



**LHA PROTECTION COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
Wednesday, August 2, 2017
9:00 AM Loess Hills State Forest
Headquarters–Pisgah, Iowa**

The Protection Committee of the LHA met Wednesday, August 2, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. at the Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters. Those in attendance: Graham McGaffin, Cara Marker-Morgan, and Jeff Seago.

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 A.M. by Chairman, Graham McGaffin.

APPROVE MINUTES & AGENDA – A motion to approve the May 3, 2017 Protection Committee Meeting Minutes and August 2, 2017 Protection Committee Meeting Agenda was made by Graham McGaffin, seconded by Jeff Seago. Motion Carried.

BUDGET UPDATE – Cara shared the bills paid report for the Loess Hills Alliance from June 5 - July 25, 2017. No Protection Committee funding was expended. Total Protection Committee Budget Balance is \$898.67.

OLD BUSINESS

- Status report: Muller conservation easement

Graham informed the Protection Committee that the Muller conservation easement is progressing and expected an early 2018 closing.

- 2017 Protection Committee funding & grant cycle

The Committee discussed the previous full [Loess Hills Alliance] Board meeting and the decision to allocate \$12,000 to the Protection Committee, absent any supplementary budget adjustments from the Iowa Legislature. Following said outcome from the full Board, the Protection Committee expects a fall 2017 Protection Committee funding cycle similar to previous years.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2017 LHA Protection Committee request for proposals (RFP)

The Committee discussed the 2017 RFP and brainstormed ideas to expand the audience of the RFP in a way to stimulate additional proposals. It was suggested that municipalities could have an interest in Protection Committee funding for source water protection.

Graham will reach out to Jessica Montana, Iowa DNR, to learn more about source water protection needs. It was noted that it may be interesting to see how a source water protection project ranks on the Protection Committee scoring criteria versus a “traditional” protection project.

Graham will begin development of the RFP based on last year’s RFP, with the caveat that funding may not be available if the Legislature makes budget adjustments in a special session.

Graham mentioned that the Protection Committee scoring committee is likely to change. The Committee has been Scott Nelson, Brent Olson and Rick Schneider. With Brent’s passing and Rick’s retirement, it’s expected that the Committee will change. Graham will reach out to Scott to initiate the conversation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

NEXT MEETING DATE – November 1, 2017 Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters, Pisgah, IA

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Cara Marker-Morgan, seconded by Jeff Seago to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 am.