

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

6-01-2022

Loess Hills Brent S Olson Visitor's Center

Pisgah, IA

The Stewardship Committee of the LHA convened at 10:02 AM with Lance Brisbois presiding. Those in attendance were: Lance Brisbois, Linda Herman, Brian Shea, Josh Schaben, Kody Wohlers, and Graham McGaffin.

APPROVAL OF 2/02/2022 MINUTES AND 6/01/2022 AGENDA ITEMS

A change was needed for the 06/01/2022 Stewardship Committee Agenda. Under "New Business", "RFP Grant-Loess Hills INHF Land Stewardship Program Report-Kody Wohlers" and "RFP Grant- Cooperative Burn Week 2022-Kody Wohlers" was added. A Motion was made to approve the Minutes from 02-02-2022 and the amended Agenda from 06-01-2022 by Linda Herman, seconded by Graham McGaffin. Motion carried.

BUDGET UPDATE – As of May 26, 2022, total "Reserve Funds to Obligate or Carryover" is \$00.00. Total "Approved Projects" is \$23,220.00. Total "Balance to Pay-Obligated Projects" is \$17,520.00.

PL POSITION

- **Harrison/Pottawattamie/Shelby**

Chairman, Lance Brisbois announced that Pheasants Forever hired Tabitha Panas as the representative for the Loess Hills Alliance PL Position, representing Harrison, Pottawattamie, and Shelby Counties. The Loess Hills Alliance welcomes Tabitha and looks forward to working with her.

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

New Business:

- RFP Grant-Prairie Restoration at Savery Pond Report-Josh Schaben

Josh Schaben reported on the "Prairie Restoration at Savery Pond", Amount of Grant Request-\$2,200.00. A forestry head for the skid loader was rented to clean up young saplings at Savery Pond. A tree sheer was used to cut down bigger trees lining the pond and chainsaws were used to clear black locust. The area will be sprayed multiple times and a seed drill will be used to plant the Iowa Pheasants Forever Native Mix. On behalf of MCCB, Josh Schaben thanked the Stewardship Committee for the Grant funding.

- RFP Grant-Loess Hills INHF Land Stewardship Program Report-Kody Wohlers

Kody Wohlers reported on the “Loess Hills INHF Land Stewardship Program”, Amount of Grant Request-\$2,520.00. Additional equipment including a Brushcutter, weedeater, portable pumps, drip torch, etc. was purchased to be utilized by fulltime staff, interns, volunteers, and partners to complete stewardship work throughout the Loess Hills. On behalf of INHF, Kody Wohlers thanked the Stewardship Committee for the Grant funding.

- RFP Grant- Cooperative Burn Week 2022-Kody Wohlers

Kody Wohlers reported on the “Cooperative Burn Week 2022”, Amount of Grant Request-\$1,500.00. The 2022 Cooperative Burn Week was held on April 4th through April 9th. Approximately 4 days of burning was done with the use of 9 burn units, approximately 91 attendees. Over 2,900 acres were burned including parts of Waubonsie State Park. A professional videographer was hired to video the burn and will be used for future educational programs. Training was held on the non-burn days. The 2023 Cooperative Burn Week will be held on 04/24th – 04/28th in the Central Loess Hills. On behalf of the Loess Hills Fire Partners, Kody Wohlers thanked the Stewardship Committee for the Grant funding.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 2022 LoHi Trek was held on May 28th through May 30th through the Loess Hills State Forest. Hiking was done on Preparation Canyon State Park, Brent's Trail, Jones Creek Pond area, and the Loess Hills State Forest, Mondamin Unit, etc. with over 50 attendees. The overnight camping was held at the Little Sioux Scout Ranch.

The 2022 Loess Hills Prairie Seminar will be held on June 3rd through the 5th. Friday and Saturday evening programs will be held at the Onawa Community Center. Day programs will be held out at the Loess Hills Wildlife Management Area rural Castana. A large selection of presenters will be in attendance and over 100 meals have been ordered for attendees. A “Kayaking & Fishing in the Loess Hills” program will be held at the Madigan Pond.

ADJOURN A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Graham McGaffin, seconded by Brain Shea at 10:40 am. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING August 3, 2022 11:00 am.