

Story County Conservation Board
January 9, 2023
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

Sara Carmichael

Ryan Wiemold

Jerry Keys

GUESTS

Rick Deitz

Dan Haug

Emily Naylor

3. ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Laumer administered the Oath of Office to Craig Meyers, who will serve through 2027.

4. ELECT 2023 OFFICERS

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz, nominating Laumer as Chair. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers, that nominations close with a unanimous ballot cast for Laumer. MCU.

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Tedesco, nominating Franz as Vice-Chair. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers, that nominations close with a unanimous ballot cast for Franz. MCU.

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Meyers, nominating Pease as Secretary. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers, that nomination close with a unanimous ballot cast for Pease. MCU.

5. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Presentation On The Story County Water Quality Monitoring Plan By Dan Haug, Prairie Rivers Of Iowa. Dan presented 2022 highlights including accomplishments, key findings from the monitoring, and recommendations for the future.

B. Update On The Hickory Grove Park And Conservation Center Master Plans – Emily Naylor, Shive-Hattery. Emily updated the board and provided conceptual plans/designs for the Conservation Center and Hickory Grove Park. Members provided feedback, comments, and suggestions that she will update in the plans and present to the steering committee at their next meeting.

7. STAFF REPORT

Sara Carmichael, Watershed Coordinator, submitted a written annual report. She reviewed the report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 5, 2022. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Pease. MCU.

9. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

10. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

11. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for February 13th.

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 Supplemental Agreement For Additional Services Contract With Snyder & Associates For Design Services For Paving The Heart Of Iowa Nature Trail Between The South Skunk River Bridge And 610th Avenue (Phase 3a) In Conjunction With 610th Avenue And 620th Avenue (Phase 3b)
- B. Consideration Of Approved CIRTPA And SRT Grant Agreement With The Iowa Department Of Transportation
- C. Consideration Of First Amendment To Conservation Easement With The Office Of The State Archeologist For A Portion Of Lands To Be Transferred To The County From The U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers
- D. Consideration Of Notice Of Award With Tallgrass Land Stewardship Co. For The Soper's Mill Water Trail Access Improvements Project For \$146,432.00

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.

13. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of 2023 Legislative Priorities. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease. MCU.
- B. Consideration Of First Reading Of Revisions To The Story County Conservation Rules And Regulations. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease. The firearms information has been updated to match the new state regulations. Some of the updates were made due to situations that occurred during the past year. A couple of other suggestions/corrections were noted by board members and will be updated and presented during the second reading next month. MCU.
- C. Consideration Of Disposal Of Certain Real Estate In Section 19 Union Township To The Iowa Department Of Transportation For Widening Of Interstate 35. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Tedesco. The IA DOT is going to widen I-35 and will be building a tunnel for the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail. In order to do this, they need to purchase a small amount of land from SCC. MCU.
- D. Consideration Of Preconstruction Agreement With The Iowa Department Of Transportation For Construction Of A Tunnel Under Interstate 35 For The Heart Of Iowa Nature Trail. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. Construction is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2024. MCU.

14. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on our social media presence and possibly having spotlights of the people of the organization including board members. He is working with staff on an implementation plan for the Strategic Plan and it will be presented

to the board at an upcoming meeting. IDNR has asked us to host the "Field To Fork" program.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Franz volunteered at the LGBTQ+ program it was very well attended. There was one person that attended from the Netherlands and another from Maryland. Half of the group had never been to McFarland Park before, so our efforts to reach new people are working. She's teaching an OLLI class next week about all the trails in Story County and has about 40 people signed up. ISU Extension has asked her to serve on the planning committee for the Master Conservationist Program. Tedesco and Cox are meeting with the Deppe's to update them on the future development of the property they donated. He received a donation commitment to purchase a bison artwork piece for TELC. Laumer is meeting with someone from the Ames Library to attend a panel about serving on a board.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Pease, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.



Recording Secretary



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