

Story County Conservation Board
Monday, December 2, 2013
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

140764800. Chair J. Pease called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS

Jim Pease – present

Ted Tedesco – absent

Joyce Hornstein – present

Allen Weber – present

Craig Meyers - present

Wayne Clinton – absent

STAFF

Mike Cox

Melissa Johannes

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

There were no guests.

4. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

Pease noted the updated budget worksheets.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Weber, SECOND by Hornstein, to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2013 board meeting. MCU.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

The board reviewed the claims and receipts. An increase in building revenue was explained.

MOTION by Hornstein, SECOND by Weber, to approve claims and receipts. MCU.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

There were questions regarding the taxes, leases, and easements being over budget which was explained. Pease pointed out that the overtime budget is 85% spent for this fiscal year.

8. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Pease pointed out the conservation center will be closed on December 24 and 25 for Christmas. It will close two hours early on December 31, and will be closed on January 1 for New Year's Day.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

Pease has heard from two people regarding property north of the 265th access. The director has also visited with Joe McGovern regarding the same property.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public present to make comments.

11. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF STORY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2014

The board considered the proposed meeting dates, changing one meeting from January 13 to January 20.

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MOTION by Hornstein, SECOND by Meyers to approve the Story County Conservation Board meeting dates fo

12. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FY15 CONSERVATION AND IRVM BUDGET PROPOSALS

The board carefully reviewed the proposed budgets for Conservation and IRVM. It was noted that our budget looks like we are asking for a large increase; the increase is mainly due to FEMA projects and the Dakins Lake Expansion Project. The board discussed the difference between our total budget and the tax asking portion of the budget. The director explained that our anticipated expenses less our expected revenues determine our tax asking for our budget. The Director reviewed worksheets for both the revenue and expense proposals, providing details and explanations as needed.

A MOTION by Weber, SECOND by Hornstein, to approve both the Conservation and the IRVM 2015 budget proposals as submitted. MCU.

13. REVIEW OF LEGISLATORS RECEPTION

Pease updated the board on the Legislators Reception that was held on November 1. They discussed things that went well, and possible changes to make for future receptions.

14. GENERAL UPDATES

Director Cox gave the following updates.

- The Hall family has been in contact with the director wishing to terminate their easement with Story County Conservation. The director will have more conversations with them.
- Contractors have been calling with questions about the bidding for Phase 2 of the Dakins Lake Expansion Project.
- The director had a meeting with DNR and NRCS regarding the Hickory Grove Watershed. They discussed 319 funding, Lakes program funding, and Watershed Improvement Review Board funding for improvements needed at Hickory Grove. Staff will begin the necessary work to apply for the funding.
- The director will meet with Rick Sanders re the ISU Research Park on December 5.

15. OTHER

Hornstein suggested doing the director's evaluation before the end of the year. She would also like an update from the Outdoor Alliance. Pease noted his position as Board Chair will be coming to an end; new officers will need to be appointed next month.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Chair Pease adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.