



**LHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
Loess Hills State Forest
Headquarters – Pisgah, IA
Wednesday, March 2, 2016**

The Executive Committee of the LHA was called to order at 10:43 AM, Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at Loess Hills State Forest, Pisgah IA by Chairman, Bob Benton. Introductions were made and the travel sheet was signed.

Those present at today's meeting: Bob Benton, Patty McCall, Linda Herman, Michelle Wodtke Franks, Brent Olson, Cara Morgan, Graham McGaffin, Terry Lewis, and Renea Anderson.

APPROVE MINUTES: A motion was made by Cara Morgan, seconded by Linda Herman to approve the December 2, 2015 LHA Executive Committee Minutes and the February 3, 2016 LHA Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes. Motion Carried.

APPROVE AGENDA: A change was needed on the LHA Executive Committee March 2, 2016 Agenda. Under "New Business, 2015 Annual Report- Authority" was added. A Motion was made by Renea Anderson, seconded by Graham McGaffin to approve the amended March 2, 2016 LHA Executive Committee Agenda. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Brent Olson presented the Treasurer's Report to the Committee Members. The Bills Paid Report showed that Iowa REAP Alliance was paid \$100.00 for Membership Dues, Sioux City Journal was paid \$780.00 for the Winter Visitors Guide Ad, Golden Hills RC & D was paid \$1,584.00 for 2nd Qtr. Bookkeeping, and Our Iowa Magazine was paid \$332.00 for the 1/6 Vertical Page Ad-Feb/Mar 2016 Issue. Total checks paid were \$4,287.50 with 1 Transfer. Total checking account balance for December 1, 2015 through February 1, 2016 is \$4,633.21.

The Loess Hills Alliance Funds Report showed unobligated Funds to 06-30-16 is \$122,872.00 with Total Funds of \$155,795.00.

Total Committee Open Funds To Obligate or Carryover:

Protection: \$898.67

Stewardship: \$49,072.48

Economic Development: \$50,158.19(Approximately \$31,000.00 Total after current payments are made)

Executive Committee Fund Balance: \$15,498.96

Total Special Projects Balance: \$92,861.91

Total FY2015-2016 New and Current Budget Balances by Committee as of 2/24/16 is \$300,739.59.

A motion was made by Cara Morgan, seconded by Renea Anderson to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Stewardship: The LHA Stewardship Committee allocated \$2,500.00 to help fund the 2016 Loess Hills Prairie Seminar 40th Anniversary. A Cooperative Burn Week will be held on April 4-8, 2016 at the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Waubonsie State Park and surrounding private land. The LHA Stewardship Committee allocated \$8,637.00 for the Loess Hills Fire Partners-Cooperative Burn Week.

Nicolas Salick and Jake Holt presented their PL POSITION quarterly reports to the Stewardship Committee.

Protection: No Report

Economic: The 2016 Iowa Visitors Guide full page ad was shown to the Executive Committee. Ads were also placed in Iowa Outdoors, Midwest Living, Council Bluffs Visitors Guide, Sioux City Visitors Guide, Omaha World Herald, Iowa National Guard Post, Tri-State Package and the Re-marketing Program from traveliowa.com. The Economic Development Committee will obligate the remaining \$31,000.00 funds for updating and reprinting the Loess Hills National Scenic Byway Guidebook in the fall. The Economic Development Committee is a sponsor for the Heartland Byways Conference. A Thank you card was received from a Lucky I Prize winner from the Our Iowa magazine. The web traffic continues to be predominantly Russian. It has been turned in to several agencies and is now with the cyber terrorism division of the FBI. The Brown Family Music Show will perform the National Anthem at the Loess Hills Alliance Day on the Hill on March 8, 2016. The Executive Committee Members received a copy of the State of Iowa 86th General Assembly Senate and House Natural Resources listings for contact information.

A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Linda Herman to accept the Committee Reports. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Golden Hills Update: Michelle Wodtke Franks presented the Loess Hills Alliance Capacity Building Support quarterly report to the Executive Committee. Michelle continues to work on the draft Board Policies and Orientation manual, work on social media promotions and marketing plans for the Loess Hills, promote LHA through Facebook page with currently 115 followers, work with the planning committee for the 2017 Loess Hills & Heritage week, scheduled a presentation for the June 3rd, 2016 Loess Hills Prairie Seminar, work on press releases for LHA events throughout the year, and coordinating and hosting the Iowa State Capitol legislative event in 2016 and 2017.

The Loess Hills Alliance Day on the Hill is Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

The musical family, The Browns, from Le Mars, will perform the National Anthem at the House Chamber at 8:30 am and the Senate Chamber at 9:00 am. The LHA Members and legislators are meeting in room 15 with refreshments from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

The LHA Display, an informational packet including Loess Hills brochures, Loess Hills Guidebook, and the 2015 LHA Annual Report, and a laptop featuring a power point and images from Ken West will be all on display. At this time 8 Members of the Loess Hills Alliance will be attending the Loess Hills Alliance Day on the Hill. To recognize the late Representative Jack Drake, a pictured frame of a Wild Rose and Yucca Plant in the Loess Hills will be given to the Jack Drake Family.

Michelle has extra LHA informational packets for Members that would like to use for their local Legislative Coffee days.

The Iowa's Water & Land Legacy Coalition Lobby Day (IWILL) will be on March 3, 2016.

Board Manual Policy Revisions: The LHA Executive Committee discussed the first 7 pages of the Draft LHA Board Policies and Procedures Manual. On page 4 under "Guiding Principles- Partnerships" add Landowners and Government organizations. On page 5 under "Visual Representation of the Relationships Between the", take out Golden Hills RC & D. On page 6 under "2015 Organizational Structure", add Hungry Canyons Alliance information and change to no names. Add an index page with the current LHA officers and State Legislators that can be changed if needed. Some changes will be made to reword the last paragraph. On page 7 under "Roberts Rules of Order", number 8 should read "The Majority rules" After number 10, take out the last 2 paragraphs. A recommendation was made to adopt and add The "Iowa's Sunshine Advisories" section to the Board Manual. The Executive Committee will read the final pages of the Board Manual and report any changes that will be needed at the next Executive Committee meeting on May 4, 2016.

NEW BUSINESS

2015 Annual Report-Authority: Cara Morgan will present the 2015 LHA Annual Report and updates to the Loess Hills Development & Conservation Authority(LHDCA) on March 4, 2016.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A thank you letter was received for the \$5,000.00 donation to help fund the Loess Hills Conservation Corps Program.

A thank you letter was received by the The Browns, the musical family from LeMars that will be singing at the Loess Hills Alliance Day on the Hill and at the Heartland Byways Conference.

ADJOURN A Motion was made by Linda Herman, seconded by Renea Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 12:04 PM.

Next Meeting May 4, 2016 at the Loess Hills State Forest Headquarters in Pisgah, Iowa at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by
Jeannette Riesberg, LHA Office Secretary