work on this item and the next one has already been completed prior to the board approval. MCU.

C. Consideration Of Change Order For Campgrounds Camping Pads At Dakins Lake For \$8,120.00 From Hall Backhoe And Trenching (Unbudgeted). MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. Director Cox explained that the original contract did not include the bump-outs on the camping pads. Additional costs were incurred to add these to the campsites. MCU.

- D. Consideration Of Professional Services Agreement From Shive Hattery For Engineering Services For Construction Of A Cabin At Dakins Lake For \$12,800. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease. Director Cox stated that he provided documentation from the previous engineering firm to Shive Hattery for them to review and provide civil engineering services for plan design for the construction of a cabin. MCU.

### 13. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the Strategic Plan timeline. A work session is scheduled for August 2<sup>nd</sup>. He sent out a DEI assessment to board members and asked them to complete it as soon as possible. Staff attended a quarterly meeting and completed a “*Diversity in the Workplace: Diversity for all*” training. They also completed the DEI assessment. Once all of the assessments have been completed, we will review and provide information to the DEI committee. The DEI plan will be included in the next Strategic Plan. Jerry Keys will be out of the office for a while and not available. We are moving forward with the contract with Shive Hattery on the McFarland Lake renovation. He handed out a concept plan for the board to reference. This concept shows a drawdown structure that has the capability to draw the whole lake down, clean the forebay, add another forebay (if approved by the Federal Highway), an approximate 10” rise on the lake level, a small jetty, and a launch point for canoes and kayaks. The concrete abutments on the docks at Hickory Grove Park were installed too high. The contractor is going to make adjustments to take care of the issue. We are also losing too much water through the valve on the outlet and the contractor will be repairing that as well. We are still waiting for the Iowa Rural Water Association to approve the contract to connect the Hickory Grove sewer with the City of Colo.

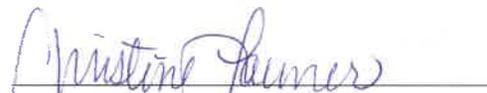
B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Franz has been hiking and biking at TELC and said the new donor sign looks great. There was no activity around the Climate Action Plan with the City of Ames. The city is in the process of determining what all of this is going to cost. She led the last night of the master conservationist program. She also mentioned that an email was sent and registration is open for the 2022 ICCS Conference. Meyers has been going to Hickory Grove Park and usage had significantly increased. He attended another Outdoor Alliance of Story County meeting. Tedesco noted the legislature passed a bill adding a rifle deer hunting option in some Iowa counties. Laumer has been visiting McFarland Park, Christiansen, and TELC. The parks have been very busy.

### 14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.



Recording Secretary



Story County Conservation Board