

# **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**2-06-2019**

## **Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center**

### **Pisgah, IA**

The Stewardship Committee of the LHA convened at 10:20 AM with Glenn Pollock presiding. Those in attendance were: Glenn Pollock, Linda Herman, Rocky De Witt, Michelle Wodtke Franks, Jeff Seago, Scott Nelson, Rich Pope, Jake Holt, Nic Salick, and Graham McGaffin.

#### **APPROVAL OF 12/05/2018 MINUTES AND 2/06/2019 AGENDA ITEMS**

A Motion was made to approve the Minutes from 12-05-2018 and the Agenda from 2-06-2019 by Linda Herman, seconded by Jake Holt. Motion carried.

**BUDGET UPDATE** –Total Stewardship Committee Funds to Obligate or Carryover FY18/19 is \$7,000.00. Grant funding or private funding are still being examined for the PL Positions, Jake Holt and Nic Salick. Letters of support from the LHA partners, the PF/QF Farm Bill Biologist reports from Jake Holt and Nic Salick, landowner contacts, and outreach events or articles can be used to help with the writing of Grant Applications for Loess Hills Alliance funding. The Executive Committee will be asked to help with the writing of the Grant Applications.

#### **PL POSITION**

- **Harrison/Pottawattamie/Monona**

Nic reported that a "Brush Management Program" is being done on a family farm near Preparation Canyon State Park. The landowner is receiving financial assistance through a State Wildlife Grant (SWG). Dogwood and Black Locust have invaded the prairie on this property. All cutting will be followed with a fall fire in 2019, weather permitting. Photos were also shown of a redish-orange glow of native grasses on a Loess Hills farm and a habitat sunflower planting on a new Quail SAFE.

- **Fremont/Mills/Montgomery/Page**

Jake reported that the wet fall created some issues in some wetland designs and layout of practices due to the crops still present in the fields. With concerns of excessive water and undesirable trees and vegetation in existing habitat, new EQIP and WRE applications have been received in the field offices. The wet weather pushed back the timeline for an area that was enrolled into a CP9 (shallow water wetland) program. Weather permitting, the landowner will start the shallow water excavation and the diverse seeding planting in the fall.

**Old Business:** No "Old Business" at this time.

**New Business:** No "New Business" at this time.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rich Pope was present to receive the 2019 Partner of the Year award presented to the Loess Hills Alliance from Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever in Iowa. A thank you was received for all the support the Loess Hills Alliance has provided to the Iowa PF/QF Farm Bill Biologist Program. The plaque was shown to the Stewardship Committee by Rich Pope.

The Iowa Prairie Network is sponsoring "Prairies & Pints" program on February 12, 2019 Barley's Bar & Grill in Council Bluffs starting at 7:00 pm. Graham McGaffin will present "Land Protection Option and TNC's Work in the Loess Hills". Nic Salick presented "Habitat Efforts in the Loess Hills and Missouri River Valley" at the January 8, 2019 "Prairies & Pints" program.

**ADJOURN** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Nic Salick, seconded by Graham McGaffin at 10:57 am. Motion carried.

**NEXT MEETING** March 6, 2019 at 9:00 am at the Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah, IA