

Draft Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors
Loess Hills Alliance
1:00 PM –June 6, 2018
Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center–Pisgah, Iowa

Members signing the attendance log:

Jeff Seago	Renea Anderson	Ed Cambridge
Linda Herman	Brett Bengard	Craig Patterson
Rich Pope	Graham McGaffin	
Dawn Snyder	Patty McCall	
John Straight	Mark Shoemaker	
Robert Benton	Michelle Wodtke Franks	

Chairman Rich Pope called the regular meeting of the Loess Hills Alliance to order at 1:00 pm, with a quorum declared. Introductions and signatures on travel documentation followed.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Renea Anderson, seconded by Linda Herman to approve the March 7, 2018 Minutes. Motion Carried.

AGENDA: A motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded Bob Benton to approve the June 6, 2018 Board of Directors Agenda. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Renea Anderson presented the Treasurer's Report to the Full Board Committee.

Open Funds To Obligate:

Protection Funds: \$12,898.67

Stewardship Funds: \$0.00 All funds have been Obligated

Economic Development Funds: \$0.00 All funds have been Obligated

Executive Committee Funds: \$10,412.54

Total Executive/Board Reserve Funds: \$91,785.90

Loess Hills Alliance Funds Report: Total Unobligated Funds at 05/29/2018 is \$130,746.00.

Total Unobligated Remaining Funds to 06/30/18 is \$130,746.00 with 230 other current assets.

A motion was made by Dawn Snyder, seconded by Mark Shoemaker to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee – Rich Pope reported that more discussion will be held with the Full board Members concerning the “Friends of the Loess Hills Group” later in today’s meeting. The Executive Committee approved the Golden Hills/LHA Agreement FY19 and the Lobbyist Agreement FY19 in the Executive Committee meeting at 10:30 am.

Protection Committee – Graham McGaffin reported that the Protection Committee met on May 2, 2018. The Raymond Muller Family Trust (560-acre) Conservation Easement (FY16 Funding) closed on March 30, 2018. The Muller Conservation Easement is located in Grant Center SLA, Monona County, approximately 4 miles SW of Rodney. 16 acres of row crop and a 4 acre building site for Raymond Muller’s grandson has been set aside. The Protection Committee has decided to pause for now concerning the \$12,898.67 budget funding and are open to use the funding as best possible. Members were encouraged to look for Grant funding opportunities.

Stewardship Committee – Jeff Seago reported that the Stewardship Committee met at 9:00 a.m. today. The 2018 RAGBRAI will be held from Sunday, July 22nd through Saturday, July 28th. There will be a Gravel Loop Day through Moorhead on Sunday, July 22nd. Information will be taken to Loess Hills Hospitality Gift Shop & Visitor Center in Moorhead to advertise the Loess Hills and to recognize the Loess Hills Alliance during RAGBRAI. The PL Positions funding for Nic Salick and Jake Holt and the CCI funding for Cooperative Burn Week are considered very important projects that the Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee would like to help continue funding. Members were encouraged to look for Grant funding opportunities.

Economic Development Committee - Renea Anderson reported that the Economic Development Committee met on Monday, June 4, 2018, 10:00 AM at the Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center in Missouri Valley. The 53’ Alcohol Beverages Division (ABD) Truck Wrap of the Loess Hills was approved and will be traveling around the country as a rolling billboard for the Loess Hills. A picture of the truck wrap of the Loess Hills was shown to the Full Board Members. Advertising will continue in the Sioux City Visitors Guide, Council Bluff’s Visitors Guide, the WITR digital website, Our Iowa magazine, and a 1/6 Vertical Ad in the State Visitors Guide.

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

OLD BUSINESS: No “Old Business” at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

LHA Committees Allocation FY18-19 Funding: A proposed “Working Executive Budget for FY19” was presented to the Full Board Members. The Loess Hills Alliance has received \$40,000.00 FY18-19 from the State of Iowa. Only 10% of the Loess Hills Alliance allocation from the State Legislatures can be used for the Executive Committee overhead expenses.

