



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.

October 14, 2025

BOARD MEETING

8:30 am at Osborne Welcome Center

Vice-president Gary Kregel called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Members present were Dave Asche, Kris Lau & Larry Stone. Director Jenna Van Meeteren and Office Manager Molly Scherf were also present.

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

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

Stone made a motion to pay the claims, 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 Wildlife Diversity Grant Resolution 2025-10:
No motion or resolution is needed at this time.

2. Consider Approval of Forest Resiliency Stewardship Grant Application:
Asche provided a brief list of areas that will be submitted in this grant to the board. Stone made a motion for final approval to submit the grant, seconded by Lau. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

3. Consider Award Patrol Truck Bid Package:
Three bids were received but they all did it slightly different.
Carl's Emergency Services – '24 Chevy Silverado already upfitted \$67,958, '26 Dodge Ram \$52,464 (upfit additional \$12,100), '26 Chevy Silverado \$52,464 (upfit additional \$13,024)
Brown's Sales and Leasing – '26 Chevy \$33,628 (no brush guard included), '26 Dodge Ram \$28,868 (no brush guard or power seating)
Torkelson Motors – '26 Dodge Ram \$30,077 (\$1,200 extra for brush guard, has manual seat), '26 Dodge Ram special services \$30,785 (with brush guard), '26 Dodge Ram \$31,995 (with power seat and carpet)

Lau made a motion to accept the bid from Torkelson's for the '26 Dodge Ram with special services for \$30,785, seconded by Asche. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
Van Meeteren will send out bids to companies to upfit with lights and sirens and present in a future meeting.

4. Discuss Buck Creek Forestry:
Asche visited the site and reviewed former forestry plan. This property was harvested in 2011/12 and some trees were planted and tubed. It appears this harvest wasn't done in the

best interest of the new growth and very few of those trees planted survived. Asche suggests doing a harvest sale of the maples vs. girdling, remove the ironwood and other undesirables, replant oak plus leave old desirable species for seed and leave a buffer of trees along the stream.

Stone made a motion to prepare for a sale if or when the market is high and send it out to bid at that point, Lau seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Old Business

1. Pony Hollow Trail – Grant Extensions:

Van Meeteren reported that grant committees are reaching out because deadlines are coming up. The CAT grant was originally for phase 1 of trail and Van Meeteren has asked for an extension and expressed change for both miles now being done and the adjusted budget. The Wellmark grant was from 2019 for \$100,000. An extension has been requested and changes in design/budget were shared with them as well.

Two stakeholder meetings were held this month. City of Elkader is ok with all plans and will remove trees from their property. DOT will want CCCB to bid out tree removal on other landowner properties. Main stakeholder had requested MSE walls previously and now realize they are a high budget item so asking to change design to gabion walls. Fehr Graham will not change the plan again. They will just send to DOT with the mention that engineering will happen in the field for slope adjustments.

2. UMGC Grant Award – Motor Mill Project:

\$20,000 was awarded to the Motor Mill Foundation to be used as a match for the HRDP grant for final stabilization of the basement pillars.

3. UMGC Grant Award – TRRC Pony Hollow Trail Light:

\$10,000 was awarded for a coneflower shaped light pole to be placed on the north end parking lot of the trail. TRRC will be handling all of this.

4. UMGC Grant Award – CCED Equipment:

Van Meeteren wasn't certain on the amount that was awarded but they did get a portion of their ask.

Upcoming Programs/Events available at www.claytoncountyconservation.org

Director's Report/Updates/Communications

Welcome Center numbers included 398 individuals and 61 groups in September.

Env. Edu. Numbers for the past month included 49 presentations to 385 youth and 236 adults, 39.5 hours.

Heritage Days overall was a good turnout. There will be four listening sessions planned and facilitated by Mallory Hanson, TRRC, for the future of an Osborne festival. Press release will go out this week inviting the public to attend those sessions.

Adjournment

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

Next meeting scheduled: November 11, 2025