

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

9-06-2017

Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters

Pisgah, IA

The Stewardship Committee of the LHA convened at 9:17 AM with Glenn Pollock presiding. Those in attendance were: Glenn Pollock, Linda Herman, Michelle Wodtke Franks, Nic Salick, Jake Holt, and Jeff Seago.

APPOVAL OF 6/07/2017 MINUTES AND 9/06/2017 AGENDA ITEMS

A Motion was made to approve the Minutes from 6-07-2017 and the Agenda from 9-06-2017 by Linda Herman, seconded by Glenn Pollock. Motion carried.

BUDGET UPDATE – Michelle Wodtke Franks presented the Budget Update to the LHA Stewardship Committee members. Franks reported that with the FY18 Appropriation of \$12,000.00, total funds available is \$46,915.28. Total approved projects to pay is \$14,611.03 leaving unobligated reserve funds of \$32,304.25. The LHA Stewardship Committee Bills Paid Report from July 26, 2017 through August 25, 2017 showed that Golden Hills was paid \$4,611.03 for FY13 AGO Bookkeeping-Final and The Nature Conservancy was paid \$3,891.19 for the LH Fire Partners Coop Burn Week.

PL POSITION

- **Harrison/Pottawattamie/Monona**

Nicholas Salick reported that he has been working with Precision Ag projects. Nic presented the Committee an article from an August 2017 issue of Corn & Soybean Digest that he was represented in. Nic reported that he will be helping Pottawattamie County Conservation and Pheasants Forever to present a birding class (Birding 101) at Hitchcock Nature Center on September 30, 2017 at 7:30 am.

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

Jake Holt reported that he worked with NRCS and FSA to hold 2 Pollinator Habitat Program tours. The group looked at 1 year seeding CRP land and two year CRP land. Jake reported that it was a very successful workshop with 25-30 attendees. More workshops will be done in February. Jake stated that at this time, the CRP program is on hold.

A Motion was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Jeff Seago to obligate \$15,000.00 for SWCD PL Position (Jake Holt) and \$15,000.00 for SWCD PL Position (Nic Salick) FY18-19. Motion carried.

Old Business

- **Loess Hills Nature School/Jack Phillips**-Not available for report.

New Business

- **Cooperative Fire Program Report**-Not available for report.
- **Loess Hills Heritage Week**

Michelle Wodtke Franks presented the Loess Hills Heritage Week report to the Committee. Michelle stated that Governor, Kim Reynolds signed the Loess Hills & Heritage Week Proclamation on Thursday, August 24, 2017. Loess Hills & Heritage Week will be held on September 23, 2017 thru October 1, 2017 with activities scheduled throughout the 7-county Loess Hills region. There will be hikes, bus tours, and birding classes. Each County has their own agenda for Loess Hills Heritage Week. Professor, John Liu from China will speak at Briar Cliff University. John Liu does documentation of the restoration of the Loess Hills in China. The Loess Hills Music Festival will be held on September 30th and October 1st near Thurman, Iowa. Michelle stated that she will be interviewed by KIOS-FM radio station concerning the Loess Hills Heritage Week. Nicholas Salick stated that he will be presenting a Pollinator Habitat class at Iowa Western Community College on Thursday, September 28, 2017 from 6-8 pm. Dawn Snyder will be hosting an educational poster contest that will be held for the youth in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade that reside in one of the seven counties within the Loess Hills Region of Iowa. Cash awards will be received for the winners.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Glenn Pollock reported that the 2017 Iowa Prairie Conference in Council Bluffs went well. Everyone enjoyed the bus tours and workshops. The 2018 Prairie Conference will be held in Texas next year and the 2019 Prairie Conference will be held at Central College in Pella, IA.

Glenn Pollock reported that the Audubon Society of Omaha has received \$400,000.00 from a Will Donation that has to be used in Douglas County, Nebraska.

ADJOURN A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Nic Salick, seconded by Jake Holt at 9:57 AM. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING November 1, 2017 at 10:30 am at the Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters in Pisgah, Iowa.

