

Dickinson County Conservation Board

2279 170th St., Okoboji

7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9

Chairperson: Kathy Kleen

Board members: Steve Anderson, Eric Stoll

Employees: Lee Sorenson, Kiley Roth

Call to order 7:01 p.m.

Add marketing and public relations plan overview under Operations and Facility Update. Anderson motion to accept agenda with the change. Stoll second. Approved.

Past month's minutes: Stoll motion, Anderson second. Approved.

Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County update: The meeting was postponed to Monday, Feb. 15, due to inclement weather.

Environmental education update: Kleen attended Iowa Conservation Education Coalition conference in Guthrie Center, as did naturalist Charles Vigdal. Vigdal and Roth are working on putting together some native/organic landscaping programs with Kate Mendenhall and John Wills.

Operations and facility update:

Recycling center: Bids are still being requested for the septic system to be constructed at the recycling center. Estimates are expected to be less than \$20,000.

Butterfly house update: Contacted the nature center's architect about creating plans for the Butterfly House renovation. Two floor plans will be presented to the board and donors, for a maximum of \$2,000 for the floor plans.

IRVM update: A spreadsheet of responsibilities for the conservation board and the secondary roads department was created.

Staffing update: A naturalist has not been hired yet. Both Abbie Gardner Cabin docents from 2015 have agreed to come back for the 2016 season.

Budget 2017: Nothing from the presented budget has been cut. Discussions were held about what to do with the church next to the courthouse and the tubing hill with the road project coming through in approximately 2018.

2015-16 Public relations/marketing plan: Roth presented a recap of the 2015 marketing efforts as well as plans for next year.

Dickinson County Conservation Board areas: No updates

Approval of expenses: Anderson motion, Stoll second. Approved.

General discussion: The Iowa Department of Natural Resources does have the plans for the bathroom at Ainsworth-Orleans Beach. It is awaiting word on whether it is in the flood plain, because that would require additional permitting.

Kleen brought students out to the recycling center and nature center for a Recycled Reading J-term class.

When Kleen was at the ICEC conference, a representative from SOAR did a presentation about lead. She suggested that we have a program come to the Dickinson County Nature Center.

Anderson motion to adjourn, Stoll second. Adjourn at 8:41 p.m.