Estimated proposed 2019 Budget:

State FY 2019 Appropriation	\$40,000.00
2019 County Contributions (est.)	\$8,000.00

Total	\$48,000.00
Estimated Operating Overhead	\$21,525.00

Allocatable Funds	\$26,475.00

Suggested Allocatable Funds Distribution:

Stewardship	\$7,000.00
Protection	\$7,000.00
Econ Dev.	\$7,000.00
Executive	\$5,475.00 (Minimum)

A Motion was made by Patty McCall, seconded by Renea Anderson to allocate \$7,000.00 to Economic Development Committee, \$7,000.00 to Protection Committee, \$7,000.00 to Stewardship committee, with the remainder going to the Executive Committee and use the reserve funds as needed to offset the County funds and legal funds as received and to correctly take care of the budget. Motion Carried.

Lobbyist Agreement FY19: The Consulting Agreement between the Loess Hills Alliance and Campbell/Patterson Consulting commencing on July 1, 2018 and continuing through June 30, 2021 for \$3,500.00 each year was approved by the Executive Committee. Either party shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon 30 days written notice to the other party. A thank you to the Loess Hills Alliance was received by Lobbyist, Craig Patterson.

“Friends of the Loess Hills Group” Draft: The “Friends of the Loess Hills Group” is a volunteer group that would help organize garner support, hold educational opportunities and raise grant money for possible projects throughout the LHSF. A proposed draft was shown to the Full Board Members for discussion. This draft would include verbiage as; establishment of “Friends of the Loess Hills State Forest” as a working committee of the Loess Hills Alliance, annual fee for the Loess Hills Alliance to cover additional audit and financial services, recognize the Alliance through acknowledgement language and /or use of the logo, a clear statement about liability and coverage as volunteers with the Iowa DNR, Funds raised by the Friends group will be deposited with the Alliance, and disbursements will be overseen by the Executive Committee of the LHA to ensure they are in compliance of LHA bylaws and mission, and quarterly or annual reports due to the Loess Hills Alliance. Stone State Park will also be contacted for more suggestions. The Loess Hills Alliance would like to know the dates of the “Friends of the Loess Hills Group” meetings when established. An informal “Friends of the Loess Hills Group” meeting will be held on July 10th at 7:00 pm. When the “Draft” between Loess Hills Alliance and the “Friends of the Loess Hills Group” is finalized, a copy of the draft will be sent electronically to the Loess Hills Alliance Full Board Members.

Golden Hills/LHA Agreement FY19: The 1 year renewal (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019) (for \$7,500.00) Cooperative Agreement between Golden Hills RC & D and Loess Hills Alliance was accepted by the Executive Committee Members. This agreement may be terminated or amended in writing with a 30-day notice by either party.

Announcements:

Chairman, Rich Pope thanked everyone for contacting their State Legislatures. Loess Hills Alliance members Linda Herman, Rich Pope, and Bob Benton attended the LHA Day at the Capital. The Loess Hills Alliance thanks Lobbyist, Craig Patterson and Amy Campbell for all the work that they do for the future of the Loess Hills. Thank you letters will be sent out to the State Legislatures for the Loess Hills Alliance funding.

Loess Hills & Heritage Week will be held on September 22nd through September 30th, 2018. Please let Michelle Wodtke Franks know if you would like to add an event during the Loess Hills & Heritage Week.

Literary Loess will be held on Saturday, September 22nd, 2018 from 10am - 2 pm. Local and regional authors and producers will be making connections between the Landscape, Literature, and Local Foods.

“Experience The Loess Hills” will be held on Thursday, September 27th through Sunday, September 30th, 2018. This event is a four day cycling tour of western Iowa’s Loess Hills starting from Stone State Park to Waubonsie State Park.

Next Meeting: September 5, 2018 at 1:00 PM Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah

Adjournment: A Motion was made by Graham McGaffin, seconded by John Straight to adjourn the meeting at 2:21 PM. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannette Riesberg,
LHA Office Secretary