

Meeting Draft Minutes
Board of Directors
Loess Hills Alliance
1:00 PM –December 4, 2019
Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center–Pisgah, Iowa

Members signing the attendance log:

Dustin Sheldon-Director	Renea Anderson-Director	Dawn Snyder-Director
Patty McCall-Director	Bob Benton-Director	
Rich Pope-Director	Graham McGaffin-Director	
Gary Horton-Director	John Meis-Director	
John Straight-Director	Michael Fox-Director	
Rocky DeWitt-Director	Nick Beeck-Director	
Craig Patterson-Lobbyist	Lance Brisbois-Alternate	

Chairman Rich Pope called the regular meeting of the Loess Hills Alliance to order at 1:01 pm, with a quorum declared. Introductions and signatures on travel documentation followed.

MINUTES: A motion was made by John Straight, seconded by Patty McCall to approve the September 4, 2019 Minutes. Motion Carried.

AGENDA: A motion was made by Renea Anderson, seconded by John Straight to approve the December 4, 2019 Board of Directors Agenda. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Renea Anderson presented the Treasurer's Report to the Full Board Committee.

Open Funds To Obligate:

Protection Funds: \$0.00

Stewardship Funds: \$7,000.00

LHA-Friends of the LH State Forest: \$240.00

Economic Development Funds: \$7,455.27

Executive Committee Funds: \$239.50

Executive/Reserve Funds on Hand: \$106,022.03

Executive/Board Total Funds on Hand: \$119,764.40

Loess Hills Alliance Funds Report: Total Unobligated Funds @ 12/2/2019 is \$240,413.00.

Total Unobligated Remaining Funds to 06/30/20 is \$240,413.00 with 713 Other Current Assets.

A motion was made by Bob Benton, seconded by Graham McGaffin to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee – Rich Pope reported that the Executive Committee met today at 12:00 pm due to the Western Iowa Legislative Forum which was held today at the Mondamin Community Center from 9am – 11am. Loess Hills Alliance member, Graham McGaffin was praised by the legislators with his presentation on IWILL-Iowa's Water and Land Legacy. The last REAP Assembly will be held on 12/05/2019 at the Shenandoah Public Library. Loess Hills Alliance Member, Nic Salick will be accepting a new position at The Nature Conservancy in Nebraska. The Loess Hills Alliance would like to thank Nic for all his work in the Loess Hills. Funding was allocated for the Waubonsie/Green Hollow project (Necessary Infrastructure, Restroom) and the Loess Hills Alliance is asking that the LHA logo to be placed in the Kiosk.

Protection Committee – Graham McGaffin reported that the Protection Committee met on November 6th with Scott Nelson officiating. The Protection Committee allocated funding towards the FY20 RFP's, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation-Project Title: Monona Complex Vegetation Management and The Nature Conservancy-Project Title: Hebert Conservation Easement. The FY20 RFP Friends of Waubonsie State Park-Project Title: Necessary Infrastructure at Blackburn's Green Hollow Addition to Waubonsie State Park was funded by the Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the Protection Committee. The FY19 RFP's Christensen Farm Prairie Restoration Project and Monona Complex Vegetation Management Project were presented to the Protection Committee.

Stewardship Committee – Lance Brisbois reported that the Stewardship Committee did not meet this morning.

"Friends of the Loess Hills State Forest"- The "Friends of LHSF/Preparation Canyon SP" worked on the "Fulton Avenue Clean up Ridge Road" project on November 9, 2019 with 10 attendees. A Rough Cut Trail Mower was purchased through a \$5,000.00 Gilchrist Micro-grant. The remaining funds from the Grant have to be used and a written report turned in by December 31, 2019. The remaining funds will be spent on supplies for the Trail Mower.

Economic Development Committee – Renea Anderson reported that the Economic Development Committee met on Monday, December 2nd. The Pull-Up Banners are finished and will be stored at the Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah. All LHA Committees will be able to use these banners for conventions, fairs, Loess Hills Prairie Seminar, etc. 5000 Birding Brochures were made and have been distributed. Remaining birding brochures will be stored at the Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah. There will be two state visitor's guides distributed FY2020 highlighting unique destinations, Spring & Summer and Fall & Winter. The Economic Development Committee approved a 1/6 vertical page revised ad/Total of \$1,350.00 to be placed in both 2020 State Visitor's Guides.

A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Dawn Snyder to accept the Committee Reports. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

2019 Annual Report: The 2019 audit report was presented to the Loess Hills Alliance Full Board members. A Motion was made by John Straight, seconded by Patty McCall to accept the Loess Hills Alliance Audit report. Motion carried. The 2019 annual report was presented to the Loess Hills Alliance Full Board members. A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Renea Anderson to accept the Loess Hills Alliance 2019 Annual Report with updates. The Annual Report will be presented to the State Legislators. The Loess Hills Alliance thanks Michelle Wodtke Franks for her work on the Loess Hills Alliance 2019 Annual Report.

Officer Elections 2020: Rich Pope reported that his term has ended as the Loess Hills Alliance Chairman in March. The Nominating Committee are John Straight, Rocky DeWitt, and Rich Pope. Elections will be held at the March Full Board Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Loess Hills Alliance Legislative Contact (Day on the Hill, etc.): Last year Rich Pope, Bob Benton, and Renea Anderson met with the Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee in February 2019 at the Iowa State Capitol. The meeting went really well with good positive comments. The Loess Hills Alliance thanks Lobbyist, Craig Patterson for all the work that he does for the Loess Hills Alliance. More discussion will be held on setting a date for the Legislative contact with the help of Lobbyist, Craig Patterson.

LHA Executive & Board Meeting 2020 Dates: A Motion was made by Dawn Snyder, seconded by Bob Benton to keep the Loess Hills Alliance Full Board meetings the same as last year, first Wednesday of the month. Motion Carried. A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Graham McGaffin to hold the 2020 Loess Hills Alliance Executive and Full Board meetings at the Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah, IA on these dates. Motion Carried.

Executive: February 5th, March 4th, May 6th, June 3rd, August 5th, September 2nd, November 4th, and December 2nd

Full Board: March 4th, June 3rd, September 2nd, and December 2nd.

Announcements: Lobbyist, Craig Patterson reported that he has been going to the Legislative meetings. The 2020 Iowa Caucuses will be held on February 3, 2020. The 2020 REAP Congress will be held on Saturday, January 4, 2020 in Des Moines. The last year for REAP is 2021. This year, there is a push to extend and fully fund REAP, Resource Enhancement and Protection program and to fund IWILL, Iowa Water and Land Legacy. The REAP code is within the IWILL program.

Next Meeting: March 4, 2020 at 1:00 PM Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah

Adjournment: A Motion was made by John Straight, seconded by Patty McCall to adjourn the meeting at 1:37 PM. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannette Riesberg,
LHA Office Secretary

