



**LHA PROTECTION
COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES**

**Wednesday, November 3, 2021
11:00 AM Loess Hills Brent S. Olson
Visitor's Center–Pisgah, Iowa**

The Protection Committee of the LHA met Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 11:00 A.M. at the Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center. Those in attendance: Scott Nelson, Graham McGaffin, Lance Brisbois, Linda Herman, and Kody Wohlers.

The meeting was called to order at 11:01 A.M. by Chairman, Graham McGaffin.

APPROVE AGENDA – A motion to approve the November 3, 2021 Agenda was made by Scott Nelson, seconded by Linda Herman. Motion Carried.

APPROVE MINUTES – A motion to approve the August 4, 2021 Protection Committee Meeting Minutes was made by Scott Nelson, seconded by Linda Herman. Motion Carried.

BUDGET UPDATE –Graham presented the Protection Committee Bills Paid Report to the Committee Members. The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation was paid \$1,250.00 FY20 Blackburn/Green Hollow Addition to Waubonsie. Total checks paid from April 27, 2021 through October 26, 2021 is \$1,250.00. Balance to pay-Obligated Projects is \$4,000.00/Armstrong Vegetation Management 2021-22.

OLD BUSINESS-

- LHA Protection Committee Balance

Total Protection Committee Reserve Funds/Unobligated as of November 2021 is \$22,500.00.

NEW BUSINESS

- Protection Committee RFP-INHF Loess Hills Vegetation Management 2022

The Protection Committee received one RFP Grant Application.

Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Project Title: INHF Loess Hills Vegetation Management 2022

Amount of Grant Request: \$12,450.00

The objective of this project is to conduct restoration activities by hiring interns, CCI crews, contractors, and utilizing INHF staff. INHF requests \$12,450.00 from the Loess Hills Protection Committee to assist in paying for three summer interns, CCI, and contractors to complete vital restoration work in the Loess Hills. Maps of the Armstrong property and the Monona Complex were shown to the committee members. The RFP Grant application process closed on October 1, 2021. The committee agreed that this was a good Grant and was written well. No formal vote was done at today's Protection Committee meeting. The Scoring Committee Members, Scott Nelson, Jeff Seago, and Graham McGaffin will look over the property and an email vote will be requested from Chairman, Graham McGaffin in advance of the December Loess Hills Alliance meetings.

- Report on FY21 LHA Protection Committee-Funded Project-Armstrong Tract

Kody Wohlers, INHF presented the Armstrong Vegetation Management 2021-22 Project to the committee members. \$4,000.00 funding was approved from the Protection Committee for this project. Before and after pictures of the work that was done on the property were shown to the committee members. Conservation Corps Iowa crews and Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation interns cleared dense cedar, mulberry, and dogwood, worked on prairie weeding and fence removal, and helped with seed harvest. 6.8 acres were cleared with the Grant funds, with a total of 22.5 acres cleared from May through September. A total of 4 CCI crews were utilized for a total of 14 days.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Monona County Conservation Board Naturalist, Andrea Porter has moved on to a new position in Sioux Falls, SD. Monona County Conservation Board Deputy Director, Joshua Schaben will be working with the Loess Hills Alliance concerning the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar until a new Monona County Conservation Board Naturalist is hired.

NEXT MEETING DATE – Pending- February 2, 2022

ADJOURN – A Motion was made by Scott Nelson, seconded by Linda Herman to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 AM.

