

# **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**09-07-2016**

**Waubonsie State Park**

**Hamburg, IA**

The Stewardship Committee of the LHA convened at 9:07AM with Glenn Pollock and Rich Pope presiding. Those in attendance were: Glenn Pollock, Rich Pope, Bob Benton, Michelle Wodtke Franks, Graham McGaffin, Linda Herman, Brent Olson, and Cara Morgan.

## **APPROVAL OF 08/03/2016 MINUTES AND 09/07/2016 AGENDA ITEMS**

A motion was made to approve the Minutes from 08-03-2016 and Agenda from 09-07-2016 by Brent Olson, seconded by Bob Benton. Motion passed.

**BUDGET UPDATE** - The Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee Open Funds to Obligate or Carryover is \$39,904.82 with no current expenditures.

## **PL POSITION**

- **Harrison/Pottawattamie/Monona**-N/A
- **Fremont/Mills/Montgomery/Page**-N/A

## **Old Business**

- **Pottawattamie County CB Grant/Educational Support**

The Pottawattamie County CB Grant Process for the The Naturalist School at Hitchcock Nature Center is in progress. The Stewardship Committee appropriated \$6,000 towards this project for LHA FY17 pending the availability of funds.

- **Objectives/Impacts For The Stewardship Committee**

The Stewardship Committee discussed that water quality will need to be implemented into future Loess Hills Alliance projects(PL Positions, Cooperative Burn Week, Conservation Corps Iowa, Loess Hills Prairie Seminar, Iowa Prairie Conference) for legislature funding. Ideas on future project funding will be discussed at the next LHA Stewardship meeting on November 2, 2016.

- **The Naturalist School Program Participation**

The Naturalist School is approximately a 4-5 week program. Each Loess Hills County will need to nominate 1 to 3 people in their County that is interested in going to The Naturalist School by December or March. The Naturalist school will be open to any citizen, youth worker, County Conservation Board Member, FFA member, 4-H member, school teacher, tour guide, etc. Discussion that was held concerning The Naturalist School was: changing the name for example, "Steward of the Loess", incorporate field days, visit the local schools, charging a fee with LHA reimbursement, educate the public about nature, how to promote that the Loess Hills Alliance helped fund this project, advertise The Naturalist School in the local papers, what criteria and expectations would be needed, put the LHA Logo on any brochures that would be made, and have a signed agreement.

### **New Business**

Brent Olson made a proposal to the Stewardship Committee to fund \$1,000.00 for the Loess Hills Fire Partners-Cooperative Burn Week and between \$2,500.00 - \$5,000.00 for the Loess Hills Conservation Corps Program. Approximately 4000 acres will need to be burned.

A Motion was made by Brent Olson, seconded by Linda Herman to allocate up to \$1000.00 for the Loess Hills Fire Partners-Cooperative Burn Week and \$2,500.00 for the Loess Hills Conservation Corps Iowa Program. Motion carried.

The Stewardship Committee Cooperative Agreement For Position Support (2Positions) Contract is ending on September 30, 2016. The Stewardship Committee held a discussion on future funding for the PL Positions. A suggestion was made to check with other organizations for sharing partners to help with the Position Support funding for example: Quail Forever, Ducks Unlimited, Iowa Farm Bureau, National Turkey Federation, and Whitetails Unlimited.

A Motion was made by Graham McGaffin, seconded by Brent Olson to tentatively approve \$30,000 for the two PL Positions and renew the Cooperative Agreement between The Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee and Pheasants Forever, Inc. Motion carried.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Michelle Wodtke Franks passed around information about the 2016 Southwest Iowa Art Tour on September 17-18, 2016 and the Golden Hills RC & D Open House on September 16, 2016 to the Stewardship Committee Members.

The 2016 Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Annual Report will be emailed to Michelle Wodtke Franks when updated.

The Carstens Farm Days (Carstens 1880 Farmstead) will be held on September 10-11, 2016 in Shelby, IA.

Chad Graeve will be presenting a program at Farm Creek Public Wildlife Area/Pottawattamie County at 5:30 PM on September 13, 2016.

**ADJOURN** Co-Chairman, Glenn Pollock adjourned the meeting at 10:35 AM.

**NEXT MEETING** November 2, 2016 at 10:30 am at the Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters in Pisgah, Iowa.