

Story County Conservation Board
Monday, November 30, 2015
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

7586512. Chair Ted Tedesco called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS

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

STAFF

Mike Cox
Jolene Van Waus

GUESTS

None

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

Chair Tedesco noted updated budget proposals and handouts from IACCB.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Weber, to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2015 board meeting. MCU.

5. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Franz, to approve claims and receipts. MCU.

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

There were no questions or comments on the financial reports.

7. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Tedesco reminded board members that the next meeting is January 11 and added that 2016 officers will be elected at this meeting.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

Director Cox reported that SCC was named a beneficiary in Maribeth Henney's estate. Tedesco suggested that Cox send a thank you letter to the estate's trustee.

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2016

A correction was noted on the March meeting date; it should read Monday, March 15. Several board members will be unavailable in February, so the February meeting was scheduled for the 15th. The Conservation/IRVM budget worksession was moved to January 13 at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION by Weber, SECOND by Meyers, to approve 2016 meeting dates as corrected. MCU.

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FY17 BUDGET PROPOSALS

Camping revenue, drainage district fees, and land rent estimates were clarified; there were no changes to the IRVM budget proposal.

In the Conservation budget proposal, Cox pointed out that habitat grant funds for land acquisition (\$337,000) were removed from both the revenue and expenditure categories pending submission of a habitat grant proposal. The \$100,000 pledged from NAWCA remains in the FY17 proposal. Cox also noted expenses for the ISU Research Park project and discussed the proposed operations supervisor position to manage day-to-day operations. Cox has asked Story County Facilities Management to take over maintenance on Conservation buildings. Cox and Financial Data Manager Van Waus will identify line items that could be affected for discussion at budget worksessions. As requested at the November 2 meeting, a vault toilet at the Dakins Lake primitive camping area was added to the FY17 proposal. This expense will come from the Conservation Reserve fund.

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz, to approve FY17 Conservation and IRVM budget proposals with corrections discussed. MCU.

11. GENERAL UPDATES

Cox showed a map of proposed routes extending the Praeri Rail Trail through Zearing to Dakins Lake. Positive comments were received at last week's public meeting at Zearing, and Cox reported that Shive-Hattery is developing cost opinions for three different options.

An initial meeting for collective bargaining negotiations was held, with a second session scheduled in mid-December. Cox hopes to have an agreement in place in time for the January board meeting and FY17 budget worksessions.

Cox reported that the City of Ames is preparing a final plat for the ISU Research Park project. Cox thinks the agreement will go before the city in mid-December prior to the Story County Board of Supervisors' approval to finalize the agreement.

In an update on the Hickory Grove sewer project, Cox said that Central Iowa Water Association has not received a signed agreement from Country Living Court yet. Cox hopes the project will be done before the end of the fiscal year.

Cox will be meeting with the county attorney re: disposition of Army Corps land in the Skunk River Greenbelt.

12. BOARD REPORTS

- Franz – Attended trails meeting last week; nothing new to report.
- Meyers – As of November 16, the Outdoor Alliance of Story County had 24 members. A mailing was sent to Nevada area residents announcing the OASC.
- Weber – Plans are progressing for the legislators reception on December 11. Board members offered to make RSVP follow-up calls; Pease will write questions for panelists and confer with Cox to finalize. The OASC is providing refreshments.
- Pease – Nothing new to report re: ISU Research Park project.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tedesco adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Recording Secretary

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