

CLAYTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes

October 11 2016

The regular meeting of the Clayton County Conservation Board was held at the Osborne Conservation Center on Tuesday, October 11. Vice-chairman Gary Kregel called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Other board members present were Daryl Landsgard, Marilyn Lenth, and Larry Stone. Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and office manager Harry Luster also attended.

AGENDA

Pollock noted the change in starting time to 8:30 a.m., which was publicized as required, and that Jeff Garland had called to say he would not be able to attend because of the change in time. Lenth moved to approve the amended agenda. Landsgard seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Stone moved to approve the minutes of the Sept. 13 meeting as printed. Lenth seconded. Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Pollock she received a call from Jeff Garland that he could not attend the meeting as planned because of the time change.

Pollock also has had further discussions with Brian Fankhauser of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation about the status of the Eno property and the status of Pleasant Ridge.

CLAIMS

Luster reviewed the September claims. Stone moved to approve the claims as presented. Lenth seconded. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Luster reviewed the expenditures and revenue for September 2016. Lenth moved to accept the report. Stone seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

CLAYTON CUNTY ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The board discussed the Clayton County Active Transportation Plan, which was prepared by Pollock and Clayton County Development Group director Darla Kelchen. Pollock noted that one purpose of the plan is to give each community or entity an outline of how they have an equal opportunity to be included in trail planning and grants.

Pollock noted that the Board of Supervisors had suggested more emphasis on ATVs or UTVs. But she responded that the plan is more focused on the wellness and health benefits of physical activity.

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She also pointed out that the plan is a “living document” that is expected to change with changing circumstances.

Stone moved to approve the plan. Lenth seconded. Carried.

TIMBER POLICY

The board continued discussion of the timber management policy. Stone suggested the addition of this language as the first Conservation Goal: Demonstrate the environmental and economic benefits to private landowners of sustainably managed woodlands.

Pollock read a letter from Jeff Garland voicing concern that timber from the land he sold to the county (Pleasant Ridge) might be managed for commercial gain rather than to preserve or enhance the woodland community. He requested an exemption for Pleasant Ridge from the board’s timber policy.

Landsgard moved to approve the timber management policy, with the inclusion of Stone’s suggested language. Lenth seconded. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

JEFF GARLAND

Garland was unable to attend, but Pollock read the letter from him.

2017 CROP CONTRACTS REVIEW

The board reviewed proposed contracts for 59.2 acres of row crop land and 30.62 acres of hay land on the Becker property. The board agreed to require 100% of the cash rent to be paid by March 1, and to terminate the lease if rent is not paid on time.

Pollock will advertise for bids on the land, with bids due by November 7, so the board can consider bids at the regular meeting on November 8.

CAMERA SYSTEM PROPOSAL

Pollock submitted quotes from Security Products of Dubuque for three different security camera systems for the Osborne Visitor Center. The costs ranged from \$4,244 to \$8,034.

The board agreed to review the proposals and consider a new security system when planning the FY 2018 budget.

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CLOSED SESSION

Stone moved to close the meeting at 9:40 a.m. to discuss staffing issues.
Stone, Kregel, Lenth, and Landsgard each voted aye. Carried.

Stone moved to end the closed session at 10:10 a.m.
Stone, Kregel, Lenth, and Landsgard each voted aye. Carried.

Upcoming Programs

10/20- Mystery Mingle, Munch, Mob

10/28 –Scary stories being told in the dark (Osborne)

11/10- Mystery Mingle, Munch, Mob – Armistice Day Blizzard program at Osborne

12/1- Holiday Walk

12/19 – Winter survival skills workshop (Osborne)

Updates

Slocum developed 6 new programs, met with area educators, published newsletter and assisted other staff

Harkrader prepared for Heritage Days, assisted Motor Mill Foundation, and submitted grant for Riverfest

29 Environmental Education Programs were presented to 238 youth and 155 adults in September

Burlage mowed/maintained parks, assisted w/ park closings/openings, trash, recycling, & Osborne janitorial

Luster, Kraus, and Schoulte welcomed 451 visitors in September

Luster prepared the claims, responded to email inquiries, answered questions by phone, opened/closed Osborne and worked on County Parks Timeline

Kraus cleaned Iowa Room, continued inventory, stocking and restocking, placing orders, collaborating with local businesses

Schoulte and Kraus assisted with Website updates, volunteer tracking, Facebook updates for park closings and other flood related announcements

Anderson & Mulford provided additional flood maintenance and prevention, mowed when able, animal chores

ADJOURNMENT

Landsgard moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:11 a.m. Lenth seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary
Clayton County Conservation Board