

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Clayton County Conservation Board was held Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at the Osborne Welcome Center.

Chair, Daryl Landsgard, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Pam Vaske and Larry Stone. Staff present were Jenna Pollock and Molly Scherf.

AGENDA

Stone made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Vaske, unanimous approval. Passed.

MINUTES

Stone made a motion to approve the 2/08/2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Vaske, unanimous approval. Passed.

CLAIMS

Vaske made a motion to approve all claims, second by Stone, unanimous approval. Passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT & ENDOWMENT STATEMENT

The financial report was reviewed by the board.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Elkader Flood Plain Easement-Emergency Wetland Protection Management Discussion–
Pollock reported the initial seeding of the EWP/FWP acres in 2014 was about \$10,000 and was immediately flooded and had to be redone the following year. So around \$20,000 has been invested in these acres. The burn schedule for the prairie is difficult due to the location in town. Moyna has cleaned up a lot of the tree debris along the river but it was probably not the best time of year due to it being habitat for winter creatures. No development can happen on this property and no FEMA money can be used for repairs. The mowed firebreak can be used for pedestrians wanting to travel around the prairie. Communications to contractors will now be clear what can and cannot be done on this property.
2. Walnut Salvage on Becker Ponds Project Discussion –
Habitat funds have been secured to repair the Becker West pond. There are five decent sized walnuts that will need to be removed prior to repair work. The board reviewed the Beacon images of the area and determined it was best to allow tree removal bids of the entire 1.5-acre finger. After tree removal and pond repairs the area will be put into prairie.
3. Klinge Property Discussion –
The Klinge family approached the CCCB prior to Covid. Pollock and Landsgard initially walked the area. Then more recently Slocum met with the family and recommended they meet with a district forester to make a timber management plan. Pollock went to visit the site again with the

family members while trees were being harvested. The board feels this property doesn't fit our evaluation criteria nor do we have the resources to manage it at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Driftless Area Wetland Centre (DAWC) Update--

Pollock attended another meeting for the DAWC board. She asked them what's in it for us? The response was it would increase conservation's presence in Marquette or it could be changed into a welcome center. Pollock explained that the Bloody Run county park is the most popular park we have so our presence is already in the area park-wise. The Train Depot Museum is already being used as a welcome center for that area. Our staff already go to just as many MFL-Mar-Mac classrooms as any other school district in the county.

Pollock and the CCCB don't feel a 28E agreement with the city is a win for the CCCB at this time. Pollock will continue discussion and keep on good terms with the DAWC board and city council in case something in the future changes.

2. FY23 Budget –

Sounds like what we asked for will be approved. Auditor was concerned with grant areas showing a negative balance so she may increase revenue area to balance.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

Available at www.claytoncountyconservation.org

Director's Report/Updates/Communications

Welcome Center numbers included 32 individuals and 13 groups.

Environmental Education Programs totaled 69 presentations to 1425 youth and 390 adults

Director will disperse the annual director evaluation paperwork to be reviewed in April.

ADJOURNMENT

Vaske made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Stone, unanimous approval. Passed.

NEXT MEETING April 12, 2022, 6pm at Osborne