



LHA PROTECTION COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017
9:00 AM Loess Hills State Forest
Headquarters–Pisgah, Iowa

The Protection Committee of the LHA met Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. at the Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters. Those in attendance: Michelle Wodtke Franks, Jake Holt, Nic Salick, Linda Herman, Matt Dollison, Bob Benton, Lance Brisbois, Cara Morgan, Rich Pope, Jack Phillips, Glenn Pollock, Graham McGaffin, and Scott Nelson. Condolences and sympathy were expressed by the Protection Committee Members for the loss of Brent Olson, Loess Hills Alliance Treasurer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 A.M. by Chairman, Scott Nelson.

APPROVE AGENDA – A motion to approve the February 1, 2017 Agenda was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Graham McGaffin. Motion Carried.

APPROVE MINUTES – A motion to approve the November 2, 2016 Protection Committee Meeting Minutes was made by Michelle Wodtke Franks, seconded by Nic Salick. Motion Carried.

BUDGET UPDATE – Michelle Wodtke Franks presented the budget report to the Protection Committee Members. Renea Anderson has been appointed as the Pro-tem LHA Treasurer until March Loess Hills Alliance elections. At this time, no expenditures were reported. All Protection Committee 2016-17 funds have been allocated. Total Protection Committee Budget Balance is \$898.67.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Update/State Preserve Board concerning their RFP's for threatened & Endangered Species**

Some of the options that the Committee discussed were: continue to use the \$32,00.00 Protection Committee funding for the Grant Programs; help fund projects that would protect plants, land, and water quality; allocate \$5,000.00 towards a threatened & endangered species project; and or help fund BioBlitzes or the Loess Hills Nature School for an endangered species program. Serious monitoring of the threatened & endangered species will take additional funding.

At this time, the Protection Committee decided to use the endangered species data that is already available or rare species data that was found on some of the Protection Committee's funding projects and have Michelle Wodtke Franks put the information on the LHA website.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Matt Dollison-Power Point Presentation/Rosie Hall Acquisition Protection Grant**

Matt Dollison presented the power point presentation of the Rosie Hall Acquisition Protection Grant to the Protection Committee Members.

The new name for the Rosie Hall property is Biscuitroot Bluff WMA. This property is 173 acres in Fremont County between Thurman and Sidney, Iowa. It has approximately 45 acres prairie remnant and 57 acres oak woodland. The Committee was shown pictures of the work that was done on the property by a CCI group through INHF and during a Cooperative Burn Week. The funding partners for this property were REAP, LHA Protection Committee, INHF, and Fremont/Mills Peasants Forever. This property has met the Loess Hills Alliance Protection Committee Grant eligibility requirements and will stay on the property tax role. \$32,000.00 will need to be mailed to INHF for funding this project.

- **Election of Officers**

A new Loess Hills Alliance Protection Committee Chairman and a Protection Committee Grant Scoring Committee Member is needed. A Motion was made by Matt Dollison, seconded by Linda Herman to appoint Glenn Pollock as a new Protection Committee Grant Scoring Committee Member. Motion carried. Rick Schneider and Scott Nelson are also members of the Grant Scoring Committee.

A Motion was made by Matt Dollison, seconded by Jake Holt to appoint Graham McGaffin as the new Loess Hills Protection Committee Chairman. Motion carried.

The Loess Hills Alliance Day on the Hill will be held on Monday, March 13, 2017 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Iowa State Capitol Rotunda. The LHA Members are encouraged to talk to their County Supervisors and State Legislatures about the Loess Hills Alliance and the Day on the Hill event.

The Iowa Prairie Conference will be held at the Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs on July 14 - 15, 2017. There will be north and south Loess Hills tours and a banquet catered by Staley's Food Service, Inc.

NEXT MEETING DATE – May 3, 2017 Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters, Pisgah, IA

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Jake Holt, seconded by Linda Herman to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 am.

