

CLAYTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes

August 9, 2011

The regular meeting of the Clayton County Conservation Board began at the Osborne Visitors Center, Tuesday, August 9, 2011. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM by Chair Jim Langhus with Board Members Joe Ihm,, Liz Jaster and Deanna Krambeer present. Tim Engelhardt, Executive Director, and Harry Luster, Office Manager, were present.

AGENDA

Joe Ihm moved to accept the agenda as printed. Liz seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Liz Jaster moved to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2011 meeting. Joe Ihm seconded. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Claims were reviewed. Liz Jaster made the motion to approve payment of claims. Joe Ihm seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSULTANT FOR THE MOTOR MILL TRAIL

The selection committee of Rafe Koopman, Ron McCartney and Tim Engelhardt interviewed three consultants on Thursday, July 21. The three firms represented were MSA Professional Services, WHKS and Tekippe Engineering. The recommendation of the selection committee has been forwarded to the DOT contact person for confirmation, but that person has been on vacation and no DOT confirmation has yet been received. After discussion of the possibility that the DOT and the selection committee might not agree on the choice of firm, Liz Jaster made the motion to have Tim Engelhardt notify the Board members by phone of the DOT decision. Joe Ihm seconded. Motion carried. It was noted that approval for the Motor Mill project has been given in the past so Tim Engelhardt can proceed with any needed actions after hearing from the DOT.

UPDATES

Welcome Center staff met with LuAnn Reinders, IDED and completed the Welcome Center Review.

The Welcome Center served 1,285 visits through the month of July.

We have closed out our budget for FY 11. Waiting final budget confirmation for the Auditor's office.

Brian Gibbs has completed the Frog and Toad and Bald Eagle Nest Monitoring surveys.

Brian Gibbs was invited and appeared on Talk of Iowa and spoke as a panel member regarding environmental education in our schools in Iowa.

8th grade camp was completed the last week of July.

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Naturalists have conducted a variety of public programs and outreach programs. They included a night hike, OWLS, plus a total of 6 library and care center programs plus our staff worked with the Mississippi River Adventure Day at pool 9.

The Turkey River Water Trail Dedication was also a huge success and very well attended. Thank you to all board members who able to attend.

Engelhardt met with Brian Fankhauser with the INHF. We discussed many projects and spent a lot of time talking about the Eno property. We will try and meet with John Eno soon to discuss updates and additional information and options. Fankhauser will be great asset to Northeast Iowa.

The CCCB has received a \$300 donation from the Mar-Mac VFW post for improvements at Bloody Run Park.

The Next Hunter Safety Education Class is scheduled for August 8, 10, 12 and 13.

Our committee has interviewed three engineering firms for the Motor Mill Trail. We have made our selection and passed on recommendations to DOT. Waiting for DOT response before we can confirm with engineering firms.

The REAP grant for the bridge is nearing completion. Several small details to go, but should have submitted by end of week. Due August 15.

We are continuing trying to update CCCB website with new pictures and updated information.

Heavy rains occurred in southern Fayette and Clayton Counties on the evening of Wednesday July 27. The Volga River was filled to banks, but never came out of banks. Joy Springs park had the stream come out, but no damage. The forecast was more of the same for Thursday the 28th, but did not materialize. Staff was happy.

A public notice will be in the Clayton County Register the week of August 3 regarding the demolition of the Motor Mill White House. The public has 15 days to comment on the proposed action to FEMA and then a MOA will be developed by FEMA, SHPO and the CCCB. The project worksheet will be revised with updated cost estimates and then we can go to the next step.

Motor Mill Well problems have been solved.

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A lot of work has been done on the south and north sides of Motor Mill in the prairie area. The trails have been trimmed and maintained as well.

Mulford had a week off in July for vacation.

The Blacksmith Shop has been painted and looks very nice. The work done on that building was a good investment.

Work crew has been busy with trimming brush in out parks, painting projects, checking Pony Hollow Trail, mulching areas, and generally making the parks look nice.

Sold a load of junk steel in Luana.

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ADJOURNMENT

Liz Jaster made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 PM. Joe Ihm seconded.

Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,
Deanna Krambeer, Secretary