

Story County Conservation Board
February 13, 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

Tyler Kelley

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Meetz mentioned that the 2022 Olav Smedal Conservation Award was presented to Jerry Keys and they are seeking nominations for 2023.

5. STAFF REPORT

Joe Kooiker, Vegetation Management Biologist, submitted a written annual report. Tyler Kelley, Vegetation Management Specialist, reviewed the report and was available for comments and to answer questions.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 9, 2023. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Pease. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

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

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Harrelson clarified a question that Pease had last month regarding utilities at Dakins. Due to the timing of the billing cycle from a specific vendor, the account appears to be expended prematurely when it actually is not. Harrelson asked board members if they have questions about the financial reports to send her a notification prior to the meeting so she has time to research and be able to provide details at the meeting.

9. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled for March 13th.

10. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

A. Action Forms

Transfer from Outreach Assistant to Seasonal Naturalist, effective 03/27/23, Clair Pfantz @ \$13.50/hr.

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. 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 Renewal With Finco Tree/Wood Service LLC For Firewood Sales At Hickory Grove Park Campground And Dakins Lake Campground
- B. Consideration Of Amendment To Agreement For Professional Services With ISG, Inc. For Construction Administration And Observation For The Soper's Mill Water Trail Access Improvements

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

12. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. Consideration Of Second Reading Of Revisions To The Story County Conservation Rules And Regulations. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. Harrelson noted there were two changes made from the first reading. Both removed some additional verbiage in the State Statutes, which did not belong there and added it to the General Rules section. All other suggestions/corrections from the board members were also updated. MCU.

13. UPDATES

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the Supporters Diner, Zearing's Ice Fishing Derby, McFarland Lake restoration, Soper's Mill access improvements, Hickory Grove Park and Conservation Center master plans, implementation of the Strategic Plan, and US Army Corps of Engineers land acquisition.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Tedesco indicated that he and Cox meet with the Deppe's about the future development of the property they donated. He also mentioned that we have secured the funds for SCC to purchase a bison for TELC. Meyers has been attending the OASCO meetings and is continuing to work on increasing communications with them. Pease presented at the OASCO meeting. He has been working with the SCC Master Planning Committee. He will be presenting at the next Audubon meeting and will begin reading *Up On The River* on KHOI radio. Franz taught an online OLLI class about the hiking trails in Story County and found out that 75% of the participants have hiked on Story County trails. She and Jerry attended the Master Conservationist program planning meeting. The City of Ames Climate Action Plan meeting is being held tonight. Bekah is attending in her place since she is on the Green Team. The city is presenting the draft plan to the Citizen Input Committee. She is also on the Ames Citizen Action Committee for Bike, Walk, and Roll and attended an online workshop with the consultant. She continues to participate in the Environmental Literature Club. Laumer reminded everyone about the *Ames Reads Leopold* event on March 18th and that she is participating in a panel at the Ames Library about serving on boards and commissions.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.


Recording Secretary


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