

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

12-06-2017

Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center

Pisgah, IA

The Stewardship Committee of the LHA convened at 9:09 AM with Glenn Pollock presiding. Those in attendance were: Glenn Pollock, Linda Herman, Nic Salick, Jake Holt, Rich Pope, Tim Sproul, and Jeff Seago.

APPOVAL OF 11/01/2017 MINUTES AND 12/06/2017 AGENDA ITEMS

A change was needed on the December 6th Stewardship Committee Agenda. Under "New Business", "Cooperative Burn Week" was added. A Motion was made to approve the Minutes from 11-01-2017 and the amended Agenda from 12-06-2017 by Nic Salick, seconded by Linda Herman. Motion carried.

BUDGET UPDATE – Rich Pope presented the Budget Update to the LHA Stewardship Committee members. The total reserve funds/Unobligated for the LHA Stewardship Committee as of November 30, 2017 is \$2,304.25.

PL POSITION

- **Harrison/Pottawattamie/Monona**

Nicholas Salick reported that Pottawattamie County Landowner, Trent Larson was nominated for an Iowa Pheasants Forever award. Trent was approved for AGO funding and began restoring remnant prairies by doing cedar removal. Trent is also implementing no-till farming, strip cropping of corn and beans, planting rye cover crop after fields are harvested, and installing filter strips and pollinator habitat. Salick stated that 3 adjacent landowners in Grant Township, Monona County with a combined approximately 300 acres enrolled in the CRP putting habitat on the ground.

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

Jake Holt reported that he has been working with Mills County landowners with financial & technical services for Honeysuckle control. Some areas did not get aerial sprayed due to the oak tree leaves staying on longer. An Iowa Honeysuckle Field Day was held in Ringgold County. Holt stated that he worked with Lindsey Barney on mapping out areas of honeysuckle north of Thurman, Iowa. Prescribed Fires is needed to help control honeysuckle. Holt stated that he has been working on conversion projects and finalizing EQUIP projects.

Old Business

- **Loess Hills Nature School/Jack Phillips**

Jack Phillips was not available to attend the Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee meeting on December 6th. Jack Phillips is requesting \$1,500.00 for continued support from the Loess Hills Alliance for the December 2017– June 2018 workshops. The funding is used for speakers, lodging, park fees, rental of facilities, etc. Some of the winter projects will be woody plant surveys, citizen science workshops, monitoring herptile populations, winter & spring saunters, and winter & spring nature-writing workshops. A Motion was made by Jeff Seago, seconded by Tim Sproul to allocate \$1,500 to the Loess Hills Nature School to help fund the workshops from December 2017 through June 2018 providing that the Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee has enough funding in their budget to cover this allocation and that Jack Phillips will need to provide a written summery report of how the funds are used to the Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee. Motion carried.

New Business

- **Cooperative Burn Week**

Jeff Seago reported that no date has been set yet for Cooperative Burn Week. A meeting will be held concerning Cooperative Burn Week in January 2018. Seago stated that 2 crews of six from Conservation Corps Iowa will be contracted for 2 weeks/\$10,800 for training and burning during Cooperative Burn Week. Seago stated that the Loess Hills State Forest is funding \$5,400.00 for half of the cost and asked the Loess Hills Alliance to help fund the other half of the cost, \$5,400.00. A Motion was made by Jake Holt, seconded by Nic Salick to recommend to the LHA Executive Committee to allocate \$5,400.00 to help fund the 2 crews for Cooperative Burn Week. Motion carried. A suggestion was made to also include educational classes for private landowners during Cooperative Burn Week and to send a letter to the PF Chapters for extra funding support.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Stewardship Committee decided to keep the Loess Hills Alliance Committee meetings the same as last year, first Wednesday of the month.

February 7, 2018

March 7, 2018

May 2, 2018

June 6, 2018

August 1, 2018

September 5, 2018

November 7, 2018

December 5, 2018

ADJOURN A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Nic Salick, seconded by Glenn Pollock at 9:56 AM. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING February 7, 2018 at 10:30 am at the Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah, IA