



**LHA PROTECTION
COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES**

**Wednesday, November 2, 2016
9:00 AM Loess Hills State Forest**

The Protection Committee of the LHA met Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 9:00 A.M. at the Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters. Those in attendance: Michelle Wodtke Franks, Jake Holt, Nic Salick, Linda Herman, Mike Evano, Tim Sproul, Graham McGaffin, and Scott Nelson.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chairman, Scott Nelson.

APPROVE AGENDA – A motion to approve the November 2, 2016 Agenda was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Michelle Wodtke Franks. Motion Carried.

APPROVE MINUTES – A motion to approve the August 3, 2016 Protection Committee Meeting Minutes was made by Michelle Wodtke Franks, seconded by Linda Herman. Motion Carried.

BUDGET UPDATE – At this time, no expenditures were reported. The Protection Committee FY 2017 Appropriations of \$32,000.00 has not yet been approved by the LHA Full Board Members. Total Protection Committee Budget Balance is \$898.67. The Nishnabotna Wildlife Unit Rosie Hall Property will be transferred to the Iowa DNR in early 2017. A Motion was made by Tim Sproul, seconded by Graham McGaffin to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Updates on Grant Applications**

The only Loess Hills Alliance Protection Committee Grant Application that was received was by The Nature Conservancy.

Project Title: Muller(560-acre conservation easement)Raymond Muller Family Trust
Estimated Project Costs: \$392,000
Amount of Grant requested:\$32,000
Location:Grant Center SLA, Monona County, approximately 4 miles SW of Rodney.

The Grant Application met all the eligibility requirements and was scored by the Grant Scoring Committee (Rick Schneider, Brent Olson, and Scott Nelson) with an average score of 71. A Motion was made by Tim Sproul, seconded by Linda Herman to recommend to the Loess Hills Alliance Executive Committee to fund \$32,000 for the Muller(560-acre Conservation Easement) pending the 2017 Protection Committee appropriations funding. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Chris Beedle-ISU Extension/Updating Threatened & Endangered List**

At this time, Chris Beedle was not able to attend the Protection Committee meeting to present on the Threatened & Endangered List. The Protection Committees Members held a discussion concerning this issue. Some of the suggestions that were made were: Do the committee members want to help fund a threatened & endangered species project and, or continue funding just the RFP Grant Funding projects; should funding for the Endangered Listing be funded for just the Protection Committee's Projects or as a whole Loess Hills Alliance project; would the landowners that have had Protection Committee's funding have an interest in an endangered species listing; what kinds of endangered species to document, (flowers, birds, plants, butterflies, or amphibians), present mini BioBlitz's on the 12 SLA lands, keep the geographical scope small, and report where and what is endangered. Currently, the IDNR has a documented list of current threatened & endangered listing, but there is the potential to bring the listing up-to-date. Graham McGaffin, Jake Holt, and Nic Salick will talk to the State Preserve Board concerning their RFP's for threatened & endangered species and report back to the Protection Committee for recommendations and guidelines.

VSITOR COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michelle Wodtke Franks reported that GIS landscape mapping is being done of SLA land that has been protected by the LHA Protection Committee funding for a visual and dollar amount for the 2016 Annual Report to give to the Legislators.

NEXT MEETING DATE – To Be Announced

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Michelle Wodtke Franks to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 am.

