



Turkey River Recreational Corridor Board Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.

Elgin City Hall/Elgin Public Library – Elgin, Iowa

Present: Rod Marlatt, Steve Doepcke, Kenny Slocum, Troy Schott, Chris Schoen, Kelly Shaffer, Brian Balster (alt.), Alex Popenhagen (alt.), Jenna Van Meeteren (alt.)

Not Present: Chris Wachal, Deb Schmidt, Kayleen Schrader

Others Present: Mallory Hanson, Sheryl Struthers, Neil Struthers, Dan Slagel

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

**Motion to approve the December 2025 agenda by Popenhagen, second by Schott. Approved.

**Motion to approve the November 2025 minutes by Schott, second by Schoen. Approved.

Hanson reviewed financials with attendees.

**Motion to approve the financials, as presented by Popenhagen, second by Schoen. Approved.

Annual Report Presentation Schedule: Hanson shared the upcoming report schedule and reported that she presented to the Clermont City Council on December 1st and to the Clayton County Board of Supervisors that morning, December 2nd.

Upcoming presentations:

- December 8th at 10:00am - Fayette County Board of Supervisors
- December 22nd at 6:30pm - Elkader City Council
- January 19th at 7:00pm - Elgin City Council

Large Infrastructure Grant Project: Hanson requested that the board finalize and approve the FY '26 Large Infrastructure Grant. Hanson reminded the board that at the September, 2025 meeting, the TRRC Board motioned to authorize Hanson to write a State Recreational Trails Grant for the trail along the Great River Road for the Fayette County Conservation Board or a Rural Heritage Revitalization Grant (or similar grant) for the Motor Mill Stabilization project for the Clayton County Conservation Board if either opportunity comes to fruition.

*Motion to formally identify the Iowa State Recreational Trail Grant, due July 1, 2026 as TRRC's FY '26 Large Infrastructure Grant to be written on Fayette County Conservation's behalf for the Clermont Trail Expansion project by Popenhagen, second by Schoen. Approved.

Project Updates: Hanson provided an update on funding applications for the Flowers in the Corridor Project: The Fayette County Community Foundation grant application is pending. Hanson also reported that she has developed a budget for the Pedal Paddle Racks project that is within the budgeted \$2,500.00.

Updated Vision Plan Review and Approval: Hanson presented an updated vision plan for review.

*Motion to approve the updated vision plan, as presented by Schott, second by Slocum. Approved.

Upcoming Grant & Report Deadlines: Hanson provided a list of current grants she is committed to writing and/or submitting reports for and also provided upcoming events that TRRC is supporting. The upcoming Canoeopia event, March 13-15, 2026, was added to the list.

Reports:

Director:	The TRRC Director presented highlights from the November 2025 report.
Clermont:	The City is focused on moving snow and has put up seasonal decorations/lights.
Elgin:	Wachal shared a report ahead of time via email: Rick Liebe is getting information and putting together an accurate quote for the 401 Mill St. sign/kiosk project.
Elkader:	No report.
Motor Mill:	The Holiday Bridge Lighting event was very well attended. Lights will be each evening through the new year.
Supervisors:	Clayton and Fayette County: Both Counties focused on moving snow and seasonal road maintenance and is currently working on annual budgeting.

CCCB: Conservation staff have had the opportunity to provide snow shoeing activities and programming to students.

Conservation:

FCCB: A winter festival event will be held January 10th between 10am and 2pm at Gilbertsons in lieu of an annual holiday walk.

Other Business & Public Comments: Hanson shared that she was recently appointed to serve on the Empower Rural Iowa Task Force.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be January 6, 2026 at 6:30pm Elgin Public Library/City Hall.

Adjournment:

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:03pm by Popenhagen, second by Slocum. Approved.

Respectfully Submitted – Mallory Hanson