



# 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.

**January 14, 2025**

## **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, Dave Asche, and Kris Lau. Director Jenna Pollock and Office Manager Molly Scherf were also present.

Lau did the Oath of Office as a new member of the board.

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

Stone made a motion to approve the December 2024 minutes, seconded by Kregel. 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. Election of Officers 2025:

Stone made a motion to keep officers as is, seconded by Kregel. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

2. Review Bylaws:

Bylaws were reviewed by the board prior to meeting via email. No changes were made.

3. Consider Approval of 2024 Annual Report:

The report is missing the Energy District portion due to the lack of a December meeting by that group. It will be added before final draft is posted.

4. Review Turkey River Recreational Corridor Annual Report:

The board reviewed the report that was emailed to them prior to the meeting. They had no comments.

5. Consider Approval for Scope of Services Agreement – Pony Hollow Trail Extension Phase 2 PE:

RFPs were sent out to various engineering firms. They were assessed via a scoring system by conservation and TRRC staff. Unfortunately, we can no longer request price estimates due to changes in the IA law. After speaking to the engineers Pollock feels it would be best to remain with Fehr Graham due to them engineering the 1<sup>st</sup> mile and knowledge of the area and landowners.

## Old Business

### 1. Update on Various Project Timelines and Funding:

#### a. Pony Hollow Trail Extension – Phase 1

- i. City of Elkader work-in-ROW permit for pedestrian crossing: City of Elkader was concerned with the proposed Hwy 13 crossing and wanted DOT to review. The DOT and engineer both revisited site and it was deemed suitable by DOT. The city council has passed a resolution opposing the Hwy 13 crossing due to safety concerns.

The majority landowner suggested a slight change to route having it go along his field edge and join a parking lot on Grape Rd, therefore no longer needing a Hwy 13 crossing. The DOT will allow both phases of the trail to be let together which should save on mobilization. This will mean an alignment change is needed. Kregel made a motion to approve the alignment change and authorize Pollock to negotiate an amendment with the engineer, seconded by Lau. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

- ii. CAT Grant reimbursement Submission deadline February 2025: Pollock was given permission by the grant committee to submit engineering invoices for this grant due to the delay on letting. The grant was originally submitted for construction costs.

#### b. Motor Mill Repairs

The engineering firm will have the Option A design plans to Pollock by Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>. Funds are being raised by the Motor Mill Foundation to cover this expense.

#### c. Osborne Campground – Project Closeout

- i. Pollock has submitted the quarterly reports and final requests. LAWCON grant needs to have the general description of property on one deed. Pollock spoke to the county recorder, assessor, attorney, and auditor about how to do this for the Osborne Park property. It sounds like a quick-claim deed will be the route to go to get one name on the property and them all onto one deed.
- ii. Destination Iowa – Playground required even though it was never put into the submitted budget. The playground was only listed in future plans. Pollock will have the maintenance staff create a small playset near the shower house to fulfil the requirement of the grant committee.

### 2. FY 26 Budget Workshop:

Kregel noticed the land rental revenue was not the correct amount. That will be corrected before sending it to the auditor. No other changes were made.

Kregel made a motion to approve the FY26 budget, seconded by Stone. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

**Upcoming Programs/Events** available at [www.claytoncountyconservation.org](http://www.claytoncountyconservation.org)

## Director's Report/Updates/Communications

Welcome Center numbers included 116 individuals and 10 groups in December.

Env. Edu. Numbers for the past month included 45 presentations to 648 youth and 147 adults, 31.5 hours

**Adjournment**

Stone made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Asche. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

**Next meeting scheduled:** February 11, 2025