



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.

May 13, 2025
BOARD MEETING
2pm at Volga Pines

Secretary Larry Stone called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm. Members present Dave Asche and Kris Lau. Director Jenna Pollock and Office Manager Molly Scherf were also present.

Asche made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of New Business #3, seconded by Lau. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Lau made a motion to approve April 2025 minutes, seconded by Asche. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Asche made a motion to pay the claims except for Ray's Excavating due to contract obligations and Lau seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

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

New Business

1. Discuss Iowa Forest Resiliency Partnership Program – Clayton Co. Objectives:
A new fund has become available to conservation boards through the Forest Service. Kenny Slocum, Pollock, and Asche met to discuss possible projects for an application for Clayton and Allamakee County. Minimum ask for this funding is \$100,000 with a 20% county match required. Habitat Stamp grant can be used as a match as well as a memorial donation that was received. Slocum put together a list of possible projects totaling \$70,000 and the remaining \$30,000 Allamakee will use towards their projects to meet the \$100,000 minimum.
The board had no opposition to this so Asche will move ahead with the application.
2. Consider update to Shelter/Rental Policy regarding Event Insurance Requirements:
Based on discussion with the county insurance events need their own insurance. Alcohol and 20+ people will automatically be required event insurance. Pollock put a new line in the Shelter/Rental Policy form to show this requirement and is waiting to hear back from our insurance if the language is acceptable.
3. Consideration of a letter from CCCB to DNR on the Pattison permit modification request:
Pollock and Stone attending the Board of Supervisors meeting to discuss the Pattison water permit request. The BOS would like Pollock and the county attorney to draft a letter to the DNR with the concerns. Pollock presented a rough draft to the board, she will send final via email for approval.

Old Business

1. Review Bloody Run Easement document:
Pollock reported there was no word yet from the landowner.

2. Project updates:
 - a. Pony Hollow Trail: Pollock attending meeting with Ryan (Fehr Graham) and John Moyna. They discussed the newest cost estimate (about \$8 million) from the engineer based on the alignment of trail desired. This is a significant increase in cost and exceeds the funds available. The 5% slope grade requirements for trails has been the biggest issue because retaining walls are then needed.

 - b. Osborne Campground: \$150,000 yet to be reimbursed for the grant. Pollock will wait until the wi-fi is up and running before asking for the reimbursement. Ray's Excavating submitted a bill for work done to repair seeding, install erosion mats, and bring in more black dirt. This was part of the original contract and the engineer agrees this shouldn't be an extra cost to the county.

 - c. Motor Mill stabilization effort: The flowable material has been poured. The contractor will return to fill the remaining space with rock. Pollock reported that we were originally told the next stage for permanent repair would be around \$100,000-\$200,000 but when she asked for a cost estimate on engineering, which is typically 10% of a total project, they said \$64,000. This is causing some uncertainty in finding the funding or if a new engineer is needed.

Upcoming Programs/Events available at www.claytoncountyconservation.org

Director's Report/Updates/Communications

Welcome Center numbers included 205 individuals and 63 groups in April.

Env. Edu. Numbers for the past month included 41 presentations to 271 youth and 126 adults, 32.25 hours

Pollock met with HR today to discuss the possibility of a deputy director position using internal hiring so no new staff. This would include patrolling parks and taking some of the director's responsibilities. This would not be a guarantee of moving into the director position when that comes available.

Adjournment

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

The board took a short walk around the Volga Pines property after the meeting.

Next meeting scheduled: June 10, 2025

