



CLAYTON COUNTY CONSERVATION

Promote the health and general welfare of the people; to model and encourage preservation, conservation, education and recreation through responsible use and appreciation of our natural resources and cultural heritage.

December 10, 2024

BOARD MEETING

2pm Osborne Welcome Center

Board Chair Daryl Landsgard called the meeting to order at 2:00pm. Members present included Larry Stone, Gary Kregel, and Dave Asche. Director Jenna Pollock and Office Manager Molly Scherf were also present.

Kregel made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Stone. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Stone made a motion to approve the November 2024 minutes, seconded by Asche. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Kregel made a motion to pay the claims and Asche seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

The board reviewed the monthly report provided by the Auditor's Office.

New Business

1. Consider Approval of Bluebird House Eagle Scout Project and Placement:

Stanley Friedlein would like to provide 25 new bluebird houses and put up on the existing bluebird trail. They would fill in some missing spots as well as replace some of the broken houses.

Stone made a motion to approve this project, seconded by Kregel. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

2. Consider Fish Habitat Grant Resolution:

Pollock wrote a grant for the Turkey River habitat above the Elkader dam. There are multiple counties that have submitted projects so we may not be awarded this year.

Stone made a motion to submit the Fish Habitat resolution, seconded by Asche. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Roll Call: Landsgard, aye; Kregel, aye; Stone, aye; Asche, aye; Hegmann, absent

3. Consider Awarding Bids for Sale of Conservation Equipment:

a. Toro Snowblower – 2 bids were received. Matt Hatcher for \$1,001 and Alisha Sedlmayr for \$256. Stone made a motion to accept the bid of \$1,001 from Matt Hatcher, Kregel seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

b. New Holland Tractor with bucket and post-hole digger—3 bids were received. Tim Engelhardt for \$10,556, Alisha Sedlmayr for \$9,769, and Bob Scherf for \$7,000.

Kregel made a motion to accept the bid from Tim Engelhardt for \$10,556, seconded by Asche. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

c. 2002 3500 Passenger Van – No bids were received.

d. Three-point blade – 5 bids were received. Bob Scherf for \$200*, Jennifer Garms for \$158, Tim Engelhardt for \$107*, Alisha Sedlmayr for \$102*, and Matt Hatcher for

\$55. *only wanted if received the tractor bid. Kregel made a motion to accept the bid from Jennifer Garms for \$158, seconded by Asche. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Old Business

1. Update on Various Project Timelines and Funding:

Motor Mill Foundation is starting the “quiet phase” of the capital fundraising campaign for the pillar repair in the Mill basement. They are accepting donations now with a goal of \$211,000.

Pony Hollow Trail – Ryan Wicks of Fehr Graham and Scott Flagg of DOT have been in contact with Pollock about the project. Pollock met with the Elkader City Council to discuss the engineered plan of the on-road crossing at the end of the 1st phase of the trail extension. All council members and visitors objected. DOT has yet to approve the plans. Pollock will speak to Flagg more about this.

Phase 2 RFQ for engineering has been sent out.

County engineer has a contract of agreement for construction engineering of mile 1. He is still reviewing the document.

Osborne Campground is complete. Pollock hopes final State claim can be done soon and that payment will go through by June.

2. FY26 Budget Workshop:

Pollock went over the budget with the board.

Revenue is projected to be increased with the new campground, upcoming project grants, and donations to Motor Mill.

General expenses (tax dollars) will be increased mainly due to salaries and purchase of a new patrol truck. This would be about a \$63,150 increase from last fiscal year. With salary increases the supplemental expenses of FICA, IPERS, and health will increase by \$7,806. Reserve (non-tax dollars) will still have the Pony Hollow Trail project expenses. REAP will have the Motor Mill basement project expenses.

Upcoming Programs/Events available at www.claytoncountyconservation.org

Director’s Report/Updates/Communications

Welcome Center numbers included 56 individuals and 14 groups in November.

Env. Edu. Numbers for the past month included 47 presentations to 775 youth and 383 adults, 35.25 hours

Adjournment

Kregel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:15pm, seconded by Stone. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Next meeting scheduled: January 14, 2024

