



## LHA PROTECTION COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017  
9:00 AM Loess Hills State Forest  
Headquarters–Pisgah, Iowa

The Protection Committee of the LHA met Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. at the Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters. Those in attendance: Rocky DeWitt, Brian Hickman, Paul Moorhead, Jake Holt, Nic Salick, Matt Dollison, Tim Sproul, Graham McGaffin, and Jeff Seago.

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 A.M. by Chairman, Graham McGaffin.

**APPROVE AGENDA** – A motion to approve the May 3, 2017 Agenda was made by Matt Dollison, seconded by Jake Holt. Motion Carried.

**APPROVE MINUTES** – A motion to approve the February 1, 2017 Protection Committee Meeting Minutes was made by Jake Holt, seconded by Matt Dollison. Motion Carried.

**BUDGET UPDATE** – The July 1, 2016 through April 25, 2017 Bills Paid Report was presented to the Protection Committee members. Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation was paid \$32,000.00 for the Rosie Hall Property. Total Protection Committee Budget Balance is \$898.67.

### OLD BUSINESS

- None

### NEW BUSINESS

- **Status Report: Rosie Hall Acquisition and Muller Conservation Easement**

The status on the 2015 Rosie Hall Acquisition has been finalized and the check is ready.

The Protection Committee Grant Cooperative Agreement for the Muller Conservation Easement between the Loess Hills Alliance Protection Committee and The Nature Conservancy has been signed. The closing of this Agreement will be the end of the calendar year. The Muller property (560 acres) lies within the Grant Center Special Landscape Area (SLA).

- **2017 Protection Committee Funding & Grant Cycle**

Discussion was held concerning the future of the LHA Protection Committee Funding. The State funding for the Loess Hills Alliance has been cut from \$150,000.00 to \$40,000.00. Some of the options that were discussed were: Does the Protection Committee forfeit their allocation of the funding to give to the other LHA Committees for additional funding if needed; Does the Protection Committee keep their allocation to build up for reserves for future projects; and or Is alternate funding available through Grants and Letters of Support. The Protection Committee decided to go ahead and receive whatever funding is available for future projects. The Loess Hills Alliance Executive Committee makes the final decision on how funding is allocated.

The Protection Committee has decided to go through the RFP process if future funding is available. The RFP application is sent out in August and final applications are voted on at the November 1, 2017 Protection Committee meeting if funding is available. The Grant Scoring Committee (Rick Schneider, Scott Nelson, and Glenn Pollock) has the option to decline any projects due to small funding.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

The Little Sioux Scout Ranch will be hosting a Youth Pollinator Habitat Program on Saturday, May 13, 2017. Forty to fifty species of native plants will be planted on 5 ½ acres. Next year the Little Sioux Scout Ranch will be included in the Cooperative Burn Week.

NEXT MEETING DATE – August 2, 2017 Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters, Pisgah, IA

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Jake Holt, seconded by Rocky DeWitt to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 am.