

CLAYTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes

May 10, 2016

The regular meeting of the Clayton County Conservation Board was held Tuesday, May 10, at the Osborne Visitor Center. Chair Elizabeth Jaster called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Other board members present were Gary Kregel, Marilyn Lenth, Daryl Landsgard, and Larry Stone. Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and office manager Harry Luster also attended. Tom Hazelton, director of the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards, and Bob Rodenberg, of Bruening Rock Products, were guests

AGENDA

Stone moved to approve the agenda as presented. Lenth seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Stone moved to approve the minutes of the April 12 meeting as distributed. Landsgard seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ROCK BIDS –

Pollock said the Iowa DNR has requested that the Conservation Board help pay for rock rip-rap at Turkey River Park when the DNR rebuilds the boat ramp there later this season. That may require about 1,000 tons of rock.

Rip-rap also is needed to stabilize the bank of Roberts Creek along Pony Hollow Trail. The estimate for that material also is about 1,000 tons.

The board received these two bids for the rock:

Bruening Rock Products - \$22,900 (\$8.95/ton, \$2.50/ton delivery)

Moyna Materials - \$21,400 (\$8/ton, \$2.70/ton delivery)

Pollock said the amounts of rip-rap needed are only estimates, and the actual costs would be pro-rated based on quantities.

Kregel moved to approve the bid from Moyna. Stone seconded. Carried

HAZELTON

Tom Hazelton, director of the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards, gave a PowerPoint program on the history of Iowa's County Conservation Board system, the economic benefits of conservation boards, and the responsibilities of the boards and their employees. He urged the board to continue efforts to tell the story of the importance of conservation boards to the county's economy and quality of life.

COMMUNICATIONS

Pollock has received a number of thank-yous from schools for programs the staff has presented.

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CLAIMS

Luster reviewed the claims through May 10. Kregel moved to approve the claims as presented. Lenth seconded. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Luster reviewed the financial report for the period ending April 30, 2016. Lenth moved that the board had reviewed and accepted the financial report. Kregel seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED

TURKEY RIVER PARK PICNIC SHELTER BIDS –

Pollock said bidders were permitted to submit bids for three phases of the shelter reconstruction: demolition and disposal, new concrete slab and sidewalk, and shelter construction.

The following bids were received:

Kepler Custom Hire – demolition - \$1,750.

Bluff Country – concrete and shelter - \$11,835.60

Niehaus – complete project - \$21,279

Swales/ProBuild – complete project - \$18,028

B&B – complete project - \$21,476.36

Koehn – complete project - \$17,400

ProBuild/Swales – complete project - \$17,725

Stone moved to award the project to Kepler and Bluff Country, contingent on bidders meeting licensing and insurance requirements. Kregel seconded. Carried.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING –

Pollock and Mulford have continued discussions with Allamakee-Clayton Electrical Coop and others about replacing parking lot lights at Osborne. Pollock hopes to have a detailed plan by the June 14 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTOR MILL TRAIL – PAVED SHOULDER CONCEPT

After ongoing discussions about the project, the Iowa DOT has offered to include six-foot bike lanes in a shoulder repair project on Highway 13 south of Elkader planned for 2018. The county's share of the estimated cost would be about \$70,000 per mile.

The board discussed several ideas – especially using a Highway 13 trail to connect with Grandview Avenue and then to Motor Mill. A possible link from Grandview across private property to the south unit at Motor Mill has been studied in the past.

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Although the DOT proposal apparently was for shoulder work only south of Highway 56 and not across the Highway 13 Turkey River bridge, the board wondered whether the work could continue across the bridge to link with the Pony Hollow Trail.

Kregel moved to inform IDOT that we are interested in using existing Motor Mill Trail grant money to do the six-foot bike lane on the highway 13 shoulders between highway 56 and Grandview, and to ask about the potential to continue north to link with the Pony Hollow Trail. Lenth seconded. Carried

UPDATES FROM COUNTY OFFICES

Pollock discussed the concept of electronic time cards to simplify reporting employee hours to the auditor's office. She will plan to implement that system starting July 1.

The Board of Supervisors has passed a County Code of Conduct for departments using federal grant funds. The board of supervisors also passed a procurement policy for county departments making purchases of more than \$25,000. Both policies were recommended by the firm that did a recent fiscal audit for Clayton County.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

5/14- Turkey Trot 5K (TRRC)

5/19 - Mystery Mingle, Munch, Mob

5/24 –Disc Golf Workshop@ Elkader City Park's Course 4:30, 6:00pm

6/4 - Kids Fishing Clinic- Backbone State Park

6/16- Mystery Mingle, Munch, Mob

6/25– Chewing the Scenery (Bloody Run)

UPDATES

Nature Conservancy Board approved the transfer of the Retz Property; State Preserves Board meets July 7

Anderson, Mulford and Burlage opened Conservation parks & areas, performing spring maintenance

Bob Larken, Light Source, met with Mulford and discussed outdoor lighting options

Harkrader developed an Antler Scoring Program - successful combination of math and science curriculum standards

Field trip season is underway; classroom naturalist program wrapping up; day camps advertised for 6th-8th graders

Slocum conducted several programs and dispensed over 400 trees between Earth Day and Arbor Day

39 Environmental Education Programs reached 986 youth in April

Luster, Schoulte and Kraus welcomed 230+ visitors to the Conservation Center; received training on credit card reader

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Pollock attended Mississippi River Parkway Commission Semi-Annual Conference, TRRC, MMF, CCDG, RBSB Mtgs
Pollock met with William Eno, and later with Brian Fankhauser of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, to discuss the future of the property donated to the county by the late John Eno.

CLOSED SESSION

Kregel moved to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. Lenth seconded. Carried unanimously. The closed session began at 8:13 p.m.

Stone moved to end the closed session at 8:34 p.m. Lenth seconded. Carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Kregel moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Lenth seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary