

Dickinson County Conservation Board

Dickinson County Nature Center, 22785 Nature Center Road, Okoboji

5 p.m. Dec. 11, 2019

Vice chair: Steve Anderson (presiding)

Board members: Kathy Kleen, Joan Gronstal, Willia Mueske

Employees: Lee Sorenson, Kiley Roth

Board liaison: Pam Jordan and Steve Clark, via phone

Call to order at 5 p.m.

Agenda approval: Gronstal motion, Mueske second. Approved.

Public comment (limited to five minutes): No public present

Consent agenda: Kleen motion to approve, Gronstal second. Approved.

- A. Approval of past month's minutes**
- B. Recycle report**
- C. Environmental education report**
- D. Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County minutes:** Meeting was postponed

Dickinson County Conservation Board areas

- A. 253rd roadside:** The survey letters regarding the roadside were submitted to the Dickinson County Board of Supervisors. The supervisors voted in favor of replanting the area and continuing to mow it with a vote of 4-1.

Sorenson said the IRVM manager Aric Ping will be sending out notices to adjacent landowners when replanting roadsides, not asking permission but to inform. Anderson also suggested sending out a letter to landowners who can request having native plantings in their roadside.

- B. Brooks management agreement:** The management agreement has been looked over by the county attorney. Brooks Management LLC is not available until Monday, Dec. 16, to look over the management agreement.

Mueske asked if the board could go inspect the financials, although they couldn't be taken off site. Sorenson said the annual financial report will be sent to Dickinson County Conservation to look over. Kleen said it would be prudent to drop in every once in a while, and Sorenson said it is and he does to make sure that the property is being cared for.

Sorenson said a special meeting may be called at the end of the year to get the management agreement signed.

The land that was accidentally sold to the CFDC and given to DCCB but was not owned by Brooks National to sell will be quick-claim deeded back to the actual owner.

- C. Horseshoe Bend camping closure:** It was previously discussed to shut down the Horseshoe Bend campground but it was not made official. Sorenson would like to make it official so the sites can be reset in the off-season. About \$250 is made in camping fees each year, but that does not cover the work that goes into maintenance of the area, including blood and feces on the bathroom walls this year.

Mueske motion to close public camping at Horseshoe Bend Wildlife Area, Gronstal second. Approved.

Operations and facility update

- A. Brooks sewer line (freezing):** Brooks' sewer line from the shop to the road froze about four times last winter. Anderson said since the sanitary district is doing sewer work in the area that perhaps this is the time to fix it.

Sorenson plans to have it looked at with a pipe camera to see if an issue can be diagnosed.

- B. Pollinator gift from CFDC:** No action has been taken yet, because the CFDC meeting was postponed.

Approval of expenses: Split the RCC ILEC claim on the overall sheet that was lumped under DCCB. Mueske motion to approve, Kleen second. Approved.

General discussion

-The lodge construction is going well. Sorenson showed updated photos.

-Pam Jordan said Dickinson County was well-represented at the REAP conference, and Ping was elected to the state REAP congress. The overall turnout was small, and there were no state legislators in attendance. Jordan asked if IWILL was fully funded if REAP is automatically full funded, and it would be absorbed into IWILL and not set as a standalone.

-Sorenson would like to look for seasonal help for the front desk starting in early April as Roth goes on maternity leave.

-The Horseshoe Bend tubing hill will hopefully be open this weekend.

-The sanitary district is moving forward with bids for the sewer project going through Kenue Park and Brooks Golf.

Adjournment: Kleen motion, Gronstal second. Approved. Adjourn at 5:51 p.m.