

Story County Conservation Board  
June 13, 2016  
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

142013424. Chair Craig Meyers called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS

Craig Meyers – present

Nancy Franz – present

Allen Weber – present

Ted Tedesco – absent

Jim Pease – present

Wayne Clinton – absent

STAFF

Mike Cox

Jolene Van Waus

GUESTS

Lauris Olson

Stephen Holmes

142012752. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Lauris Olson introduced herself and was welcomed to the meeting.

4. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

Cox asked that approval of a copier purchase be removed from the agenda pending information on a county-wide plan to purchase several copiers.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Weber, SECOND by Pease, to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2016 board meeting. MCU.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease, to approve the list of claims and receipts submitted. MCU.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Director Cox reported that even that are several fluctuations among the different line items, the year-end budget will have funds remaining.

8. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Chair Meyers noted numerous nature camps, a Trails Advisory Committee meeting, and the July 11 board meeting. Weber and Pease said they may be unable to attend the July board meeting.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

Cox shared a Facebook comment received today praising staff for their work in maintaining the trails at East Peterson Park. The writer appreciated the hard work accomplished by staff and the many trails and parks available in the Ames area.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lauris Olson commented that she and her husband visited Hickory Grove this past weekend and were impressed with the appearance of the park and beach. She added that they will

return for another visit.

11. **CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT OF RYAN WIEMOLD AS PARKS SUPERINDENDENT**  
Cox stated that he and Meyers interviewed well-qualified three candidates for the position and offered the position to Wiemold. Cox added that Wiemold and his family will remain in the park ranger residence at McFarland Park.

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Weber, to approve employment of Ryan Wiemold as Parks Superintendent effective June 27, 2016. MCU.

12. **CONSIDER RESOLUTION APPROVING FY17 SALARIES**  
MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Weber, to approve Resolution No. 2016-04 approving salaries for Story County Conservation Employees for Fiscal Year 2017. MCU.

13. **CONSIDER SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR SEASONAL STAFF**  
Cox explained that the \$.25/hour salary adjustments are requested for four seasonal staff who have successfully completed pesticide applicator certification testing.

MOTION by Weber, SECOND by Franz, to approve salary adjustments for Story County Conservation seasonal staff. MCU.

14. **CONSIDER CONTRACT WITH HICKORY GROVE CAMPGROUND ATTENDANT**  
MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Pease, to approve a Hickory Grove Campground Attendant contract with Tom Foley for the dates of July 11 - October 30, 2016. MCU.

15. **CONSIDER ENGINEERING FIRM FOR ISU RESEARCH PARK DESIGN**  
Director Cox reported that seven firms presented proposals, and four were chosen to give presentations. The selection panel included SCC board members and staff from SCC, the City of Ames, and Iowa State University. The panel proposed that Shive-Hattery be chosen as the firm for the engineering design project. Pending identification of funding by the board of supervisors, Cox said contract discussions can begin.

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Weber, to approve Shive-Hattery Inc. for ISU Research Park engineering and authorize Story County Conservation staff to begin contract discussions. MCU.

16. **DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE EASEMENT REPORT**  
Story County Attorney Stephen Holmes distributed a handout highlighting sections from the Code of Iowa referring to the disposal of an interest in real property and the powers and duties of county conservation boards. Holmes also gave definitions and examples of easements and interests in real property.

Holmes explained that the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail is real property that was acquired by the county board of supervisors and given to the conservation board to manage. Dakota Access wants an easement to go under the trail to place their pipeline and has offered to buy this easement from the county. That decision is up to the board of supervisors. Holmes added that the conservation board can certainly have an interest and make recommendations they feel are appropriate to the board of supervisors.

Board members and Mr. Holmes discussed future paving of the trail, maintenance issues, and concerns about ecological impacts outside of county property. The board agreed to discuss this issue at a meeting in the near future and to hear comments from the public.

17. GENERAL UPDATES

Cox announced that the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) group will be arriving on July 22. A crew of eight workers will assist SCC for six weeks. An agreement will be considered for approval at the July 11 meeting. The crew will be staying at the larger house at the ISU Research Park. A work day is planned with staff and a small group of volunteers for July 9 to sort and dispose of remaining items in the house.

Supervisor Sanders will be transitioning to the ex officio board member position after Wayne Clinton's term ends. Cox will invite Sanders to start attending board meetings in October to take part in the CIP plan review and FY18 budget preparation.

18. BOARD REPORTS

- Franz is comparing Conservation's strategic plan and CIP plan with the county's plans to identify areas for priorities.
- Meyers attended Outdoor Alliance of Story County meetings and reported that the group is on their way with fundraising.
- Pease served on the panel to review and select a firm for design engineering at the ISU Research Park.

19. OTHER

The board set a meeting date of June 27 at 5:30 p.m. to review the proposed easement with Dakota Access and make recommendations to the board of supervisors. Director Cox will prepare a resolution for the board's review.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Weber, that the meeting be adjourned. MCU.

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

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Recording Secretary

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