

Dickinson County Conservation Board meeting

2279 170th St., Okoboji, IA 51355

712-336-6352

7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10

Board chair: Willia Mueske

Board members: Steve Anderson, Eric Stoll

Board members absent: Joan Gronstal, Kathy Kleen

Employees: Lee Sorenson, Kiley Roth

Board of supervisors liaison: Pam Jordan

Call to order at 7:01 p.m.

Anderson motion, Stoll second to approve agenda. Approved.

Stoll motion, Anderson motion to approve last month's minutes. Approved.

Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County update: The treasurer's report was read, and the CFDC endowments were discussed. A board potluck was also set for Monday, Dec. 14. CFDC paid for the aerator for the wetland and for half of the schoolhouse roof.

Environmental education update: Three employees attended the Iowa Great Lakes Chamber's FallFest at the Roof Garden with approximately 1,000 people attending. The osprey camera has malfunctioned and was taken down. Instead of the high expense of fixing the current camera, the county IT specialist recommended purchasing a new, updated camera. Karess Knudtson and Charles Vigdal attended a regional meeting about implementing Next Generation Science Standards for schools. The district meeting was held Nov. 10 at the Dickinson County Nature Center.

Operations and facility update

-Recycling center: The center is doing well financially but a budget amendment will need to be made. A company will be coming in the next two weeks to chip the brush, and it will take and sell the chips. Sorenson has a permit to get a septic system installed at the recycling center, and bids will be taken in the next month.

-Budget update: Tractor and geothermal repairs were high, unexpected costs in the budget.

-Staffing update: The recycling technician and office manager positions at the recycling center were filled. Interviews are ongoing for the naturalist position.

Dickinson County Conservation Board Areas

-Osceola County Rural Water easement: An easement proposal was submitted to the conservation board and the county attorney. Anderson motion to approve the easement contingent on the county attorney's approval, Stoll second. Approved.

-Spring Run Shooting Range: A fundraiser is underway for the Spring Run Shooting Range renovation with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. People can send donations to the Dickinson County Nature Center at 2279 170th St., Okoboji, IA 51355, with "Spring Run renovation" in the memo.

-Little Sioux Savanna: Neighbor Lee Ditsworth asked that we gravel the drive into Little Sioux Savanna. Hunting is open on the parcel.

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

General discussion

Stoll motion, Anderson second. Adjourned at 8:13 p.m.