

Story County Conservation Board
July 11, 2022
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:26 PM

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

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

STAFF

Mike Cox
Marianne Harrelson
Brandon Clough

GUESTS

Mike Meetz
Amelia Schoeneman
Mark Hayes
Cindy Hildebrand

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS – Pease requested to move the Discussion Of Draft Natural Resource Standards Ordinance and Discussion of Hickory Grove Waste Water to after Public Comments.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Mike Meetz mentioned that Bekah Beall brought the Polliwog camps out to the pond on his property. He enjoys seeing all the children coming there all clean and leaving all wet and muddy.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 13, 2022. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease. MCU.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Cox noted that we ended the FY22 budget with about a \$341K balance. \$220K has lapsed back into the general fund for the monies not used on the HOINT. The balance will be moved forward to the FY23 budget for projects and purchases that were unable to be completed. The IRVM FY22 budget ended with a balance of \$61K, of that, \$47.2K will move forward to the FY23 budget for the truck that was ordered but has not arrived. Both revenues came in close to what was budgeted except for IRVM drainage districts and the grant for the truck purchase.

8. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for August 8th.

9. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

A. Step and Longevity Adjustments for August 2022

Effective 8/14/22, Rebekah Beall Warburton @ \$25.79/hr.

New hire effective 7/15/22, Rhett Harter, Waterfront Aide @ \$10.00/hr.

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.

10. 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 #2023-01 Approving The Grade, Step And Salaries For Story County Conservation Employees On The New Pay Plan
 - B. Consideration Of Resolution No. 2023-02 (Replacing 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 S-14
 - C. Consideration Of Contract Between Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa And Story County Conservation For Natural Resource Improvements At SCC Parks For \$10,200
 - D. C Consideration Of Updates To The Story County Conservation Employee Handbook
- MOTION to approve all Consent Agenda items by Meyers, SECOND by Pease. MCU.

11. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Discussion Of Hickory Grove Waste Water (item move to after Public Comments – after item B. Discussion of Draft Natural Resource Standards Ordinance). Director Cox informed the board that the Iowa Regional Utilities Association Board declined to sign the 28E Agreement to connect the Hickory Grove Park sewer with the City of Colo. He has had several discussions with the IRUA CEO, internally with Linda, our County Attorney, Ethan, and Craig on what will happen next. He and Craig will be presenting at the next IRUA board meeting and ask them to reconsider.
- B. Discussion Of Draft Natural Resource Standards Ordinance (item move to after Public Comments). Amelia Schoeneman with Story County Planning and Development handed out an updated draft ordinance for the board to review. She reviewed some of the items that have been updated and requested the board's comments, suggestions, additions, changes, etc. The board provided some more feedback and Amelia will update as needed before the ordinance is submitted for approval.

12. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the state's approval of UTV/ATV usage on county roads. This law does not apply to our county park roads. Staff has been reviewing this and is considering allowing them on our park roads. We anticipate bringing a change to the rules at next month's meeting. West Peterson beach improvements, Dakins East Campgrounds, and Anderson Access stream stabilization are complete. Hickory Grove hosted the Colo Crossroads this past weekend and everything went well. The ICCS Conference is coming up in September. Nancy has been helping us with our DEI training. She conducted some staff training to be observers in the parks and at programs. He and Mike Meetz will be scheduling a REAP committee meeting soon. The Strategic Plan work session is scheduled for August 2nd.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Meyers has attended several meetings regarding the Hickory Grove sewer project. He attended an Outdoor Alliance meeting with Mike and Casey and discussed communications between them and SCC. Pease spent quite a bit of time reviewing the Natural Resource Ordinance. Franz indicated there is nothing new with the Ames Climate Action Plan. The graduates of the Master Conservationist program have a book club and they are reading about Climate Action. She biked at TELC and the connector trail and indicated the park looks great. Laumer visited Hickory Grove beach once and has been to McFarland Park quite often.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM.



Recording Secretary



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