

Benton County IRVM Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 26, 2018 – 5:30 P.M.
Benton County Secondary Roads Department

Committee Members Present:

- Calvin Wolter – CH
- Randy Scheel
- Wayne Siela
- Joan Lindberg
- Mark Droessler
- Becky Van Wey – Sec.

Staff:

- Ben Bonar – Benton County IRVM Roadside Manager
- Garald Rivers – Summer Intern

Chairman Wolter called the meeting to order at 5:45.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Motion by Lindberg, seconded by Scheel to approve the minutes. Passed unanimously.

Bonar gave an update on spraying progress, and the new GPS system for spraying. There are still some issues to work through with the GPS mapping. For some reason, the flow meter is not recording when the sprayer is turned on or off. When that issue is resolved, it will be a very useful tool.

No Spray signs are planned to be ready for use by next year.

8 weed complaints have been addressed so far this year, mostly for Canada Thistle and Musk Thistle.

County Supervisors have asked Bonar to make recommendations on how to handle trees on private ground that are impacting the County ROW. Primary focus of brush and tree control is intersections and areas with poor line of sight.

The Summer Intern hand sprayed thistles, wild parsnip, sweet clover, and crown vetch that were found in the prairie plantings on I-380, Highroad, Cleft Phlox area, and Atkins. Trees also were removed.

New reconstructions are planned on the County Home road, Highroad, Benton City, the old Animal Shelter, and Garrison. Will spray, burn, then plant. Remnant seed will be collected throughout the season to plant in these areas. Finding a plot to raise seed was discussed – possibly county owned land, or at the Vinton High School.

There being no further business, Scheel made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Wolter and unanimously approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 25th, at 5:30 P.M.