

Story County Conservation Board and Story County Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday, April 1, 2015 – 5:30 p.m.
Story County Administration Building – Nevada, Iowa

The Story County Conservation Board and the Story County Planning and Zoning Commission met to receive updates on the county's comprehensive plan.

Those attending were: Story County Conservation Board members Tedesco, Pease, Meyers, Weber, Clinton, and Franz (via conference call); Story County Planning and Zoning Board members Aaron Steele, Nancy Couser, Scott Wendt, Marvin Smith, Jerry Cable, and Nancy Miller; Staff Leanne Harter, Charlie Dissell, Mike Cox, Kristin Cook, and Jolene Van Waus; guests Christopher Jansen, Christopher Shires, Steve Carter, and Steve Harter.

Story County Outreach and Special Projects Manager Leanne Harter presented information on the Capstone to Cornerstone (C2C) project, from cornerstone work established in 1957 with a land use study and the county's first zoning map to the 2014 Capital Improvements Plan. Harter spoke about the four elements of the county's vision statement: 1) Natural Amenities; 2) Governance, Leadership, and Learning Environments; 3) Economy and Prosperity; and 4) Growth-Oriented and Sustainable Infrastructure.

Harter explained that the C2C project team is comprised of staff and representatives from the Story County Planning and Zoning Commission, Ames Economic Development Commission, and the Iowa Department of Transportation. A citizen task force is being formed with representatives from each community and school district. Harter is reaching out to every city and school district in Story County to share information and receive input on the plan.

The boards also heard presentations from Chris Jansen, MSA, and Chris Shires, Confluence, regarding the consultants' plan to develop the comprehensive plan. Questions and comments were received from attendees.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Story County Conservation Board

Story County Conservation Board
Monday, April 1, 2015 – 6:30 p.m.
Story County Administration Building – Nevada, Iowa

The Story County Conservation Board met following the joint meeting with the Story County Planning and Zoning Commission.

40933952. Chair Ted Tedesco called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS

Ted Tedesco – present
Craig Meyers - present
Allen Weber – present
Jim Pease - present
Nancy Franz – present via phone
Wayne Clinton – present

STAFF

Mike Cox
Jolene Van Waus

GUESTS

Steve Harter

40476032. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Steve Carter, ISU Research Park, and Steve Harter, neighbor of the research park, introduced themselves and were welcomed to the meeting.

4. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

Chair Tedesco noted handouts including a contract for the Hickory Grove campground attendant and a bid summary sheet for repairs on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail.

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CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CAMPGROUND ATTENDANT CONTRACT

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Weber, to approve a contract with Patricia Jensen as the 2015 Hickory Grove campground attendant contract. MCU.

6. CONSIDER CONTRACT FOR REPAIRS ON THE HEART OF IOWA NATURE TRAIL

Director Cox described work needed to repair a gully washout on the trail about 1.5 miles east of Cambridge. The washout is affecting a neighbor's field, and the need for repair is time sensitive. The low bidder estimated that repairs should take about one week, and he is able to start the project immediately.

MOTION by Weber, SECOND by Pease, to award a contract to Dan Moody Excavating in the amount of \$10,461 for repairs on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail. MCU.

7. UPDATE ON ISU RESEARCH PARK PROJECT

Director Cox gave a presentation on the potential partnership with the ISU Research Park. An agreement will be brought forward at the April 13 meeting for the board's consideration and recommendation for approval by the Story County Board of Supervisors on April 14.

Cox stated that the three pillars of the ISU Research Park project--Social, Economic and Environment benefits-- go hand in hand with SCC's goals for this project, resulting in a clean, natural resource site. Clean water and land will affect healthy recreational

opportunities, increased work productivity, increased corporate attraction, and environmental improvements.

Cox spoke about considerations, solutions, and benefits of the proposed project and distributed a draft of cost opinions. Capital costs for construction are \$2.63 million, while ongoing costs for personnel and supplies total \$109,000 annually. A large portion of the cost is anticipated to be covered by TIF funds, and grants will be pursued for trails and some of the sustainable techniques. Cox added that Supervisor Sanders has been very supportive of this project from the beginning.

Cox added that the proposed agreements have changed a little since the project started. There will be two agreements: one between Story County and the ISU Research Park and one between ISU and ISURP for the R38 trail. Steve Carter commented that some of the property lines may be adjusted--although the total acreage will be the same.

Pease will be absent for the April 13 board meeting, but he stated his support for the project and the opportunity for SCC to expand in new directions, offer new programs, and reach other audiences. He added that this multiple partnership is novel for the state and for conservation boards.

Carter thanked the board for their comments on the proposed plan and complimented Cox's work on this project.

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- Franz reported that the trails committee is meeting on April 2 to sharpen tools and prepare for the next TEAM day on April 19. Franz has also been editing SCC policies and procedures and has sent a draft of the revised by-laws to the director for comments.
- Meyers worked with the Outdoor Alliance of Story County on their event at McFarland Park on March 26.
- Pease has been assisting on the ISU Research Park plan.
- Tedesco and Meyers completed the director's annual evaluation and forwarded it to the county human resources office. Tedesco and Meyers will attend Park Ranger Luke Feilmeier's graduation ceremony from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy on April 10.
- Clinton expressed his appreciation of the work that Cox and board members have done on the ISU Research Park project.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Weber, SECOND by Meyers, that the meeting be adjourned. Tedesco adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Story County Conservation Board