



**LHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Loess Hills Brent S. Olson  
Visitor's Center – Pisgah, IA  
Wednesday, December 6, 2017**

The Executive Committee of the LHA was called to order at 11:47 AM, Wednesday, December 6, 2017 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, Graham McGaffin, Patty McCall, Craig Patterson, Renea Anderson, David Weigelt, and Jeff Seago.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** A motion was made by Renea Anderson, seconded by Linda Herman to approve the November 1, 2017 LHA Executive Committee Minutes. Motion Carried.

**APPROVE AGENDA:** A change was needed to the December 6, 2017 Executive Committee Agenda. Under "New Business", "Appointment of Nominating Committee" and "Meeting Notices" was added. A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Graham McGaffin to approve the amended December 6, 2017 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 payments were made to the 2017 Loess Hills Poster Contest Winners, Schroer & Associates P. C. was paid \$350.00 for preparation of Fed & State Income Tax 990's 2017, and Western Iowa Tourism Region was paid \$150.00 for 2018 Membership Dues and \$720.00 for website ad-12 month. Total checks paid were \$2,095.61 with no transfers. Total checking account balance for October 26, 2017 through November 27, 2017 is \$20,216.83.

Total Executive Reserve Funds to Obligate or Carryover is \$5,792.14.  
Executive/Board Reserve Funds: \$95,373.36

Unobligated Reserve Funds-Economic Development Committee-\$12,300.47  
Unobligated Reserve Funds-Stewardship Committee-\$2,304.25  
Unobligated Reserve Funds-Protection Committee -\$12,898.67

Total Unobligated Funds Remaining to 6/30/18 - \$130,720.00 with 690.00 Current Assets.

A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Graham McGaffin to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion Carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Stewardship:** Jeff Seago presented the Stewardship Committee report to the Executive Committee members. Jeff reported that Nicholas Salick and Jake Holt were both present to report on their PL Position reports. Nic and Jake have been working with landowners on EQUIP, Habitat, and CRP projects. The Stewardship Committee allocated \$1,500 to the Loess Hills Nature School to help fund the workshops from December 2017 through June 2018. Seago reported that 2 crews of six from Conservation Corps Iowa will be contracted for 2 weeks/\$10,800 for training and burning during Cooperative Burn Week. Seago stated that the Loess Hills State Forest is funding \$5,400.00 for half of the cost and asked the Loess Hills Alliance to help fund the other half of the cost, \$5,400.00. The Stewardship Committee voted to recommend to the LHA Executive Committee to allocate \$5,400.00 to help fund the 2 crews for Cooperative Burn Week. The Executive Committee all expressed agreement to assist in the funding of the Cooperative Burn Week. A suggestion was made to recommend to the Protection Committee to also help support Cooperative Burn Week. A Motion was made by Renea Anderson, seconded by Patty McCall to help support funding for Cooperative Burn Week. Motion carried.

**Protection:** Graham McGaffin presented the Protection Committee report to the Executive Committee members. Graham reported that the Protection Committee met on November 1, 2017. The Protection Committee received only one RFP grant application, City of Magnolia, project title "Magnolia Source Water Project" and was declined due to the application not falling into the criteria of the 2017 Loess Hills Alliance Protection Committee Grant Application. The Protection Committee decided to recommend to the LHA Executive Committee Members to help fund this project under the LHA Executive Committee Special Project Funds. The Protection Committee decided to send out another LHA Protection Committee Request for Proposals (RFP) Grant next spring, (February 2018).

**Economic:** Renea Anderson presented the Economic Development report to the Executive Committee members. Renea reported that the Economic Development Committee met on Monday, December 4, 2017 at the Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center in Missouri Valley. The Loess Hills Alliance had a booth promoting the Loess Hills at the 2017 Iowa Tourism Conference in Sioux City on October 25-27. A new map of the Loess Hills, made by Jeremy Butrick, was on display. Renea Anderson presented the Economic Impact of Travel Report of the 7 Loess Hills Counties to the Executive Committee Members.

