

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors
Loess Hills Alliance
1:00 PM –September 4, 2019
Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center–Pisgah, Iowa

Members signing the attendance log:

Dustin Sheldon-Director	Renea Anderson-Director	Scott Belt-Director
Linda Herman-Director	Brett Bengard-Director	Bob Benton-Director
Rich Pope-Director	Graham McGaffin-Director	Gary Horton-Director
Mark Shoemaker-Director	John Meis-Director	Nick Beeck-Director
John Straight-Director	Larry Green-LHA Member	
Tammy Bramley-Director	Scott Pape-Director	
Craig Patterson-Lobbyist	Lance Brisbois-Alternate	

Chairman Rich Pope called the regular meeting of the Loess Hills Alliance to order at 1:08 pm, with a quorum declared. Introductions and signatures on travel documentation followed.

MINUTES: A motion was made by John Straight, seconded by Linda Herman to approve the June 5, 2019 Minutes. Motion Carried.

AGENDA: A motion was made by Tammy Bramley, seconded by John Straight to approve the September 4, 2019 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: \$12,500.00
Stewardship Funds: \$7,000.00
Economic Development Funds: \$7,716.97
Executive Committee Funds: \$189.50
Executive/Reserve Funds on Hand: \$111,272.03
Executive/Board Total Funds on Hand: \$128,504.88

Loess Hills Alliance Funds Report: Total Unobligated Funds @ 6/3/2019 is \$234,450.00.
Total Unobligated Remaining Funds to 06/30/20 is \$234,450.00 with 825 Other Current Assets.

A motion was made by Scott Belt, seconded by Bob Benton to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee – Rich Pope reported that the Executive Committee met today at 10:30 am. The “Friends Group” have been working on a “Clean-Up Ridge Road project and discussing possible Grants for signage and a mower. Approval was made for the “Friends of the Loess Hills State Forest” application to Harrison County Community Foundation for a signage project along Brent’s Trail and to apply for the Gilchrist Foundation: Project Grant. Both applications were signed by Chairman, Rich Pope. More information will be discussed at the Full Board meeting.

Protection Committee – Graham McGaffin reported that the Protection Committee did not meet this morning. The 2019 Loess Hills Alliance Protection Committee Grant Application has been posted to the LHA website and sent to all Loess Hills Alliance members. The Press Release went out on September 3, 2019. The Committee anticipates awarding up to \$12,500.00 and applications are due October 4, 2019.

Stewardship Committee – Lance Brisbois reported that the Stewardship Committee met this morning at 9:00 am and that he was elected as the new Loess Hills Alliance Stewardship Committee Chairman. The PL Position reports were presented by Nic Salick and Jake Holt. The Loess Hills Prairie Seed Harvest, presented by Iowa National Heritage Foundation and Golden Hills RC & D, will hold a native prairie seed harvest in Monona County Loess Hills on Wednesday, October 9th and a Loess Hills Prairie Seed Harvest, presented by Pheasants Forever and Golden Hills RC & D, will be held on the Caddy Property near Moorhead on Thursday, September 26th. A Motion was made by Renea Anderson, seconded by Linda Herman to send a thank you letter to Glenn Pollock for his service as Stewardship Committee Chairman. Motion carried.

“Friends of the Loess Hills State Forest” - Brent’s Trail grand opening was held on Saturday, June 8th at Murray Hill Scenic Overlook. The grand opening was very successful with approximately 200 attendees. The 8 mile trail started at Murray Hill Scenic Overlook and ended at Gleason-Hubel Wildlife Area. West Harrison Community School District bus shuttle stopped at a half way point to pick up attendees if needed. There was horse patrol to help with parking and on the trail hike. Little Sioux Rescue Squad was also available. Harrison County provided a Tag Service, a check in and out service for the attendees. Approximately 60 attendees walked the entire trail. Discussion has been made to make this an annual Fall event. A stainless steel leaf attached to a galvanized post was used for the trail markers. The next meeting for the “Friends of the Loess Hills State Forest will be on September 12, 2019. Loess Hills Alliance secretary, Jeannette Riesberg is to send the “Friends of the Loess Hills State Forest” agenda to all Loess Hills Alliance members.

Economic Development Committee – Renea Anderson reported that the Economic Development Committee met on Monday, September 3rd. Funding was allocated for advertising in the Our Iowa Magazine, Sioux City Visitors Guide, Council Bluffs Visitors Guide, Western Iowa Tourism Region, and Iowa Travel Guide. The Economic Development Committee voted to reprint 5,000 Birding brochures, but will wait on reprinting the RVing and Motorcycling due to the flooding and closers throughout the State. The 53’ Alcohol Beverages Division (ABD) Truck Wrap of the Loess Hills is coming to an end and at this time, there is not an option through this company. The Economic Development Committee may reach out to other trucking firms. The annual Embrace the Hills bike ride will be held on Saturday, September 21st and begins in Mondamin and travels along the Loess Hills of Harrison County. The Loess Hills National Scenic Byway Guidebooks have been updated, reprinted, and are available to use where needed.

A Motion was made by Scott Belt, seconded by John Straight to accept the Committee Reports. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS: No "Old Business" at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

County Contributions FY18-19 and FY19-20: FY18-19, the Loess Hills Alliance received \$2,000.00 County Contributions donations from every Loess Hills Counties except Mills County. The FY19-20 letters have been sent out to each Loess Hills Counties asking for a \$2,000.00 County Contribution donation.

Committees Contributions for Annual Report/Die September 20th: The Economic Development Committee has turned in their FY2019 Annual Report and presented it to the Executive Committee members. Other committees will need to get their annual reports done by September 20, 2019. Suggestions were made to use pictures from the Brent Olson's Trail Dedication for the annual reports. The annual report is used to promote the loess hills and present it to the State Legislators.

Legislators Report: Craig Patterson reported that the Loess Hills Alliance members need to keep visiting with the legislators and show them pictures of hikes, trails, Loess Hills programs, etc. for future funding. Craig would like the members to reach out to the new director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Kayla Lyon and if the members know of any legislative forums, Craig would like to attend. 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.

Announcements: Rich Pope reported that he will be stepping down as the Loess Hill Alliance Chairman in March and a new replacement will be needed.

Next Meeting: December 4, 2019 at 1:00 PM Loess Hills Brent S. Olson Visitor's Center, Pisgah

Adjournment: A Motion was made by Scott Pape, seconded by Graham McGaffin to adjourn the meeting at 1:43 PM. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannette Riesberg,
LHA Office Secretary

