

**Dickinson County Conservation Board**  
**Dickinson County Nature Center, Okoboji**

**5 p.m. May 8, 2019**

**Chair: Eric Stoll**

**Vice chair: Steve Anderson**

**Board members: Joan Gronstal and Willia Mueske via phone**

**Employees: Lee Sorenson, Kiley Roth**

**Others: Steve Clark, Dickinson County Board of Supervisors**

**Call to order at 5:09 p.m.**

**Agenda approval:** Gronstal motion, Anderson second. Approved.

**Consent agenda items:** Anderson motion, Mueske second. Approved.

**-Approval of past month's minutes**

**-Recycle center report**

**-Environmental education report**

**Dickinson County Conservation Board areas**

**-Iowa Healthy Hometown request:** Rebecca Peters and Brandon Rohrig came to the April meeting to request no tobacco policies on county parks and areas. Sorenson said he does not have a problem with the policy on any county conservation areas except for Brooks Golf, which he did not think should have a no tobacco use policy. He added there wouldn't be enforcement; it would be self-enforced. Stoll said it seems like morality governance, and Anderson said he has issue with passing something and no enforcing it. Sorenson said there has not been any issues with smoking or tobacco use on any county properties. Stoll said he thinks it should be all properties or no and not make exceptions.

No action was taken.

**-Brooks Golf Course public meeting/surveys:** Sorenson met with a facilitator who recommended having one public meeting, and Sorenson suggested a 6 p.m. June 19 meeting at the Dickinson County Nature Center. A public notice would be published.

Sorenson will also start putting together a public survey and asked if there were any questions that the board members would like to include. The facilitator will be invited to come to a board meeting to help create questions as well.

**-Strategic planning meeting:** The same facilitator is also willing to come to a board meeting to talk about strategic planning for the conservation board, at no charge.

**Operations and facility update**

**-New position job descriptions:** Two new positions will be added as of July 1, a natural resources tech and an IRVM tech. Sorenson asked to change Brian Cuperus from maintenance technician to natural resources manager, and he would oversee the new full-time natural resources tech. Aric Ping would stay as IRVM manager and would oversee the full-time IRVM tech. Cuperus would then oversee all parks, and Ping would oversee roadsides.

Anderson motion to approve the presented flow chart with management changes, Gronstal second. Approved.

**-Lodge update:** The Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County received a \$1.1 million donation for the Kenue Park lodge and shelter. Some minor changes have been made to the layout, and Kozy Heat has also agreed to donate a 7-foot gas fireplace for the shelter and indoor lodge. Construction should begin in the fall.

**Approval of expenses:** Anderson motion, Gronstal second. Approved.

### **General discussion**

-Sorenson will be out of the office June 5-14.

-Jordan brought in a book that has a photo of Val Brooks' home in the 1930s, when it was turned into a golf course.

-Mueske asked if there was an update about the Brooks Golf vehicles. Sorenson has not had any update regarding getting the vehicles back. Anderson said if the county attorneys will not move forward then other assistance should be attained. Sorenson has looked for outside counsel for a possible future RFP for Brooks Golf.

-Anderson said he will be attending a Dickinson County Board of Supervisors meeting to discuss the sewer project along Nature Center Road.

-Six apple trees were planted in Kenue Park for the Healthy Hometowns initiative.

**Adjournment:** Mueske motion, Gronstal second. Approved. Adjourn at 6:14 p.m.