

CLAYTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD  
MINUTES  
December 13, 2016

***DRAFT***

The regular meeting of the Clayton County Conservation Board was held at the Osborne Conservation Center on Tuesday, December 8. Vice-chairman Gary Kregel called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Other board members present were Daryl Landsgard and Larry Stone. Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and office manager Harry Luster also attended. County Engineer Rafe Koopman was a guest.

**AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted as printed.

**MINUTES**

Landsgard moved to approve the minutes of the November 8 meeting as printed. Stone seconded. Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Pollock has received information about the Iowa Association of County Conservation Board Employees annual Winterfest, which will be Jan. 24-26 at the Sullivan Brothers Convention Center in Waterloo. Board members also are welcome to attend.

**CLAIMS**

Luster reviewed the November claims. Stone moved to approve the claims as presented. Landsgard seconded. Carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

**GUTTENBERG-ISLAND TRAIL UPDATE**

Rafe Koopman said he hoped to include a road shoulder trail from Guttenberg to Essman Island in a road asphalt overlay project on the Great River Road from Guttenberg to near Clayton, but a trail grant application was unsuccessful. He will meet with Guttenberg Mayor Russ Loven to see if there might be other funding options.

An earlier state trails grant will help pay for resurfacing the existing bike lane along the Great River Road north of the Buck Creek bridge, however. The work will be done in 2017.

#### FLOOD REPAIR BIDS

The board received several bids for repairs related to the floods of August-September 2016.

The board concurred that same contractor should do proposed bank stabilization on Roberts Creek, the Turkey River, and the Pony Hollow Trail. Stone moved to award the work to J. C. Moyna and Sons with a bid of \$24,650 for Roberts Creek and \$14,660 for the Turkey River and Pony Hollow Trail. Landsgard seconded. Carried.

Stone moved to award the contract for regrading and resurfacing the Pony Hollow Trail to Keppler Custom Hire for \$14,350. Landsgard seconded. Carried. The work must be done after bank stabilization is completed.

#### CROP SHARES

Landsgard moved to request that the Farm Service Agency allocate appropriate payments for land operated to renters who farm Conservation Board land. Stone seconded. Carried.

#### MAINTENANCE SHOP

The secondary roads department has completed most of the site preparation for the new shop.

Pollock consulted with Koopman and with County Attorney Alan Heavens, and she signed the design contract with Martin-Gardner Architecture, as was authorized at the November 8 meeting.

#### GRAU SAVANNA

Stone continued discussions with Ruth Grau about suggestions to better interpret the Grau Savanna at Motor Mill. Mrs. Grau will be meeting with other family members in the next few weeks. The staff also will discuss proposals.

Kregel suggested an agenda item at an upcoming meeting to update board members on the Grau Savanna project history.

#### BECKER EAST TIMBER SALVAGE

The bid opening for the Becker East salvage timber sale will be at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 21. Landsgard moved to authorize Pollock to open the bids and to select or reject a bid or bids as appropriate. Stone seconded. Carried. Pollock asked that board members attend if possible.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **BUDGET FY18**

The Board of Supervisors has requested no increases in the budget for FY18, other than adjustments for insurance. Pollock suggested that the board keep the budget item of \$50,000 for the shop and \$15,000 for visitor center maintenance. She said water leaks around office windows would need to be repaired.

### **STAFFING 2017**

Part-time office worker Joyce Schoulte has announced her retirement as of December 31.

Pollock hopes to hire a new maintenance technician, to replace a tech who has resigned.

## **Upcoming Programs**

12/19 – Winter survival skills workshop (Osborne)

Snow pending – Snowshoeing with Guttenberg HS

## **Updates**

Mulford & Anderson closed parks for winter, winterized animal exhibit, worked with Sec. Roads on Shop

Slocum & Harkrader presented 50 programs to 1005 participants, collaborated on NC Interp. Plan

Luster, Schoulte & Kraus welcomed 92 visitors and provided guest services in person and over the phone

All staff assisted with janitorial needs and winter preparations

Anderson conducted hunting patrols, and assisted with Motor Mill damages investigation

Pollock attended (3) Byways Mtgs, (7) City Council Mtgs- Maquoketa River Watershed Authority & Trail Plan

Conservation was awarded 18 recycling bins from Keep America

Beautiful/Cocoa Cola Foundation Bin Grant

Keep Iowa Beautiful/Paint IA Beautiful Grant awarded in 2016 is now in place at the Welcome Center

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Landsgard moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Stone seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary  
Clayton County Conservation Board