

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

05-04-2016

Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters

Pisgah, IA

The Stewardship Committee of the LHA convened at 10:39 A.M. with Glenn Pollock and Rich Pope presiding. Those in attendance were: Glenn Pollock, Rich Pope, Michelle Wodtke Franks, Graham McGaffin, Linda Herman, Brent Olson, Scott Nelson, Nicholas Salick, Jake Holt, and Matt Dollison.

APPOVAL OF 03/02/2016 MINUTES AND 05/04/2016 AGENDA ITEMS

A motion was made to approve the Minutes from 03-02-2016 and Agenda from 05-04-2016 by Brent Olson, seconded by Matt Dollison. Motion passed.

BUDGET UPDATE

Total Stewardship Committee Budget Balance is \$49,072.48. Pheasants Forever was paid \$15,000.00 for the 2 LH Farm Bill Biologists FY16. Northwest AEA was paid \$2,500.00 for the Sponsorship 2016 LH Prairie Seminar.

PL POSITION

- **Harrison/Pottawattamie/Monona**

Nicholas Salick presented the Farm Bill Biologist LHA Quarterly Report for Harrison, Pottawattamie, and Monona Counties to the LHA Stewardship Committee. Nicholas attended the River City Expo to help with the habitat help desk providing technical assistance to landowners looking to make habitat improvements on their properties. In February, Nicholas presented a Pollinator Habitat Presentation at Iowa Western Community College(IWCC). Nicholas attended Toolkit, Windbreak, and Fire Fighter Type 2 trainings.

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

Jake Holt presented the Farm Bill Biologist LHA Quarterly Report for Fremont, Mills, Montgomery, and Page Counties to the LHA Stewardship Committee. Jake attended the River City Expo to help with the habitat help desk providing technical assistance to landowners interested in learning how to improve their properties for wildlife. Jake held two CRP landowner informational workshops to present CRP and Conservation practice information to landowners. Jake attended Foundational-Concentrated Flow and Toolkit Trainings.

Old Business

Rich Pope and Michelle Wodtke Franks attended the IZAAK Walton League Iowa State Convention on April 29-May 1, 2016 in Schleswig, IA. Approximately 50 guests were in attendance.

The Loess Hills Fire Partners-Cooperative Burn Week which included the burn at Waubonsie State Park, Rosie Hall Property, and private land in Monona County had 39 participants with 1,083 acres burned.

New Business

- **LHA Policies & Procedures Manual Stewardship Committee Input**

The Stewardship Committee held a discussion concerning the LHA Policy Manual.

The Officers of the Stewardship Committee will be appointed within the Committee for a 2 year term at the last LHA Stewardship Committee meeting of the year. For voting rights within the Stewardship Committee, the member would be required to have had a history of Stewardship Committee Membership and attend at least 2 meetings a year. The LHA Executive Committee appropriates the annual funding for the LHA Stewardship Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 40th Anniversary of the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar will be held on June 3 - 5, 2016. There will be several new speakers including a presentation by the Loess Hills Alliance.

The Loess Hills District Wine Trail has received the American Viticultural Area Designation from the Federal Government. Wine with an AVA name on the label must be made from 85% locally grown grapes.

Michelle Wodtke Franks stated that discussion is being held with community partners concerning the 2017 Loess Hills and Heritage Week(the week of September 23, 2017). More Representatives are needed from Harrison, Monona, and Woodbury Counties. Rich Pope/Woodbury County and Nicholas Salick/Monona County volunteered to help with the 2017 Loess Hills and Heritage Week.

At this time, the group would like to bring a Representative from China with paid expenses to tour the Loess Hills area. The geological formation of the Loess Hills is also found in the Yellow River Region in China. The group is also working on printed maps and websites of different events including, Iowa Prairie Heritage Week, Applefest, Lewis and Clark Festival, Loess Hills Lavender Farm, North American Aronia Berry Festival, Loessfest, Loess Hills Prairie Seminar, Loess Hills Music Festival at Blackburn Green Hollow Center, etc. More information concerning the 2017 Loess Hills and Heritage Week will be discussed at the June 1, 2016 LHA meetings.

ADJOURN A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Linda Herman, seconded by Jake Holt at 11:34 AM. Motion passed.

NEXT MEETING The LHA Stewardship Committee and the LHA Protection Committee members will meet at 9:00 AM at the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center on June 1, 2016 for a tour of Broken Kettle Grasslands Preserve. The next LHA Stewardship Committee meeting will be held on August 3, 2016 at 10:30 am at the Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters in Pisgah, Iowa.