

Scott County Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Steering Committee Minutes

When: Tuesday, July 13, 2021, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Where: West Lake – Lake View Shelter, 14910 110th Avenue, Davenport, Iowa 52804

Present: Brian Burkholder, Brittany Ackerland, Heidi Woeber, Joyce Singh, Brian Ritter, John Arter, Amy Kersten

Absent: Dennis Tarasi, John Maxwell, Curtis Lundy **Non-voting Members/Guests:** Roger Kean, Angela Kersten, Bob Bryant, Adriana MacBride

Call to order, welcome, and introductions

Brian B. called the meeting to order at 10:07. Roll call was taken.

Approval of previous minutes

Meeting minutes from January were discussed. Brittany motioned for approval of the minutes and Brian R. seconded.

Update on Sprayer Purchase (Burkholder)

Angela Kersten announced that Brian B. is now the official Weed Commissioner for Scott County and attendees congratulated him. Brian B. said it is common for the IRVM Vegetation Specialists and Weed Commissioner titles to overlap. Brian B. told the committee that the sprayer cost was reduced from \$15,000 to \$14,862. The injection system is being used and also GIS has been used so that Brian can see where he has been. Brian said it takes two people to operate – there are a lot of buttons. Multiple products can be mixed at nozzle and can be switched back and forth. A mapping update for spraying and planning was provided; projects are mapped/logged for every day they spray, what seed mix they use, the maintenance done, and whether or not it is a secondary road project. The information will be very helpful as time passes. Brian B. gave all who were interested a tour of the sprayer.

SAU Student Researcher Update (Tarasi)

Dennis was unable to call in. Please call him or email if you have questions.

2021 Bio Blitz event results (Ritter)

Brian R. B. provided information about the blitz. Over 700 species were identified at Illiniwek. The event went well with 340 plants and 300+ insects identified. Notable was the identification of the Long Beech Fern by Bob Bryant.

IRVM Website Update (Burkholder)

Brian B. gave an update on the IRVM website. A post on controlled burning was/is added. John Arter suggested adding a list of addresses (4-6 addresses) of completed sites to give public an opportunity to drive by the sites. It was suggested that the sites be showy, third year sites if possible. Heidi suggested putting them on a page with the title “Come see our progress” or something similar. It was also suggested that the media be contacted about the 5-year anniversary of IRVM in Scott County and that the list of addresses be included so an article in news directs people by the sites as well.

Open Discussion

Brian B. introduced Roger Kean who gave a presentation on the West Lake restoration project. Roger provided a history of the park and an update on the status and future completion of the lake restoration. Roger also provided information about the pollinator plantings within the park, including the roadside in front of the Scott County park offices.

Next Meeting and Adjourn

Brian B. will send out possible dates for the next meeting for approval. Dates for second week in November were discussed for the meeting at the Secondary Roads building. Move for adjournment by Brian R. and seconded by Brittany A.

Distribution: Committee

Recorder: H.Woeber