

Story County Conservation Board  
Monday, July 15, 2013  
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. Chair J. Pease called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS	STAFF	GUESTS
Jim Pease – present	Mike Cox	Mike Meetz
Ted Tedesco – present	Jolene Van Waus	Steve Stoll
Joyce Hornstein – present	Carol Williams	Matt Castor
Allen Weber – present		Don Berning
Craig Meyers - present		
Wayne Clinton – arrived 7:30		
3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS  
The chair invited guests to introduce themselves.
4. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS  
The chair suggested that items 13 and 14 be moved ahead of items 11 and 12 on the agenda. Board members were in agreement.
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Weber, to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2013 board meeting. MCU.
6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS  
MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Weber, to approve claims and receipts as submitted. MCU.
7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES  
Ending FY13 expenses and revenue were reviewed. The chair noted that approximately \$32,000 was turned back to the county in salaries/benefits, operating expenses, and capital accounts. Director Cox added that actual revenue was very close to projections.
8. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS  
Chair Pease noted upcoming programs and the next board meeting scheduled for August 12. The county REAP meeting was held earlier this evening. Pease said two grants were reviewed and approved for the August 15 grant submission deadline; two other grants are pending.
9. COMMUNICATIONS  
Chair Pease shared that his grandson participated in the FLOAT V nature camp backpacking trip to Rocky Mountain National Park, learned a tremendous amount, and had a terrific time!

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Meetz commented on the REAP meeting, thanked SCCB for providing materials for hunter education classes, and reported on the status of the Story County Outdoor Alliance. Meetz reported that he and Environmental Education Coordinator Jerry Keys have started IOWATER testing at McFarland Lake and will continue testing for the next six months.

11. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PHEASANTS FOREVER DISABLED VETERANS HUNT

Don Berning addressed the board, stating that Story County Pheasants Forever wants to give disabled veterans the opportunity to participate in a pheasant hunt. Berning proposed that Story County co-sponsor this event on September 14, 2013 at Ketelsen Greenwing Marsh. Initial plans include stocking the area with farm-raised pheasants and providing firearms and ammunition. No fees will be charged.

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Weber, to approve a disabled veterans hunt on September 14, 2013 at Ketelsen Greenwing Marsh and allow the director to pursue what is needed to co-sponsor this event. MCU.

The board thanked Berning and Story County Pheasants Forever for initiating this event.

12. CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR AMENDED CONSERVATION EASEMENT WITH STEVEN M. STOLL AND LINDA D. STOLL

Mr. Stoll explained that the property is used by Ballard School as an outdoor classroom. He would like to add a picnic shelter and teepee to enhance the students' experience. Director Cox stated he met with Mr. Stoll and toured the property. He recommends approval of the amendment.

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Hornstein, to recommend to the Story County Board of Supervisors that the amended conservation easement with Steven and Linda Stoll be approved. MCU.

13. CONSIDER BIDS FOR DAKINS LAKE EXPANSION PROJECT AND RECOMMEND AWARD FOR APPROVAL BY STORY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Director Cox distributed bid figures, and Matt Castor from Shive-Hattery discussed the bids with the board. Castor said he was surprised at the level at which the bids exceeded the engineers' opinion. He attributed the high bids to several factors, including difficulty of obtaining bids from multiple sub-contractors for the project.

Cox stated he is confident that the board has explored all available options, and the only viable option at this point is to not award bids on the basis of exceeding available funds and to work with the engineer to re-bid the project.

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers, to recommend to the Story County Board of Supervisors that all bids for the Dakins Lake Expansion project be rejected. MCU.

Pease emphasized that the board is still very committed to this project but needs to be responsible users of public funds and not go over budget. Tedesco suggested that the project could be split into at least two phases, with the dam and lake structure bid out first.

Castor has checked with contractors about completing rough grading for the entire project first, which would include infrastructure associated with the inside of the lake, culverts and storm sewers. Topsoil would be spread over areas not affected again (wetlands, dam, spillway), and areas that require future disturbance would be left with clay. This portion of the project would involve only one contractor. Utility work, the boat ramp, paving, and buildings would be completed in future phase(s).

Pease questioned if a bid for the earth work could be let this summer/early fall with the hopes of starting work yet this fall. Cox replied that if the board of supervisors gave approval on July 30 (leaving a minimum of two weeks for bids), an award could be possible on August 20. A revised cost opinion would be needed for both boards to review. Castor said a two-week period would be adequate for contractors to submit bids for the earth work.

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Weber, to re-bid the earthwork for the Dakins Lake Expansion project as soon as possible. MCU.

The board set a special meeting for July 29, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. to review a revised bid package for the board of supervisors' approval at their July 30 meeting. In addition, the August meeting was re-scheduled from August 12 to August 19 to allow the board to review bids and make recommendations to the board of supervisors for a bid award. Tentatively, the bidding period would be July 30-August 13, with bids opened at the August 13 board of supervisors meeting, and awarded by the supervisors on August 20.

14. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH SHIVE-HATTERY

The chair tabled action on this item pending revised bids for the Dakins Lake Expansion project.

15. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FIRST READING OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO STORY COUNTY CONSERVATION LAW ENFORCEMENT HANDBOOK

Cox explained that revisions to the law enforcement handbook include policies and procedures for the use of electronic control devices (tasers). The Sheriff's Department policy was used—with the only changes for Conservation made re: formatting and personnel titles.

MOTION by Tedesco to approve a first reading of changes to the Story County Conservation Law Enforcement Handbook. Board members noticed some incorrect personnel titles in the proposed changes; those will be corrected for the second reading. Weber SECONDED Tedesco's motion with amendments as noted. MCU.

16. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF LIVING ROADWAY TRUST FUND GRANT AGREEMENT

Director Cox explained that grant funding was approved in August 2012; however, the agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation was not signed pending identification of matching funds of \$5,000. These funds are included in IRVM's FY14 budget.

MOTION by Hornstein, SECOND by Weber, to approve Agreement No. 90-85-LRTF-302 with the IDOT (LRTF grant) for a batwing mower for IRVM. MCU.

17. GENERAL UPDATES

Director Cox gave these updates:

- FEMA – Story County has been awarded public assistance for early summer flooding. Initial paperwork has been completed; Cox expects that a kickoff meeting with Iowa Homeland Security will occur soon. Matching funds will be 15 percent of project costs, and (depending on the task) FEMA will reimburse straight time staff labor costs as well as administrative time. Cox added that Story County Conservation received more damage from this flood event than in 2010.
- Notification was received from the IDOT re: an environmental assessment on the Hwy. 30 corridor. Cox reported that there are no threatened or endangered species or sensitive areas in SCC’s database--or in the state’s. Cox provided comments to Leann Harter, Story County Planning and Development, for the county’s response.
- Cox suggested hosting a legislative function in the fall to which representatives would be invited. Tedesco and Pease volunteered to help Cox with this event.
- Cox reminded board members that he will be on vacation July 18-29.

18. OTHER

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Weber, SECOND by Hornstein, that the meeting be adjourned.

Chair Pease adjourned the meeting at 8:45 P.M.

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Recording Secretary

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