

Dickinson County Conservation Board (DCCB)
Regular Meeting Minutes
7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 12, 2013
Dickinson County Nature Center

Presiding Chair: Steve Anderson

Members Present: Eric Stoll, Willia Mueska

Members Absent: Joan Gronstal, Kathy Kleen

Employees Present: Charles Vigdal, Angie Wills, Karess Knudtson, Lee Sorenson

Others Present: Pam Jordan, Jim Tuel

Agenda Approval. Mueska/Stoll made a motion to approve the agenda. All Ayes, motion carried.

Approval of the past month Minutes – Stoll/Mueska moved to approve the minutes. All ayes, carried

Executive Director's Comments – Gave an update on the REAP assembly meeting which I have been nominated as a delegate for the congress.

Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County Update – Foundation discussed a fund raiser opportunity of prints of the nature center, the original would be \$600, then the first 40 prints sold would go to the artist after those were sold the rest the foundation would receive 50% of the profit. Also Matt Thelan attended to voice his concerns about payment of the landscape project.

Environmental Education Update – Introduction of Karess Knudtson as a new naturalist. We will be hosting the Spring IAN workshop on March 12-14, 2014 this will involve providing program for a number of naturalist from around the state.

Operations and facility update

- Dickinson County Nature Center
 - Exterior Landscaping Update
 - The foundation has agreed to change the steel pipes running across the half amphitheater to cedar 4X4 post to help the contractor be able to complete the project. At this time there are two concrete areas that need to be fixed, nine trees that will need to be planted in the spring and lighting out at the entrance sign that needs to be installed.
- Dickinson County Recycling Center and Green Waste Site –The brush grinding was completed for a cost of \$13,620.50. Received a quote from Fairmont Fire systems for \$2,500 for the hazmat fire suppression system. The recycling program assessment will move forward with Barker/Lemar honoring their proposal.
- Board discussed the future of the farm building located by the nature center. Requested that Sorenson find a barn expert to look over the barn and provide us with option on the future of the farm building. Then we will hold a public meeting during the summer months to get public input on the project.
- The nature center brochures are completed and turned out very nice, the next brochure will be on the Dickinson County Conservation Areas.

Budget 2014-2015 Discussion

- Board discussed the possibility of a position of IRVM, at this time the Conservation Board will continue to prepare a proposal for this position for future plans, but do to current budget restraints do not feel it is in the best interest to move forward for the next budget year

Dickinson County Conservation Board Area's

- Orleans Beach Update
 - The playground equipment is installed, the next item will be the construction of the new open shelter that will take place in the Spring. The IDNR has requested funding for a solar light above the boat ramp along with a new restroom facility with a projected date possibly early as next fall, but will depend on engineering of the facility.
- Land Acquisitions
 - Board discussed the acquisition of the Knudtson property and some of the funding possibilities. Stoll/Mueska made a motion to table the discussion until a special meeting can be held with all board members present. Motion carried, all aye.
- HSB future planning
 - Once the funding from the Zimmer acquisition is received back to us from the reimbursement we will move forward on hiring a consultant firm to do some master planning at Horseshoe Bend area.

Directors 90 day Evaluation

- Sorenson will send out the evaluation form to all Board members they will discuss and review it with Sorenson at a later time.

General discussion

- Conservation Board discuss that when the landscape project is completed that the Conservation Foundation should write up a formal letter acknowledging that they are releasing the land scape project over to the Conservation Board.

Approval of October Expenses. Mueska/Stoll moved to approve expenses. All ayes, carried.

Adjournment

Mueska/Stoll moved to adjourn at 9:13 pm. All ayes, carried.