

**Meeting Draft Minutes**  
**Board of Directors**  
Loess Hills Alliance  
1:00 PM –June 1, 2022  
Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center–Pisgah, Iowa

Members signing the attendance log:

Mark Shoemaker-Director	Renea Anderson-Director
Graham McGaffin-Director	Jeremy Taylor-Director
Rich Pope-Director	Dawn Snyder-Director
Bob Benton-Director	Nick Beeck-Director
Linda Herman-Director	Craig Patterson- LHA Lobbyist
Lance Brisbois-Director	

Chairman, Rich Pope called the regular meeting of the Loess Hills Alliance to order at 1:05 pm, with no quorum declared. Introductions and signatures on travel documentation followed.

**MINUTES:** No Motion was made to approve the March 2, 2022 Minutes due to no Quorum.

**AGENDA:** No Motion was made to approve the June 1, 2022 Agenda due to no Quorum.

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

**Open Funds to Obligate:**

Total Committee Open Funds to Obligate or Carryover:

Protection: \$10,050.00 (12,450.00 Obligated Projects)

Stewardship: \$0.00 (\$17,520.00 Obligated Projects)

Economic Development: \$4,091.54 (\$9,964.98 Obligated Projects)

Executive Committee: \$737.96 (\$2,572.86 Obligated Projects)

Executive/Reserve Funds on Hand: \$128,749.84

Executive/Board Total Funds on Hand: \$132,060.66

The Loess Hills Alliance Funds Report showed Total Unobligated Remaining Funds to 06/30/22 is \$245,528.00 with 123 Other Current Assets.

No Motion was made to accept the June 1, 2022 Treasurer’s Report due to no Quorum.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Executive Committee** – Rich Pope reported that the Executive Committee met this morning at 11:00 am. The Executive Committee formally approved the FY22-23 LHA Committee Budget Allocations to each Committee as states:

Stewardship	\$9,000.00
Protection	\$9,000.00
Econ Dev.	\$9,000.00
Executive	\$9,000.00
Admin. Fees	\$4,000.00

More information discussed at the Executive Committee meeting will be discussed at the Full Board meeting.

**Protection Committee** – Chairman, Graham McGaffin reported that Protection Committee met on May 4<sup>th</sup>. With the Carryover Funds of 10,050.00 and the new FY22-23 allocation of \$9,000.00, the Protection Committee will have \$19,050.00 to be used towards the 2023 RFP Grant funding process. The RFP will be sent out to the LHA Members and the media in August and be due back in the office by the 1<sup>st</sup> week of October.

**Stewardship Committee** – Lance Brisbois reported that the Stewardship Committee met this morning at 10:00 am. RFP Grant funding reports were presented by Josh Schaben for Prairie Restoration work at Savery Pond, Kody Wohlers for the 2022 Cooperative Burn Week, and Kody Wohlers for equipment funding for the Loess Hills INHF Land Stewardship Program. The 2022 Cooperative Burn Week was held on April 4th through April 9th. Approximately 4 days of burning was done with the use of 9 burn units, approximately 91 attendees. Over 2,900 acres were burned. A professional videographer was hired to video the burn and will be used for future educational programs. Pheasants Forever hired Tabitha Panas as the representative for the Loess Hills Alliance PL Position, representing Harrison, Pottawattamie, and Shelby Counties.

**Economic Development Committee** – Renea Anderson reported that the Economic Development Committee met on Monday, May 23rd at 10:00 AM, Harrison County Welcome Center, Missouri Valley. Bear Graphics, Sioux City printed 5,000 each of the Loess Hills Birding, RVing, and Motorcycling Brochures. Committee Members received the brochures to distribute. Shirley Phillips, Executive Director, Western Iowa Tourism Region will distribute the brochures to the Iowa Welcome Centers. Loess Hills Alliance Members are to look for any changes that are needed for the Loess Hills National Scenic Byway Guidebook to be reprinted at a later time.

No Motion was made to accept the Committee Reports due to no Quorum.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No “Old Business” at this time.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Legislature Report:** Lobbyist, Craig Patterson reported that the 2022 Session came to a close on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. The \$40,000.00 funding for the Loess Hills Alliance has passed. Walking & Water Trail funding, Tourism funding, and State Park funding have all increased. “Destination Iowa”, \$100 million investment will provide grants to help more communities across the state move forward in their efforts to boost tourism and economic growth while enhancing the quality of life for Iowans. IWILL did not pass, but discussion will be continued. The 2022 Iowa Primary election will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup>. With 45 new Legislatures coming on board for next year, the Loess Hills Alliance should share stories about the different projects that was done throughout the Loess Hills with them. A suggestion was made to get together with each LHA’s chairmen, State Legislatures, and County Conservation Board Directors to target Grant opportunities through the “Destination Iowa” program for restoration projects throughout the Loess Hills.

**FY22-23 State Budget:** The FY22-23 State Budget has been passed by the House and Senate and is on Governor, Kim Reynold’s desk to be signed. \$40,000.00 funding has been designated for the Loess Hills Alliance.

**FY22-23 Committee Budget Allocation:** This morning, the Executive Committee formally approved the FY22-23 LHA Committee Budget Allocations to each Committee as states:

Stewardship	\$9,000.00
Protection	\$9,000.00
Econ Dev.	\$9,000.00
Executive	\$9,000.00
Admin. Fees	\$4,000.00

**Golden Hills/LHA Fiscal Management:** At this time, no discussion was held concerning the Cooperative Agreement between Golden Hills Resource Conservation & Development and the Loess Hills Alliance. Becky Von Weihe has retired from Golden Hills RC & D. Loess Hills Alliance thanks Becky for the work she did for the LHA. Happy Retirement. Jeri Smith was hired to replace Becky Von Weihe. We welcome Jeri and are looking forward to working with her through the Loess Hills Alliance. Michelle Franks has accepted a new position at Iowa West Foundation. The Loess Hills Alliance thanks Michelle for the work she did for the LHA. Enjoy your new employment. We welcome Cara Morgan as the new Interim Executive Director as a shared position with Lance Brisbois and are looking forward to working with them both through the Loess Hills Alliance. Marylou Goettsch will retire at the end of June 2022. Loess Hills Alliance thanks Marylou for the work she did for the LHA. Happy Retirement.

**Announcements:**

The Loess Hills Alliance will sponsor a silent auction for Prairie River RC & D, Central Iowa, a good outreach for the Loess Hills.

The Loess Hills Prairie Seminar, "Breaking Dormancy" will be held on June 3rd through June 5th, 2022. Friday and Saturday evening programs will be held at the Onawa Community Center. Day programs will be held out at the Loess Hills Wildlife Management Area, rural Castana. The Loess Hills Birding, RVing, and Motorcycling Brochures, Loess Hills National Scenic Byway Guidebooks, and the Pull-Up Banners will all be brought to the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar to advertise the Loess Hills.

The Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority meeting will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

A "Plant Specimen Preservation Techniques" program will be held on Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at Zales' Prairie Hills Farm, Westfield from 8am to 3pm. A full day will be spent in the field learning basic field collecting techniques, ethics, field notes, plant pressing, plant identification, proper labeling, mounting techniques, conservation, etc. Supplies included with the class fee of \$10.00 per person.

**Next Meeting:** September 7, 2022 at 1:00 PM

**Adjournment:** Chairman, Rich Pope adjourned the meeting at 1:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeannette Riesberg,  
LHA Office Secretary