

Dickinson County Conservation Board



Meeting Agenda

7:00 p.m., May 12, 2015

Dickinson County Nature Center, 2279 170th Street, Okoboji, IA

Chairperson: Willia Mueske
Members: Steve Anderson, Eric Stoll
Employees: Lee Sorenson, Kiley Roth, Aric Ping

Call to order at 6:59 p.m.

1. **Agenda approval.** Anderson motion, Stoll second. Approved.
2. **Approval of past month's minutes.** Anderson motion, Stoll second. Approved.
3. **Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County update:** Membership chair Shirley Rasmussen asked if the membership chair could be contracted out and could be a paid position.
4. **Environmental education update:** Pure Fishing planting with county students was successful on May 12. Abbie Gardner Cabin's visitors center was cleaned out, and Sorenson is looking to get a bid for carpet cleaning. We Pedal Clean Water will take place Saturday, June 13, with educational stops around the lake. Registration is available at www.dickinsoncountynaturecenter.com. The fee is \$10 for a T-shirt or free if bikers do not want a T-shirt.
5. **Operations and facility update**
 - **Recycling Center:** The outside area has been cleaned up. Wood chips were given away to help with the avian flu bird disposal.
 - **School house roof:** A sample of a metal roof was dropped off from Five Star Roofing, but a request for a wooden-looking shingle was submitted as well. The estimate for an asphalt roof was \$7,790.94 and the estimate for a metal shake was \$18,979.46. No decision will be made yet.
 - **IRVM plan:** New IRVM vegetation specialist Aric Ping was present to talk about his plan. Ping and Sorenson met with statewide Living Roadway Trust Fund representatives who said to get funding a plan must be in place by June 1. Ping is in process of creating this plan and will be meeting with the county engineer to talk specifics as well. A grant will also be submitted for equipment, but a match is needed. Anderson motion to allow Sorenson to sign the plan before it is submitted, Stoll second. Approved.
Following the plan, management plans will also be put into place for county areas.
6. **Dickinson County Conservation Board Areas**
 - a. **Horseshoe Bend master plan:** Meet at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 2, at Horseshoe Bend. The idea was brought up to renovate the shop and bring it up to Kenue Park so all county employees are centrally-located. A plan would have to be brought to the Dickinson County Board of Supervisors to approve. Ping asked if a renovation of the area would be considered, including restoring oak savannah remnants and vegetation.
 - b. **Milford Woods update:** Sorenson is going to set up a meeting with the property owner that is having a problem with the easement leading to Milford Woods. A fence around our parking area on the property could redirect snowmobilers and that may appease the landowner. The area still needs an official name.
 - c. **Ainsworth Orleans Dedication:** A dedication will be held 10 a.m. Saturday, May 16, at the beach on the south shore of Big Spirit Lake.
7. **Approval of Expenses.** Stoll motion, Anderson second. Approved.

8. General Discussion: A new camera is being purchased and will be hardwired and placed on the nature center to use year-round and to zoom in on multiple angles. Anderson would like to see the nest camera hardwired as well.

-How to bring electricity to the Spring Run shooting range was discussed, as well as possible plans to write grants to fund this project.

9. Adjournment. Stoll motion, Anderson second. Adjourn at 8:22 p.m.