

Dickinson County Conservation Board Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2023

22785 Nature Center, Okoboji, IA

Chair: Joan Gronstal

Vice Chair: Steve Anderson

Board Members: Kathy Kleen, Eric Stoll (absent), Douglas Nielsen (absent)

BOS Liaison: Steve Clark

Employees: Lee Sorenson, Amy Heibult

Visitors: None

Called to order by J. Gronstal at 7:01 pm

S. Anderson motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by K. Kleen All approved, motion carried.

Public Comment (limited to 5 minutes) No comments.

Consent agenda/Items – S. Anderson motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by k. Kleen. All approved, motion carried. (Consent agenda items- DCCB Minutes, RCC report)

Dickinson County Conservation Board Area's

Nature Center Parking Lot pavement proposal

S. Anderson made a motion to approve the proposal from Beck engineering for the Nature Center parking lot project, seconded by K. Kleen. All approved, motion carried

REAP Grant approval for Hamdorf Property

K. Kleen made a motion to approve and submit the 2023 REAP grant request for the Hamdorf acquisition with the Conservation board committing \$100,000 to the acquisition making the request \$540,000, seconded by S. Anderson. All approved, motion carried.

Sherwood Forest Park update and request

Steffes Construction is starting construction on the Sherwood Forest Park project, at this time they have some silt fence in place and getting ready to fence off the wetland area and the remnant prairie. Neighbor requested to purchase or a 28-E agreement to be able to protect and save a small red building behind her yard. Board discussed that the gift agreement stated the land is restricted to public use so if the board sold or did a 28-E agreement from private use it could be considered a violation of the agreement. Other options were discussed such as allowing the neighbor to leave the building and they could fix it up. K. Kleen made a motion to notify the neighbor that they would allow 2 months to be able to get the building stabilized and moved onto her property, seconded by J. Gronstal. All approved , motion carried.

Westport Pit

The secondary roads have stopped mining gravel out of the Westport pit and think it could be 20 years if ever they will return to mine gravel out of the site. Sorenson had been communicating with the IDNR Fisheries Biologist to attempt to improve the fisheries, In the Spring the Fisheries surveyed the area and netted some carp in the pond. With the water levels very low it was determined this was the best time to

start a fisheries program in the pit. The Westport have never been officially stocked from the Conservation Board or the Iowa DNR so it was randomly stocked by the public. Depending on water levels get high enough bluegills could possibly be stocked as early as fall, with Largemouth bass and catfish in the following Spring.

Iowa Great Lakes Sanitary sewer annexing request

Steve Anderson – Iowa Great Lakes Sanitarian requested to annex Kenue Park into the sewer system due to the plan for a new bathroom at Kenue Park to be able to hook up to the sanitary sewer. After discussion this item was table until next meeting to determine who needs to sign the annex agreement.

Operations and facility update.

K. Kleen moved to approve the expenses, seconded by S. Anderson. All approved, motion carried.

Adjournment Motion to adjourn at 8:00 pm by K. Kleen, seconded by S. Anderson. All approved, motion carried.