

Scott County Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Steering Committee Minutes

When: Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

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

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

Absent: Dennis Tarasi, John Maxwell

Non-voting/Guests: Bob Bryant, Darrell Inskeep, Adriana MacBride, Angela Kersten

Call to order, welcome, and introductions

Brian B. called the meeting to order at 10:07. Roll call was taken and introductions were made. Angela Kersten, Scott County Engineer-Secondary Roads, Darrell Inskeep, GIS Analyst, Scott County, and Adriana MacBride were introduced to the group. Darrell I. gave a brief tour of the GIS interactive inventory map for the Scott County IRVM program.

Approval of previous minutes

Meeting minutes from November 12, 2019, were discussed. Brian R. motioned for approval of the minutes and Curtis L. seconded.

Update on Sprayer Purchase (Burkholder)

Brian B. told the committee that the bidding closed last Wednesday for the sprayer. The bids will be reviewed and a selection is expected soon. The process included supervisory board approval and a bid process, which was expected to take approximately 4 months. The sprayer should be purchased well before next summer. Brian B. indicated his immediate needs were met for equipment. Future purchases on the radar may include a UTV Utility Task Vehicle and a harrow.

Steering Committee Appointment Letters

IRVM 3 year appointment letters went out to Joyce Singh, Brittany Ackerland, and Amy Kersten.

Discussion on IRVM Education and Outreach

Brian B. provided information about a public education event he is planning for February 27th at the Scott County Library, Eldridge, IA. The event will begin at 6:30pm. The Committee offered some suggestions for the event. Amy K. was suggested that someone provide a testimonial at the event. A current enrollee could come to the event and offer comments on their experience or a quote that could be included in the slide show. Heidi W. suggested that the notice for the event be sent out through the BI-CAN listserv. The event could also be mentioned at the February 18th BI-CAN networking event. Brian B. mentioned it will also be promoted in the North Scott Press and through Alma Gaul, too.

Progress of the Collector Program/SAU Student Researcher

Brian B. gave an update on a student that is willing to do a research project this coming spring/summer. The student will inventory 40-60 ten foot square sites thoroughly in areas where rare species were identified. Bob Bryant may be available to work with the student to help with identification. Dennis T. will provide additional information.

Open Discussion

Brian B. said that there are currently 27 enrolled roadsides in the Scott County IRVM program. Only one of those enrollees is helping to maintain the site. 2022 will be the first year that an enrolled site will be ready to burn. Not all sites are planted. Heidi W. suggested featuring landowners on the website. Brian B. mentioned that he has a layer on the map that shows enrolled roadsides in red.

Next Meeting and Adjourn

Brian B. will send out possible dates for the next meeting for approval. Dates in March, during the week of the 23rd, were discussed for the meeting at the Secondary Roads building. Move for adjournment by Amy K. and seconded by Brittany A.

Distribution: Committee

Recorder: H.Woeber