

Scott County Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Steering Committee Minutes

When: Wednesday, June 26, 2017, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Where: Scott County Secondary Roads Department, 950 Blackhawk Trail, Eldridge, IA 52748

Present: Heidi Woeber, Joyce Singh, Amy Kay, Diane Holst, Curtis Lundy, Robb Ewoldt, Brian Ritter, Jon Burgstrom, Roger Kean, Brian Burkholder

Absent: Ralph Johanson, Robb Ewoldt, Heidi Woeber **Guest:** Bob Bryant, Mark Ridolfi

Call to order and welcome

Diane Holst called the meeting to order at 1:00. Roll call was taken and introductions were made.

Approval of previous minutes, setting of the agenda

Meeting minutes from April 19, 2017 were discussed. Joyce Singh suggested two corrections to the donations portion- Tony Singh should be listed as Joyce and Tony Singh and Catherine Weideman was not spelled properly. Brian Ritter made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Curtis Lundy seconded. The motion carried.

Introduction of Brian Burkholder, New IRVM Specialist

Jon Burgstrom introduced Brian Burkholder. Brian explained that he began on June 5, 2017 and has been focusing on spraying noxious weeds along roadsides, has hydro-seeded a few areas and, on rainy days, has spent time with Leland Searles on roadside inventory. He will soon start using Leland Searles' GIS data from last year's inventory.

Update on 2017 Donations and Grants and possible future grants.

Jon Burgstrom discussed 2017 IRVM donors. They include Catherine Weideman, Curtis Lundy, Joyce and Tony Singh, Susan Tate, Ann Werner and Cal Werner. There was a discussion about future needs and generating ideas for grants and other funds to support IRVM.

Gravel Road Inventory

Leland Searles has begun plant inventories on gravel roads in Northwest Scott County. Curtis Lundy discussed helping Mr. Searles by offering to drive for him. Jon Burgstrom suggested interested people could contact Mr. Searles directly if they wanted to help him with inventory.

Board Vacancy- Kyle Bennet

Kyle Bennet left his position Scott County SWCD. There were discussions about replacing him. Jon Burgstrom stressed keeping gender equity on the committee and keeping a balance between government and non-government representatives. It was suggested that the group compile a list of potential replacements and re-visit the matter at the next meeting.

Discussion of future meeting dates

Curtis Lundy suggested that Brian Burkholder and Leland Searles give a presentation to both the Scott County Board of Supervisors, perhaps at the September 19, 2017, 8AM meeting if able and give a presentation to the general public. The next IRVM Steering Committee meeting was set for October 4, 2017 at 10:30AM at the Scott County Engineer's office, 950 East Blackhawk Trail, Eldridge, IA 52748.

Open Discussion

Old business- Amy Kay circulated a draft IRVM flyer. The group discussed soliciting donations for the IRVM and how to word that properly. Diane Holst suggested that a statement like "check with your tax preparer for tax exemption" should be on the flyer. New business-Jon Burgstrom discussed expanding the IRVM website that may include an interactive map that homeowners can use to look at data collected on vegetation along their roads. Brian Burkholder suggested that he'd like an option in which people can register complaints about noxious weeds. Roger Kean suggested looking at Linn and Johnson Counties' IRVM webpages for ideas. Jon Burgstrom said that the Scott County IT people will begin creating the IRVM webpage and that he will circulate a draft to the committee as one is created. Brian Ritter discussed having an invasive species class for the general public in 2018.

Next Meeting and Adjourn

The next IRVM Steering Committee meeting was set for October 4, 2017 at 10:30AM at the Scott County Engineer's office, 950 East Blackhawk Trail, Eldridge, IA 52748. Brian Ritter made a motion to adjourn. Curtis Lundy seconded. The motion passed.

Distribution: Committee

Recorder: B. Ritter

List of Donors

2015/2016

5/24/2016	Curtis Lundy
5/24/2016	Tony Singh
5/26/2016	Mohr Brothers
6/2/2016	Catherine Weidema
6/2/2016	Ann Werner
6/30/2016	Susan Tate
6/30/2016	Cal Werner

2016/2017

2/7/2017	Cal Werner
3/24/2017	Ann Werner
4/20/2017	Susan Tate

Total for 2017: \$5,500 (one gift pending)