

# **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**2-07-2018**

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

### **Pisgah, IA**

The Stewardship Committee of the LHA convened at 10:40 AM with Glenn Pollock presiding. Those in attendance were: Glenn Pollock, Linda Herman, Nic Salick, Graham McGaffin, Rich Pope, Tim Sproul, Michelle Wodtke Franks, Rocky DeWitt, and Jeff Seago.

#### **APPROVAL OF 12/06/2017 MINUTES AND 2/07/2018 AGENDA ITEMS**

A Motion was made to approve the Minutes from 12-06-2017 and the Agenda from 2-07-2018 by Nic Salick, seconded by Rocky DeWitt. Motion carried.

**BUDGET UPDATE** – Glenn Pollock presented the Budget Update to the LHA Stewardship Committee members.

\$2,304.25-Reserve Funds/Unobligated

\$608.81-Remaining Funds from Cooperative Burn Week

\$2,500.00-Remaining Funds from Conservation Corps of IA

\$1,500.00-Canceled Funds from Little Sioux Scout Ranch

(\$1,500.00)-Allocation to Loess Hills Naturalist School on 12/06/17

The total reserve funds/Unobligated for the LHA Stewardship Committee as of January 31, 2018 is \$5,413.06.

#### **PL POSITION**

- **Harrison/Pottawattamie/Monona**

Nicholas Salick reported that he has been working with wetland projects for the past two years. This fall, Monona County had 19 wetland CRP contracts totaling over 863 acres. Pottawattamie County Conservation Board held a six-class series on Intro to Land Management with 22 attendees. Topics included woody vegetation management, ecological effects of fire, management impacts on wildlife, controlling invasive species, and more. Pottawattamie County Conservation Board plan on re-offering the Intro to Land Management series next year and to include topics, CRP and EQIP programs. Nic had 144 landowner contacts with 23% of the contacts and projects were in the Loess Hills. Pottawattamie County Landowner, Trent Larson completed his AGO project and received an Iowa Pheasants Forever award. A tour was held on the property (NE of Honey Creek).

## **Fremont/Mills/Montgomery/Page**

Jake Holt was not available to attend the Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup> to present his Quarterly Partners' Report.

### **Old Business**

- **Loess Hills Nature School/Jack Phillips**

Jack Phillips was not available to attend the Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Jack Phillips will be reporting on the December 2017– June 2018 workshops at the May or June Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee meetings.

- **Cooperative Burn Week-Update**

Jeff Seago reported that Cooperative Burn Week has been set for March 19 - March 23<sup>rd</sup>. A Fire Partner's meeting was held in January with 46 attendees from 17 different agencies. 900 acres of the Little Sioux Scout Ranch will be burned during Cooperative Burn Week. Jeff Seago asked the Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee to partner with the IDNR to help fund 2 crews of six from Conservation Corps Iowa for training and burning during Cooperative Burn Week. A letter was also received from the LH Prairie Seminar Coordinator, Andrea Porter requesting sponsorship funding for the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar. The Stewardship Committee discussed that there was no other outstanding projects and that Loess Hills Prairie Seminar and Cooperative Burn Week are both good projects. A Motion was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Michelle Wodtke Franks to allocate \$5,413.06 to the IDNR for SWG-C Restoring Royalties Cooperative Burn Week and to recommend to the LHA Executive Committee to help fund the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar. Motion carried. The Loess Hills Alliance will be working on talking points to distribute to the public, press releases, and social media outreach to promote the Loess Hills through Cooperative Burn Week.

### **New Business**

- **FY18 Funding Update**

The Iowa Governor, Kim Reynolds and the Iowa Senate have released their budgets. Report from lobbyist, Craig Patterson is that the Loess Hills Alliance is vulnerable. More information will be available in March 2018.

- **Boy Scouts Request-Loess Hills Camp Signage Project**

Steve VanRiper, with the Little Sioux Scout Ranch, indicated that they have found funding for signage to accompany the pollinator plot. He is looking for examples or content that would be good to include. Nic Salick will continue working with Steve on this. The allocation of \$1,500.00 was returned to the Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURN** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Nic Salick, seconded by Linda Herman at 11:22 AM. Motion carried.

**NEXT MEETING** March 7, 2018 at 9:00 am at the Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah, IA