



Turkey River Recreational Corridor Board Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.

Elkader City Hall/Opera House - Elkader, Iowa

Present: Rod Marlatt, Chris Wachal, Troy Schott, Deb Schmidt, Chris Schoen, Kelly Shaffer, Brian Balster (alt.), Jenna Van Meeteren (alt.), Heather Gamm (alt.)

Not Present: Steve Doepcke, Kayleen Schrader, Bruce Lehman, Kenny Slocum

Others Present: Mallory Hanson, Jennifer Cowsert, Dan Slagel

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chair, Rod Marlatt.

**Motion to approve the May 2025 agenda by Schott, second by Schoen. Approved.

**Motion to approve the April 2025 minutes by Van Meeteren, second by Schoen. Approved.

Hanson reviewed financials with attendees.

Project Updates: Hanson provided an update on funding applications for the Flowers in the Corridor Project: The Foundation for Cornerstone Communities (FCC) grant application was successful, with \$1,000 to be awarded at a May 14th award ceremony in Guttenberg. The Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation (UMGC) pre-application was submitted and the TRRC was invited to submit a full application, due in August.

Proposed Budget Draft for Review: Hanson provided a proposed budget for FY '26 to review. Approval will be made at the June meeting.

Upcoming Annual Meeting Tasks: Hanson reviewed items to address at the upcoming June meeting, including approval of the FY '26 Contract with the RC&D, approval of the FY '26 Budget, and Election of Officers.

Reports:

Director: The TRRC Director presented highlights from the April 2025 report.

Clermont: The City is considering expanding the tennis courts into multi-use courts to include pickle ball. The City is seeking applications for a Superintendent. The County will be doing a pavement project on Apple Road.

Elgin: The City is working on acquiring a firetruck. The Elgin sign at the intersection of Hwy 18 and Golden Road will be removed due to its location in DOT Right-of-Way.

Elkader: The City is working on crack sealing throughout town. Rhythm on the River will begin in May. The Farmers Market will be held at the City Park for the second year. The Clayton County Development Group is hosting a county-wide museum crawl during the month of June. Outdoor instruments will be installed in the yard of the Library and at Founders' Park. The City will be seeking applications for a new Main Street Director.

Motor Mill: The fundraising campaign for stabilization of the Mill continues and work on short-term stabilization of the support piers is in progress. Preparation of a new floor in the cooperage is also underway.

Supervisors: Clayton County: No report.

Fayette County: No report.

CCCB: The Osborne Campground opening was a success! CCCB will be assisting Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission with a bicycle repair and maintenance event on May 15th at Elkader City Park. Field trips are underway. CCCB assisted with the ISU Extension Progressive Farm Safety Day on May 6th. Multiple events are coming up for the spring and summer.

Conservation: FCCB: Parks are opening and FCCB is preparing for campers and visitors. Replacement of DOT signs directing travelers to Gilbertsons will be replaced, per DOT's request to FCCB. FCCB is seeking applications for a new Environmental Education Coordinator. An outdoor musical feature is being considered for Echo Valley State Park along the Jensen Trail. FCCB will be assisting Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission with a bicycle repair and maintenance event on May 22nd at Echo Valley State Park.

Other Business & Public Comments: The board will consider whether or not to meet in July at the next meeting. August's meeting may need to be changed.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at Elkader City Hall/Opera House.

Adjournment:

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm by Wachal, second by Schmidt. Approved.

Respectfully Submitted – Mallory Hanson