



## LHA PROTECTION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, November 1, 2017  
9:00 AM Loess Hills Brent S. Olson  
Visitor's Center–Pisgah, Iowa

The Protection Committee of the LHA met Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. at the Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center. Those in attendance: Rocky DeWitt, Linda Herman, Jake Holt, Nic Salick, Graham McGaffin, and Jeff Seago.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M. by Chairman, Graham McGaffin.

**APPROVE AGENDA** – A motion to approve the November 1, 2017 Agenda was made by Nic Salick, seconded by Linda Herman. Motion Carried.

**APPROVE MINUTES** – A motion to approve the August 2, 2017 Protection Committee Meeting Minutes was made by Nic Salick, seconded by Jake Holt. Motion Carried.

**BUDGET UPDATE** – With the FY18 appropriation of \$12,000 to the Protection Committee, total Protection Committee Funds to Obligate or Carryover is \$12,898.67. The TNC Muller conservation easement will close this spring. A Motion was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Jeff Seago to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

- **2017 LHA Protection Committee Request for Proposals (RFP) Update**

The Loess Hills Alliance Protection Committee received only one RFP grant application, City of Magnolia, project title "Magnolia Source Water Project". The project is located within the city limits of Magnolia at the city's water treatment plant. The \$33,000.00 will be used to rewire and replace two pumps.

Estimated Project Cost: \$33,000.00

Amount of Grant Request: \$12,000.00

Amount of Private/Government Matching Funds: \$21,000.00

## NEW BUSINESS

- **LHA Protection Proposal Review & Discussion**

The Protection Committee held a discussion concerning the City of Magnolia RFP Grant Application. Is the City of Magnolia grant application eligible to receive the LHA Protection Committee funding? The Protection grant application states that administration, operations, and maintenance expenses are not eligible, and the proposal was clear that funding would be used for maintenance. The Scoring Committee (Scott Nelson and Jeff Seago) recommended to the Protection Committee Members to decline the City of Magnolia grant application because the application did not fall into the criteria of the 2017 Loess Hills Alliance Protection Committee Grant Application. A Motion was made by Jake Holt, seconded by Nic Salick to not fund the City of Magnolia Project. Motion carried. The Protection Committee decided to recommend to the LHA Executive Committee Members to help fund this project under the LHA Executive Committee Special Project Funds. A suggestion was made to invite representatives from the City of Magnolia to a Loess Hills Alliance meeting for more discussion.

- **Soliciting Proposals Discussion**

Options that were discussed were: to send out another RFP grant application next Spring, to keep their allocation to build up for reserves for future projects, use the funding for monitoring or restoration of the previous purchased land and easements, help fund the Conservation Corps of Iowa programs, or transfer the funding over to the other LHA Committees for a larger funding project. A Motion was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Jeff Seago to send out another LHA Protection Committee Request for Proposals (RFP) Grant next Spring. Motion carried. The Protection Committee will adjust the RFP Grant application to identify source water projects such as Conservation Buffers, a threat to the source water, and proof of contaminated water, etc.

- **Protection Committee Chairman-Substitute**

Graham McGaffin stated that he would like a Protection Committee Chairman Substitute in case there were any conflict of interest in the future (e.g. if The Nature Conservancy were to submit a proposal). A Motion was made by Jeff Seago, seconded by Linda Herman to appoint Nic Salick as the substitute for the Protection Committee Chairman. Motion carried.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

A Fall Burn of 660 acres (including the Gleason-Hubel Wildlife Area) will be done on November 13, 2017. Volunteers are accepted.

NEXT MEETING DATE – Tentatively February 7, 2018, 9:00 am Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah, IA

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Jake Holt, seconded by Linda Herman to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 am.

