

Story County Conservation Board
July 8, 2019
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Craig Meyers - present

Christine Laumer – absent

Nancy Franz – present

Ted Tedesco – present

Jim Pease – present

Linda Murken – present

STAFF

Mike Cox

Marianne Harrelson

Erica Place

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS-

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS- Mike Meetz thanked Rebekah Beall for bringing children to his marsh for a discovery hike.

5. STAFF REPORT- Erica Place, Outreach Coordinator, presented an annual report. Her report included the review of the past year's outreach and volunteers programs.

Social media update: Facebook is still growing; Instagram is growing quickly and the demographic is slowly shifting younger; Twitter is steady; newsletter mailing list is 1,958 hard copies and 1,000+ email copies; there is a selfie station at Dakins Lake where we are trying to promote the Travel Iowa 99 Parks promotion; and we are working closely with Pheasants Forever on a couple different collaborations and promotion of R3. Outreach will be acquiring a phone dedicated to social media to use for live feeds for events and can be used by different people. This will make it easier to manage photos and videos. We plan to hire an Outreach Intern this fall. Outreach is also working on strategically placing more paid advertisements and planning the 2020 ICCS conference that SCCB is hosting.

Volunteer update: Data is being moved to a new database called CERVIS. All board members should set up an account. FY19 volunteer hours are being finalized. T-shirts for the volunteers (designed by volunteers) have been purchased and we are relaunching our bluebird monitoring program. Looking ahead, our Service Enterprise recertification is coming up in 2020. We will build upon community engagement with ISU. Staff will be partnering with the new Trails/Natural Recourse Technician to bring more volunteer opportunities forward and continue to focus on skilled volunteers.

The board thanked Erica for all of her hard work especially with the TELC and other park grand openings.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

JUNE 10, 2019. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco. MCU.

JUNE 28, 2019. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz. Pease questioned what some of the bigger expenses were for. Director Cox provided clarification on those expenses. MCU.

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Director Cox made note that these reports are the final for FY19 and we will be making amendments to the FY20 budget in August. Most of the revenue not received was due to reimbursable grants. Trust fund receipts exceeded budgeted amounts.

9. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Meyers confirmed our next board meeting is scheduled for August 12th and that the September meeting was moved to September 10th. Pease noted that we are co-sponsoring the Iowa Wingshooting Education Workshop at the Ikes this Saturday.

10. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Action Forms

Conservation Technician new hire effective 7/17/19, Nicholas Keefer @17.53/hr.

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Pease. MCU.

B. Consideration Of Contract With Conservation Corps Of Iowa In The Amount Of \$9,800.00 For Natural Resource Restoration Projects In County Owned Areas. MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz. MCU.

C. Consideration Of Contract With Jensen Excavating, Inc. For Tree Removal In Hardin/Story #1 Drainage District. MOTION by Franz, SECOND by Tedesco. Pease commented that he had someone complained to him about the tree removal on drainage districts. He and his neighbors, who were not farmers, like to use them for fishing and removing the trees ruins the fishery. Cox noted that most of our complaints are that we do not remove enough trees in the drainage districts. MCU.

11. UPDATES:

A. General Updates: Director Cox updated the board on the Hickory Grove project. The east basin dredge will go into August. We are still working on a potential easement for the soil material with Swanson. The contractor is still ahead of schedule but might have a significant delay due to equipment problems. The Heart of Iowa Nature Trail paving near Slater should be done this week. We are encouraging McCallsburg to apply for a REAP Grant for the Praeri Rail Trail. We have be working with Prairie Rivers, the City of Ames, Story County Environmental Health and others in the county's working group to develop a water monitoring plan. The Plan will include volunteer and professional efforts. Prairie Rivers will be managing the database for this program. The Board of Supervisors approved the Hickory

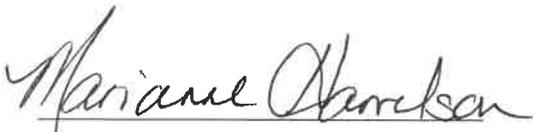
Grove Beach House contract letting. We are waiting to get the contract documents from Vieco Construction. There was some concern about our contract costs and how we estimate or budget for those. This bid came in well over the engineer's estimate. Director Cox is working with other counties to develop a Bird Friendly Iowa program on the county level. This is a program that is currently for cities.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Franz reported that the June TEAM day at Soper's Mill went well. There were approximately a dozen people in attendance and half of them were attending for the first time. Franz assisted with the Iowa trail running series event at McFarland Park. She voiced concern about our level of support. Franz suggested that staff construct a bench similar to those at the TELC, for the raffle at the ICCS conference. Tedesco mentioned that non-toxic tackle is being advertised more in national fishing magazines and Bass Pro has a large section in their store. He questioned when TELC phase 3 will begin. Director Cox responded that it probably will not be until spring. Pease indicated that he has been gone for the last three weeks, but he still did some work. He is going to Project Aware and speaking to their volunteer core. He will be speaking at the National Ike's convention in Des Moines next week. Director Cox let the board know that the Hannums Mill public meeting is scheduled for July 30th at 6:00 PM here at the Story County Conservation Center. This meeting will be led by Houston Engineering. He would also like to schedule a staff appreciation party for August 19th possibly at TELC.

C. Other – none.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Pease, SECOND by Franz, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.



Recording Secretary



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