

Story County Conservation Board  
September 12, 2022  
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:31 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  
Jerry Keys

GUESTS

Mike Meetz  
Rick Dietz  
Ethan Anderson  
Scott Randall  
Teresa Albertson

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS – It was requested that we move the Staff Report to the end of the Additional Items later in the meeting. Pease also requested that Item D of the Consent Agenda be removed for discussion. It will be placed at the end of the Additional Items, before the Staff Report.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Mike Meetz wanted to remind everyone of the SCC monthly radio reports and that nominations are being accepted for the Olav Smedal award.

5. STAFF REPORT – Moved to after Additional Items – Jerry Keys, Environmental Education Coordinator, submitted a written annual report. He reviewed the report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 8, 2022. MOTION by Franz, 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

9. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for October 10<sup>th</sup>.

10. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

A. Step and Longevity Adjustments for the remainder of FY23

Effective 12/18/22, Dillon Schmidt @ \$23.28/hr.  
Effective 1/15/23, Bobbi Donovan @ \$23.16/hr.  
Effective 3/26/23, Maxwell McCarty @ \$20.84/hr.  
Effective 4/9/23, Kallie Judson @ \$20.84/hr.  
Effective 4/9/23, Brittany Ridgway @ \$20.37/hr.  
Effective 5/7/23, Casey Struecker @ \$22.30/hr.  
Effective 5/21/23, Jessica Lancial @ \$26.33/hr.  
Effective 5/21/23, Derek Seward @ \$23.03/hr.  
Effective 6/4/23, Patrick Shehan @ \$30.99/hr.

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Meyers. 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 Open Records Policy & Procedure
- B. Consideration Of First Reading Of Regulation Change Allowing All-Terrain Vehicles And Off-Road Utility Vehicles To Operate, Subject To Iowa Code 321, On County Conservation Roads
- C. Consideration Of Purchase Of Kayak Launch From Schwig Outdoors For \$1,437.00
- D. Removed for Consent Agenda - Consideration Of Professional Services Agreement With Shive-Hattery For Development Of Master Plans For Hickory Grove Park And The Story County Conservation Center For \$48,000
- E. Consideration Of Resolution #2023-03 Approving An Agreement Between Story County Conservation And The Iowa Department Of Transportation For Living Roadway Trust Fund Grant For A Frontier Skid Steer Carrier Adapter
- F. Consideration Of Resolution #2023-04 Approving An Agreement Between Story County Conservation And The Iowa Department Of Transportation For Living Roadway Trust Fund Grant For Heavy Duty Forks
- G. Resolution No. 2023-05 Endorsing A Resolution To Temporarily Suspend The Refuge Status At Hickory Grove Park For A Controlled Goose Hunt

Item D was requested to be removed and discussed separately during the review of the agenda earlier in the meeting. All other Consent Items, MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

12. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of Proclamation Recognizing October 2022 As Watershed Awareness Month. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.
- B. Resolution No. 2023-06 Endorsing A Grant Application To The State Dam Mitigation Grant Program For The Half Dam Removal Of The Hannums Mill Dam. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Meyers. Cox explained this item was discussed in detail at the June meeting. The dam poses a safety concern and obstructs the natural fish and wildlife usage of the water. There has been higher usage of the river and we have received more public concern about mitigating the dam. We are applying for an Iowa Department of Natural Resources Low-head Dam Mitigation Grant that will provide up to 50 percent of the costs. We are asking for the removal of one-half of the dam. We have received temporary construction easements with two of the landowners that will be affected by the half dam removal. We were not able to complete a full dam removal because one of the landowners was not willing to give any easements on their property. The cost opinion for the half dam removal and routing the main channel of the river to the north, armoring the streambanks, and providing stabilization support to the south half of the dam including engineering and 30 percent contingency is \$612,793. MCU.
- C. Consideration Of Acceptance Of Temporary Construction Easement With Dale And Tricia Lenz. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz. This is the landowner on the upstream, north side of the river for the Hannum's Mill half dam removal. MCU.
- D. Consideration Of Acceptance Of Temporary Construction Easement With WesTech Engineering, LLC. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Meyers. This is the landowner that is immediately adjacent to the Hannum's Mill half dam removal. MCU.

- E. Consideration Of Story County Conservation 2023-2026 Strategic Plan. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Pease. Director Cox thanked Nancy Franz for coordinating and facilitating the work sessions. This plan looks different from past plans. We did not feel that we needed to represent in the levels of detail that we have in the past, all of the operations that we do. The plan is meant to augment those and to “shine a spotlight” on some strategic directions. All of the departments have direct action items within each category that may not be reflected in the plan, but they will be expected to look at the plan and work together to uphold this plan. MCU.

Item D. removed from Consent Agenda

- D. Consideration Of Professional Services Agreement With Shive-Hattery For Development Of Master Plans For Hickory Grove Park And The Story County Conservation Center For \$48,000. Pease was concerned that the agreement does not specify that the board has any input until the very end and we can either say yea or nay. All the other input is from staff and the public. Director Cox stated that we will incorporate the board’s input and will have the agreement updated to include such. MOTION by Pease with amendments to include more board input, SECOND by Meyers. MC 2 in favor, 1 abstention.

Staff Report from Item 5 above was reported here.

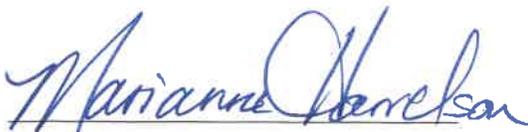
### 13. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the McFarland Lake renovation. He handed out a preliminary design plan for the board to review. We are hoping to go to bid this fall and start construction in the fall/winter. This item will be on the agenda for approval at next month’s meeting. The Hickory Grove wastewater is still in the discussion phase with Iowa Regional Utilities Association regarding engineering design on the alternative route. There is a potential land disposal with the Iowa DOT for the I-35 widening at the HOINT. They need more right-of-way for the construction of a culvert/tunnel where the HOINT goes under the interstate. He thanked Pat Shehan for all of the work he has been doing on the Hannum’s Mill and Soper’s Mill projects, all of the grant writing, and all other projects that he has been working on. He also thanked Jerry Keys for his work with DEI and coordination with YSS.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Meyers kayaked at Hickory Grove Lake and picked up quite a bit of trash. He asked if a trash can could be put out near the south boat ramp. Franz hiked at Dakins, West Peterson, and McFarland. The improvements at Dakins and West Peterson look great. She attended a statewide master conservationist book club that chose a book about climate change. It was a great discussion and she met with the coordinator to discuss how to we could do more interfacing between extension and conservation. Laumer has been spending a lot of time out at TELC and McFarland Park.

### 14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 PM.



Recording Secretary



Story County Conservation Board