

Dickinson County Conservation Board Meeting
7 p.m. July 14, 2021
Maser Monarch Lodge, Okoboji, IA

Chair: Willia Mueske

Vice chair: Kathy Kleen

Board members: Joan Gronstal, Steve Anderson, Eric Stoll

Employees: Lee Sorenson

Board liaisons: Steve Clark

Absent:

Call to order by Mueske at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda approval: Gronstal motioned to approve agenda, Anderson seconded. Approved.

Public comment: No public comment

Consent agenda/items

- a. Approval of past month's minutes (6/9/2021 & 6/17/2021)
- b. Recycle report
- c. Environmental education report
- d. Conservation Foundation Minutes
Foundation meets 6/14/21

Kleen motion to approve the consent agenda, Gronstal seconded. Approved.

Dickinson County Conservation Board areas:

- a. Sherwood Forest Land Gift

On Monday July 12th the Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County made a motion at their monthly meeting to gift the old Inn Property to the Dickinson County Conservation Board per their agreement with the Sherwood Foundation. Gronstal made a motion accept the land gift from the Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County, Anderson seconded. Motion carried.

- b. Sherwood Forest Tentative schedule and Construction approval

Conservation Board reviewed the Tentative schedule provide by Olsson Landscaping Studio, also tabled the approval of allowing the Conservation Foundation to start construction on the park plans until have been reviewed.

- c. Okoboji Wetland

Conservation Board reviewed the proposed Nature Center Sign that is planned to be place along the west side of Highway 71 in the Okoboji wetland property. Gronstal made a motion to approve partnering with Imagine Iowa to get the sign project completed. Stoll seconded. Motion carried

Operations and facility update:

a. Staffing Update

Sorenson reported that Ashley Hansen (naturalist) and Daria Mather (Community Relations Coordinator) have both submitted their resignations. The jobs have been placed on hiring web sites and will remain open until filled. Currently we have the summer interns filling in where they can until they leave for college

Approval of Expense:

Gronstal Moves to approve expenses, Kleen seconded. Motion carried.

General Discussion:

- a. Board discussed fundraising efforts for the Bedell Land that the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation currently has an option to purchase by Labor Day of the current year. If it is successful the INHF is interested in the Conservation Board holding a second conservation Easement on the property with the INHF Conservation Easement being the primary.

Gronstal motioned to adjourn at 8:05, Anderson seconded. Approved.