



**LHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
DRAFT MINUTES  
Loess Hills Brent S. Olson  
Visitor's Center - Pisgah, IA**

**Wednesday, June 1, 2022**

The Executive Committee of the LHA was called to order at 11:05 AM, Wednesday, June 1, 2022 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, Bob Benton, Renea Anderson, Graham McGaffin, Lance Brisbois, Craig Patterson, and Dawn Snyder.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** A Motion was made by Bob Benton, seconded by Graham McGaffin to approve the May 4, 2022 LHA Executive Committee Minutes. Motion carried.

**APPROVE AGENDA:** A Motion was made by Dawn Snyder, seconded by Graham McGaffin to approve the June 1, 2022 LHA Executive Committee Agenda. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Renea Anderson presented the Treasurer's Report as of March 3, 2022 through May 26, 2022 to the Executive Committee Members. The Bills Paid Report showed payments for Secretary, Jeannette Riesberg's work, Schroer & Associates was paid \$350.00 for Preparation of Federal & State Income Tax 990's-2020, Monona County Conservation Trust was paid \$2,000.00 for the 2022 Prairie Seminar Grant, Golden Hills RC & D was paid \$117.81 for 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr Postage/Domain, \$1,100.00 for 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Bookkeeping FY22, and \$835.50 for 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. Bookkeeping, Campbell/Patterson Consulting was paid \$3,500.00 for Lobbying 2022 Session, Intuit was paid \$134.82 for 250 Voucher Checks, Monona County Conservation Board was paid \$2,200.00 for Savery Pond Prairie Restoration Project, WiaTel was paid \$64.20 for 5 Domain Renewals, Western Iowa Tourism was paid \$150.00 for Annual Dues, and Bear Graphics was paid \$1,742.36 for printing the Loess Hills Brochures. Total checks paid was \$13,647.50. Total checking account balance as of May 26, 2022 is \$16,322.13. Total Reserve Funds to Obligate or Carryover for Executive Committee is \$737.96. Total approved projects for Executive Committee is \$19,200.00 with a balance to pay of \$2,572.86. Executive/Board Total Funds on Hand on Hand is \$132,060.66.

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

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Stewardship:** Stewardship Committee Chairman, Lance Bribois reported that the Stewardship Committee met this morning at 10:00 am. RFP Grant reports were presented by Josh Schaben and Kody Wohlers for the Prairie Restoration at Savery Pond, 2022 Cooperative Burn Week, and the Loess Hills INHF Land Stewardship Program. A forestry head, tree shear, and chainsaws were used to clear trees and shrubs at Savery Pond area to be reseeded with Iowa Pheasants Forever Native Mix. INHF purchased a brushcutter, weedeater, portable pumps, drip torch, etc. to complete stewardship work throughout the Loess Hills. 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.

**Protection:** Protection Committee Chairman, Graham McGaffin reported that the Protection Committee met on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Reserve Funds to Obligate or Carryover for the Protection Committee is \$10,050.00. This funding will be used towards the 2022 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.

**Economic:** Economic Development Chairman, Renea Anderson reported that Economic Development Committee met on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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.

A Motion was made by Dawn Snyder, seconded by Graham McGaffin to accept the Committee Reports. Motion carried.

**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. At the May 4<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting, the FY22-23 LHA Committee Budget Allocations were attentively approved 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

A Motion was made by Renea Anderson, seconded by Dawn Snyder to formally approve 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

Motion carried.

**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. Jeri Smith was hired to replace Becky Von Weihe. Cara Morgan is the new Interim Executive Director as a shared position with Lance Brisbois to replace Michelle Franks. 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 Prairie Seminar, "Breaking Dormancy" will be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> through June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022. 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 Alliance will sponsor a silent auction for Prairie River RC & D, Central Iowa, a good outreach for the Loess Hills.

**ADJOURN** A Motion was made by Dawn Snyder, seconded by Renea Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 am.

**Next Meeting** August 3, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Jeannette Riesberg