

CLAYTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes

November 8, 2016

The regular meeting of the Clayton County Conservation Board was held at the Osborne Conservation Center on Tuesday, November 8. Vice-chairman Gary Kregel called the meeting to order at 7 p.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. Mike Tucker of Martin Gardner Architecture was a guest.

AGENDA

Pollock asked to add an item to consider applying for an Iowa DNR fish habitat stamp grant. Stone moved to approve the agenda with that addition. Landsgard seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Stone moved to approve the minutes of the October 11 meeting as printed. Lenth seconded. Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Pollock she received an invitation for board members to attend an awards luncheon for the Clayton County Soil and Water Conservation District. The event will be at noon on December 7, at Freedom Bank in Elkader. Reservations are required by November 21.

CLAIMS

Luster reviewed the October claims. Lenth moved to approve the claims as presented. Landsgard seconded. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

OLD BUSINESS

MAINTENANCE SHOP DISCUSSION

Mike Tucker suggested using post and frame construction, rather than a typical wood building, to cut the costs of building a 40' by 60' shop. He estimated that might reduce the cost from \$135,000 to about \$112,000. Electrical, mechanical, plumbing, printing of blueprints, and a septic system would be extra.

Tucker proposed a lump sum fee of \$25,000 to prepare construction documents and site plan, and to provide bidding and construction services.

Landsgard moved to hire Martin Gardner to design the shop, subject to receiving and reviewing a formal contract. Lenth seconded. Carried.

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Pollock will meet with County Engineer Rafe Koopman to discuss possible site preparation yet this fall.

BECKER PROPERTY CROP BIDS

The board received two bids for renting 30.62 acres of hay ground at the Becker property. Stone moved to accept the high bid of \$130 per acre from Joseph Kann. Lenth seconded. Carried.

The board received six bids for renting 59.2 acres of row crop land at the Becker property. Landsgard moved to accept the high bid of \$228 per acre from Mike Hinzman/Hinzman Farms LLC. Lenth seconded. Carried.

FLOOD UPDATE

Pollock met recently with FEMA officials to examine damage from the August and September flooding. There was damage to the Pony Hollow Trail and to the trail rip-rap along Roberts Creek; the banks at Turkey River Park; and the Motor canoe access. Pollock estimated the total damage at about \$100,000. Once repairs are complete, she said the county should receive about 75% reimbursement from FEMA and about 10% from the state.

NEW BUSINESS

LP BIDS 2017

The board received two bids for 2,500 gallons of propane. Landsgard moved to approve the low bid of \$0.90 per gallon from Fauser Energy Resources. Lenth seconded. Carried.

TRRC IOWA OUTDOORS AD

Pollock said the Clayton and Fayette County Conservation board will partner with the Turkey River Recreational Corridor to buy an ad in the January/February issue of Iowa Outdoors. Our share would be \$294. Lenth moved to approve buying the ad. Landsgard seconded. Carried.

GRAU SAVANNA

Pollock, Stone, Chris Grau, Patrick Grau, Scott Grau, and Ruth Grau toured the Grau Savanna on October 28. The Grau family suggested removing a few more trees to open up the savanna, planting more prairie species, and adding interpretive signs.

Pollock said the staff and the Motor Mill Foundation will be working on those proposals.

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BECKER WEST HUNTING PROPOSAL

Gerry Ommen with Pheasants Forever has requested that the board allow PF to plant about two acres of sunflowers in a corner of a prairie area at the Becker West property to provide a place to hunt mourning doves. Stone concurred, but suggested the board require the use of non-toxic shot. Hearing no objection, Pollock said she'd work with PF on the project.

PAINT IOWA BEAUTIFUL GRANT

The board has received a grant to buy 8-9 gallons of paint for repainting several areas of the Welcome Center. Landsgard moved to accept a bid from Thomas Interior Decorating of Strawberry Point for \$2,976.13 for the labor to do the painting. Lenth seconded. Carried.

FISH HABITAT GRANT

Pollock has met with Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Iowa DNR about renovating the Osborne Pond for fishing. The project would include watershed work to reduce siltation, and dredging, renovation, and restocking of the pond. Landsgard moved to authorize the director to apply for an Iowa DNR fish habitat grant for the project. Our share would be 10%. Lenth seconded. Carried.

Upcoming Programs

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

12/1- Holiday Walk

12/19 – Winter survival skills workshop (Osborne)

Updates

Pollock and DNR forester Dave Asche will meet on Nov. 15 to mark trees for a salvage harvest at the Becker property

Slocum and Harkrader presented 27 programs to 447 participants (Not including Heritage Days)

Luster, Kraus, and Schoulte welcomed 1,881 visitors in October (Includes volunteer registry from HD)

Luster prepared the claims, responded to email inquiries, answered questions by phone

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

Schoulte and Kraus assisted with Website updates, volunteer tracking, Facebook updates, program advertising

Anderson & Mulford provided additional flood clean-up, animal chores, Heritage Days set-up and take-down

Anderson attended CCPOA

Slocum prepared and applied for REAP CEP grant funding November 1 cycle, and two additional Foundation's

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ADJOURNMENT

Landsgard moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Lenth seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary
Clayton County Conservation Board