

Scott County Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Steering Committee Minutes

When: Wednesday, October 4, 2017, 10:30-12:30 p.m.

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

Present: Heidi Woeber, Diane Holst, Curtis Lundy, Roger Kean, Brian Ritter, Jon Burgstrum, Brian Burkholder

Absent: Joyce Singh, Amy Kay, Robb Ewoldt, Ralph Johanson **Guest:** Bob Bryant, Mark Ridolfi, Leland Searles

Call to order and welcome

Diane Holst called the meeting to order at 10:30. Roll call was taken and introductions were made.

Approval of previous minutes, setting of the agenda, old business

Meeting minutes from June 26, 2017, were discussed. Heidi Woeber suggested one correction where she was listed as present and absent. The minutes and agenda were approved by consensus.

Roadside Inventory Presentation (Lee Searles and Brian Burkholder)

A total of 259 native species were identified in a 100% disturbed environment in Scott County. Presentation highlighted species composition, identification of native remnants, invasive species areas for herbicide application and the use of GIS mapping to track these areas. This mapping is the beginning of the interactive maps that will be on the IRVM website. Discussion was lively leading to further discussion of up-coming Board of Supervisors presentation. It was decided that the presentation should not exceed 30 minutes.

Public Meeting and Presentation Discussion

Consensus was reached that a Public Meeting should occur in November. Date to be decided very soon by Brian Burkholder. Topics that may come up at a public meeting include application of broadleaf herbicides and potential concerns of adjacent agricultural landowners. Education and outreach opportunities were discussed. Eg. explaining the value of certain species versus invasives like Pampas Grass, offering alternative species lists and benefits. Heidi Woeber mentioned providing information on USFWS Partners for Wildlife Program, Pheasants Forever, and NRCS conservation measures to interested landowners. Brian Ritter mentioned inviting seed vendors. The IRVM flyer was reviewed and the group agreed it looked good. The flyer mentions it is possible to donate to the roadside program. The presentation should also include a mention that donations are welcome.

Discussion of Donations and Grants

Jon Burgstrum said donations in the amount of \$10,500 were received in 2017. Committee members were encouraged to get the word out about IRVM, invite participation and financial support. Consensus was that it was okay to do so. Brian B. and Jon discussed the grant "wish-list" and the priority need for a hydro-seeder and spray truck. The supply of seed is fine for now. Research into pricing and style of preferred equipment will be done by Brian B. Roger Kean suggested applying for an RDA grant for hydro-seeder and to IRVM (in April) for a spray truck. It will be necessary to get approval from County Board of Supervisors to apply for these grants. The timing of these grant applications was discussed.

Discussion on committee vacancy and extension of one-year appointments

A replacement for Kyle Bennett was discussed. Diane indicated that Scott County SWCD still wants someone to participate. Brian Ritter made a suggestion for another vacancy and will contact the individual. Others with a one-year appointment were asked if they would continue. Curtis Lundy and Heidi Woeber agreed to stay on as committee members.

Open Discussion

There was a brief discussion on whether or not to have meetings in the evening – which may facilitate committee participation and guest attendance. No specific meeting schedule was discussed.

Next Meeting and Adjourn

It was suggested that the next meeting be December 13th at 10:00am at the Secondary Roads building.

Distribution: Committee

Recorder: H.Woeber

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)