

Dickinson County Conservation Board Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2023

22785 Nature Center Rd, Okoboji, IA

Chair: Joan Gronstal

Vice Chair: Steve Anderson

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

BOS Liaison: Steve Clark

Employees: Lee Sorenson, Amy Heibult

Visitors: none

1. Call to order. Called to order by J. Gronstal at 7:00 pm.
2. Agenda Approval: E. Stoll motioned to approve agenda, seconded by S. Anderson. All approved motion carried.
3. Public Comments: no comments stated.
4. Consent agenda/items: S. Anderson motioned to consent agenda/items, seconded by K. Kleen. All approved, motion carried.

Agenda/Items:

- a. Approval of past month minutes
 - b. Recycle report
 - c. Environmental Education report
5. Dickinson County Conservation Board Area's:
- a. Nature Center Parking testing proposal:
 - S. Anderson motioned to approve parking lot gravel base/foundation testing as long as DCCB receives the results from the testing, seconded by K. Kleen. All approved, motioned carried.
 - b. Sherwood Forest Park Update:
 - Executive Director, Lee Sorenson gave an update of Sherwood – dirt work for the bike park has progressed. Contractors are having issues with public walking through property. The DCCB asks that the public would stay off the property for their safety and the safety of the contractors.
 - c. Warming House Upgrades:
 - Discussion of updating siding, bathrooms, and some other features of the warming house at the Horseshoe Bend tubing hill.
 - d. Westport Management agreement:
 - S. Anderson motioned to approve Westport property to be managed by the DCCB with the understanding that DC Secondary Roads will keep some equipment and project resources on the property, seconded by E. Stoll. All approved, motion carried.
 - e. Fish Habitat Grant Westport Park:
 - DCCB is in the process of applying for a Fish Habitat Grant for Westport Park to fund a riprap along the shoreline. The riprap will provide a riparian buffer for plant establishment,

decrease erosion, and create habitat to assist fish population growth. The riprap would include 8"-12" stone.

- K. Kleen motions to approve the Fish Habitat Grant, seconded by S. Anderson. All approved, motion carried.

6. Operation and Facility

- a. Conservation easement holder for INHF (Wallace & Bowers): INHF holds an easement near Trickle Slough. The easement includes cropland and utilizes conservative practices to improve water quality – an example of agriculture combined with conservation. The INHF wishes the DCCB to hold the easement.
- b. K. Kleen motioned for the DCCB to hold the Wallace & Bowers conservation easement for the INHF, seconded by E. Stoll. All approved, motion carried.

7. Approval of Expenses

- a. K. Kleen motioned to approve paying expenses, seconded by S. Anderson. All approved, motion carried.

8. General Discussion:

- a. Water shut off for restrooms/properties
- b. More thistle spraying has taken place this fall than last
- c. DC Roadside (IRVM) staff are completing tree inventories to treat with basal bark herbicide
- d. The DCCB is accepting the REAP grant towards the Hamdorf Property. Extra funding will need to be raised in the upcoming 2 years.

9. Adjournment: K. Kleen motioned to adjourn at 7:54 p.m., seconded by S Anderson. All approved, motion carried.