



**LHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Loess Hills Brent S. Olson  
Visitor's Center – Pisgah, IA  
Wednesday, March 7, 2018**

The Executive Committee of the LHA was called to order at 10:48 AM, Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah, IA by Chairman, Rich Pope with quorum declared. Introductions were made and the travel sheet was signed.

Those present at today's meeting: Rich Pope, Linda Herman, Nic Salick, Jake Holt, Patty McCall, Renea Anderson, Michelle Wodtke Franks, Bob Benton, and Jeff Seago.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** A motion was made by Renea Anderson, seconded by Patty McCall to approve the February 7, 2018 LHA Executive Committee Minutes. Motion Carried.

**APPROVE AGENDA:** A change was needed to the March 7, 2018 Executive Committee Agenda. Under "Old Business", "Nominating Committee Report" was added. A Motion was made by Renea Anderson, seconded by Patty McCall to approve the amended March 7, 2018 LHA Executive Committee Agenda. Motion Carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Renea Anderson presented the Treasurer's Report to the Executive Committee Members. The Bills Paid Report showed that Harrison County GIS & Mapping was paid \$350.00 for 9 Maps of Loess Hills Region. Total checks paid were \$759.07 with no transfers. Total checking account balance for February 1, 2018 through February 28, 2018 is \$29,443.92

Total Committee Open Funds to Obligate or Carryover:

Protection: \$12,898.67

Stewardship: \$0.00

Economic Development: \$11,520.47 (allocated on March 5th, 2018 for advertising)

Executive Committee: \$5,442.14

Executive/Board Reserve Funds: \$83,373.36

The Loess Hills Alliance Funds Report showed Total Unobligated Funds as of 03/5/18 is \$130,901.00 with Total Unobligated Remaining Funds to 06/30/18 is \$130,901.00 with 460 Other Current Assets. A Motion was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Patty McCall to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion Carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Stewardship:** Nic Salick reported that Cooperative Burn Week has been set for March 19 - March 23rd. Over 60 firefighters have signed up to help during Cooperative Burn Week. 900 acres of the Little Sioux Scout Ranch will be burned during Cooperative Burn Week. Jake Holt has been working with landowners on Pollinator Habitat Programs, EQIP deadlines, and CRP programs. Nic Salick will be helping to present two CRP Management Workshops (Harrison and Monona County) on March 28th and March 29th.

**Protection:** Graham McGaffin was not available to present the Protection Committee Report.

**Economic:** Renea Anderson reported that the Economic Development Committee met on Monday, March 5, 2018 at the Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center in Missouri Valley. Renea stated that the Economic Development allocated the remaining unobligated funds of \$11,520.47 for advertising the Loess Hills through the Alcohol Beverages Division (ABD) Truck Wrap of the Loess Hills, Sioux City Visitors Guide, Council Bluff's Visitors Guide, State Visitors Guide, Our Iowa magazine, and the WTR digital website.

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

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**LHA Day at the Capital-Update:** Previously the Executive Committee decided to schedule an informal LHA Day at the Capital on March 13th, but an IHAP Public Hunting meeting presented by Pheasants Forever, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and Partners has been scheduled the same day. March 22nd is REAP Day at the Capitol. March 15th, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association will be at the Capital. March 14th is County Day at the Capitol. At this time, the Executive Committee members decided to schedule the LHA Day at the Capital on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Talking points will be put together and copies of the 2017 LHA Annual Report will be made for the LHA Members to take with them to the Iowa State Capitol. Good talking points for example: Small towns in the Loess Hills are having water issues and need funding and infrastructures are needing repairs.

**Establishment of a "subcommittee" to include Friends of the Loess Hills State Forest, Preparation Canyon State Park, & Waubonsie State Park:** A draft with wording to establish a "subcommittee" for "Friends of the Loess Hills State Forest" was presented to the Executive Committee and discussion was held. Waubonsie State Park, Fremont County is interested in starting a Friends Group. Stone State Park has their own 501c3 status and their Friends Group is called, "Friends of Stone Park". Lewis and Clark State Park has their own Friends Group called, "Friends of Discovery". The Friends Groups provide their own funding. The Loess Hills Alliance would have no cost. The LHA's 501c3 status would allow for funds to be collected and donations to be raised for things in the Loess Hills. The "Friends of the LHSF" group has the same beliefs and matches the LHA Mission Statement and would follow a formal guideline. This group would help organize garner support, hold educational opportunities and raise grant money for possible projects throughout the LHSF. The Executive Committee would like to amend this topic as a discussion and to present it today to the LHA Full Board Members for authorization to move forward. More discussion will be held at the next LHA Executive Committee meeting on May 2, 2018. Jeff Seago stated that a meeting with approximately 40 volunteers will be held on April 16, 2018.

**Nominating Committee Report:** The 2018 LHA Officer Nominating Committee is John Straight, Rocky DeWitt, and Rich Pope. The slate of nominees for the Executive Committee are:

Chairman-Rich Pope  
Vice-Chairman-Robert Benton  
Secretary-Patty McCall  
Treasurer-Renea Anderson  
At-Large-Tammy Bramley  
At-Large-Linda Herman  
At-Large-Graham McGaffin  
At-large-Dawn Snyder

The 2018 LHA Officer Positions will be voted on today at the Full Board Meeting at 1:00 PM. A ballot will be distributed for the four At-large nominees.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Loess Hills Prairie Seminar Funding:** A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Robert Benton to allocate \$2,000.00 from the Executive/Board Reserve Funds to the Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee for donation to the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar. Motion Carried. The "Loess Hills Prairie Seminar Donation" will be discussed at the next LHA Stewardship Committee meeting on May 2, 2018.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Michelle Wodtke Franks stated that “Iowa’s Ancient Trails” will be presented by Archaeologist, Cherie Haury-Artz. Cherie will speak about the work of Native Americans, traders, and soldiers on Iowa’s past road and trails system. The office of the State Archaeologist documented the surviving pre-settlement roads and trails in the northern half of Iowa and developed a plan for these ancient routes to be preserved and appreciated. Cherie will discuss the Ancient Trails project and the tours that were designed to highlight archaeological and historic points of interest. The presentations will be held on:

Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, Mills County Historical Museum, Glenwood

Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am, Council Bluffs Public Library

Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm, Atlantic Public Library

**ADJOURN** A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Linda Herman to adjourn the meeting at 11:57 AM.

**Next Meeting** May 2, 2018 at Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor’s Center, Pisgah at 1:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted by  
Jeannette Riesberg