Plymouth County: 24.71 Million/Ranked 41<sup>st</sup>  
Woodbury County: 299.58 M/8<sup>th</sup>  
Monona County: 19.36 M/51<sup>st</sup>  
Harrison County: 27.85 M/36<sup>th</sup>  
Pottawattamie County: 302.28 M/7<sup>th</sup>  
Mills County: 8.13 M/82<sup>nd</sup>  
Fremont County: 15.19 M/63<sup>rd</sup>

Over \$600 million through Iowa tourism was received throughout the Loess Hills Counties.

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

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Loess Hills Maps for Counties-Update:** The new map of the Loess Hills, made by Jeremy Butrick, was shown to the Executive Committee Members. Cities and towns were added on the map along Interstate 29 to show the interchanges into the Loess Hills. Discussion was held by the Executive Committee Members concerning the funding of the maps and how many are needed. A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Graham McGaffin to have 9 maps made for \$330.00. Motion carried. Each of the 7 Loess Hills Counties will receive one map for display and 2 extra maps will be used for Loess Hills presentations.

**LHA Board Member-Terry Lewis-Update:** Loess Hills Alliance Board Director and Executive Committee Board Member, Terry Lewis is moving to Missouri and will be leaving the Loess Hills Alliance. The Loess Hills Alliance thanks Terry Lewis for all his support. The Fremont County vacancy for Loess Hills Alliance Director will be voted on at the March LHA Full Board Meeting on March 7, 2018.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Special Project Proposal-Executive Committee (City of Magnolia):** The Protection Committee received only one RFP grant application, City of Magnolia, project title "Magnolia Source Water Project".

Estimated Project Cost: \$33,000.00  
Amount of Grant Request: \$12,000.00  
Amount of Private/Government Matching Funds: \$21,000.00

The Protection Committee declined the City of Magnolia grant application because the application did not fall into the criteria of the 2017 Loess Hills Alliance Protection Committee Grant Application, but does fall into an overall project for the Loess Hills Alliance to help fund. An eminent threat to Magnolia's water source exists as the two town pumps, (one of which went down and had to be replaced on an emergency basis), are in need of repair and replacement. The old pumps have not been providing the pressure volume needed for fire protection and City of Magnolia is currently not able to utilize the water system for emergency use at this time.

A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Linda Herman to allocate \$12,000.00 from the Executive/Board Reserve Funds to the City of Magnolia for the Magnolia Source Water Project. Motion carried. Rich Pope along with Renea Anderson and the Mayor of Magnolia will set a date and hold a check presentation ceremony for LHA Board Members, Legislators, and Magnolia City officials among others to attend.

**Loess Hills Alliance Day on the Hill:** Discussion was held concerning the Loess Hills Alliance Day on the Hill. A Motion was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Graham McGaffin to schedule a day for the Loess Hills Alliance Members to visit with individual Legislatures about the Loess Hills, but not reserve the rotunda. Motion carried.

**2017 Annual Report:** The draft of The Loess Hills Alliance 2017 Annual Report was passed out to the Executive Committee Members. If any changes are needed, please email to Becky Von Weilhe, Golden Hills RC & D or Loess Hills Alliance Chairman, Rich Pope.

**Appointment of Nominating Committee:** The LHA Officer Nominating Committee will be John Straight, Rocky DeWitt, and Rich Pope. The 2018 LHA Officer Positions will be voted on at the next Full Board Meeting on March 7, 2018.

**Meeting Notices:** The Executive Committee decided to keep the Loess Hills Alliance Committee meetings the same as last year, first Wednesday of the month at the Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah, IA. Public is welcome to come to all Loess Hills Alliance meetings and if desired can become a Committee Member.

February 7, 2018

March 7, 2018

May 2, 2018

June 6, 2018

August 1, 2018

September 5, 2018

November 7, 2018

December 5, 2018

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

A letter was received from Plymouth County Board of Supervisors asking that the Loess Hills Alliance present in writing the 2018-2019 budget request dollars between now and December 29, 2017. The letters of request will be sent out to each of the 7 Loess Hills Counties.

**ADJOURN** A Motion was made by Graham McGaffin, seconded by Patty McCall to adjourn the meeting at 12:53 PM.

**Next Meeting** February 7, 2017 at Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah at 1:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted by  
Jeannette Riesberg