

## Dickinson County Conservation Board

7 p.m. June 14, 2016

**Chair:** Kathy Kleen

**Vice chair:** Joan Gronstal

**Board members:** Willia Mueske, Eric Stoll

**Employees:** Lee Sorenson, Kiley Roth

**Board liaison:** Pam Jordan

**Call to order 7:01 p.m.**

**Mueske motion to approve agenda, Gronstal second. Approved.**

**Approval of past month's minutes:** Stoll motion, Mueske second. Approved.

**Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County:** Naturalist Mary Petersen introduced herself during the meeting, and the response for membership renewal was successful.

**Environmental education update:** Three osprey chicks were lost during a storm on June 14 when they were blown out of the nest due to high winds. Nature Tots and Nature Explorers have both grown. Summer day camps are filling well. A Volunteer Bingo Night was held June 6, and an annual bingo night is being planned to thank volunteers each year.

### **Operations facility update**

**-Recycling center:** A recycling technician has begun his new duties, and a new clerk will be hired soon. The sewer addition project began last week but is going slower than anticipated due to difficult digging.

**-Naming rights policy/AWC Foundation:** Andrea Waitt Carlton Foundation donated a large sum to the nature center's relocation and construction and have requested naming rights. The policy as it stands reads, "All assets for which naming opportunities will be offered shall be valued as a function of the aggregate campaign cost within the philanthropic naming rights. Factors to be considered in the valuation of each asset shall include the total amount of financial support, by a one-time payment or a multi-year payment. This financial contribution must be a minimum of 35 percent of the overall cost of all assets."

Sorenson is concerned that it may come up that two entities may donate 35 percent of a project, and that would put into jeopardy the policy and who the project would be named after. He would also like to delete "multi-year payment," because that could cause changes to the name of something if an entity reaches that donation threshold after 10 or 20 years.

Gronstal suggested increasing the naming rights donation threshold to 55 percent of the aggregate campaign cost given within a calendar year to read, "...by a one-time payment or within the time frame of a calendar year. This financial contribution must be a minimum of 55 percent of the

overall cost of all the assets.” The changes would also be made under the “land” heading in the naming rights policy.

Gronstal motion to make the changes, Stoll second. Approved.

#### **Dickinson County Conservation Board areas**

**-Horseshoe Bend:** Single-phase could be run to the prairie east of the tubing hill for about \$25,000, and then the tubing hill tow rope could be run on three-phase with an inverter. Sorenson will meet with an engineer on Thursday regarding moving the tubing hill to the new location due to bridge reconstruction near where the tubing hill currently is. The plan is still to repair the Horseshoe Bend bridge at the same time as the road bridge construction in order to get a better financial deal for doing both projects at the same time.

**-Little Sioux Savanna:** The graveled parking lot is completed.

**Approval of expenses:** The septic construction invoice for the recycling center has not been submitted yet but the board has been requested to pre-approve that claim at \$15,137. Gronstal motion to approve expenses with the additional \$15,137, Mueske second. Approved.

#### **General discussion**

**-Spring Run Shooting Range:** Since the project was not completed, funds set for that range were used at another shooting range project. The project is still on tap to be completed in the future, dependent on the Iowa Department of Natural Resources’ timeline.

**-IRVM program:** A part-time vegetation technician has been hired to assist vegetation specialist Aric Ping with the Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management program. The technician will be working 28 hours per week, year-round. County roadside spraying will be under the conservation board starting this fall. Dickinson County is working on purchasing a used spray truck from Clay County this fall.

**-SCORP** has been renamed the Outdoor Recreation Plan, and Jordan recommended that board members read the plan which talks about recreational trends in the state.

-The state board has an opening for this district for a IACCB state representative.

**Gronstal motion to adjourn, Mueske second. Approved to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.**