

**Clayton County Pioneer Cemetery Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes for May 14, 2022**

Present were Lee Lenth, Bruce Collins, Ellen Collins, Myra Voss and friend of the commission Frank Phippen. Meeting was held at Johnson's Restaurant in Elkader. Lee Embretson was unable to attend.

Minutes from April 9, 2022 meeting were read and approved in a unanimous motion by Myra Voss and seconded by Lee Lenth.

Motion to approve the agenda was by Lee Lenth and seconded by Myra Voss. Motion was approved unanimously.

Commission budget balance at the end of March 2022 was \$1600 however per Bruce Collins the signs recently ordered have not come out of this as of this report.

**Old Business:**

Bruce Collins updated members about the status of the 2 signs recently ordered . The Patterson entry sign has been received but is not yet installed. Lee Embretson has picked it up. The other Patterson sign for the stone marking an unknown immigrant woman's grave will be done soon.

McClelland Cemetery and Eastman Cemetery – Lee Embretson has called each contact person and left a message but has not heard back from them yet. He was going to let McClelland caretaker know that we would be out in the fall to install fencing around the perimeter of the cemetery. He also called Eastman caretaker to check on the status of the Eastman sign that was damaged-caretaker was to work on getting it straightened.

Redman Cemetery Frank Phippen has not been able to get stone reinstalled yet. Weather is better now so he will get it done. Bruce has volunteered to help Frank P.

Eno Cemetery History: Ellen C. has interviewed Bill Eno. He is concerned about the long term viability of the association since funds are limited and may run out. He has a friend currently that mows and pays any expenses for

him. The cemetery has had approx. 16 burials(per Iowa Gen Web) in the past 50 years so does not qualify as a Pioneer Cemetery.

Lists of Pioneer Cemeteries: Ellen stated that after her visit with Bill Eno she found per IaGenWeb information that Eno Cemetery is not a Pioneer Cemetery since there have been approximately 16 burials in the last 50 years, which per state regulations does not qualify it as a Pioneer Cemetery(state regulations stipulate that there need to be 12 or fewer burials in the last 50 years to designate a cemetery as Pioneer) Ellen is working on coming up with a list of Pioneer Cemeteries using the Iowa Gen Web for the status of the cemetery. Lee L. felt that we should still visit and care for those cemeteries that are not Pioneer cemeteries, but some commission members felt that the non pioneer cemeteries are being cared for by different groups/churches etc.

Voss Cemetery Records are being digitized. Myra Voss stated that Dave Beck of Elkader has begun the task of digitizing her records of Pioneer and other Clayton County Cemeteries. He has one file bin completed and will begin on the next.

### **New Business:**

Signs: Discussion on visiting various cemeteries to determine if signage is needed. Ellen suggested the following: 1) Baylis Cemetery in Mendon Township. This has, per IaGenWeb, 4 burials and 1 gravestone.2) Duff Cemetery in Highland Township,3) Ross Cemetery in Sperry Township, 4) Garretson in Sperry Township, 5)Hamlet Cemetery in Elk Township-Lee Lenth will take care of Hamlet. A sign is not needed at Hamlet, but sign does need painting. Cemetery signs to be painted are Fry, Hamlet, Stone school, and McClelland.

**Lee L. motioned and Ellen seconded that Bruce C. and Frank P. purchase primer, paint and needed supplies to paint cemetery signs and to purchase more if necessary. Motion passed unanimously.**

Lee L. has contacted Hamlet Cemetery family member who has history of cemetery. His name is Chuck Hamlet of Lamont, Iowa 563-608-4658. Ellen will contact him for h/o the cemetery. This cemetery is in Elk Township on Horseshoe Road-Amish country. Lee L. will cut up downed tree limb in cemetery yard and dispose of it.

Discussion about the Channel 9 video taping about the P.C.C. work. All felt that Lee E. and Myra V. did an exceptional job. News will be carried on channel 9 on Friday, June 10 at the 6:00PM newscast.

Myra Voss has been contacted by CCFF about Lee Ann Watson donation of \$1,000 to be used for pioneer cemeteries. Myra will contact Lee Ann Watson for more information.

Next meeting will be Saturday, June 11 at 9:00PM. This will be a work meeting traveling to the various above listed cemeteries to check on the status of cemetery and the need for a sign. Ellen will develop route and where to meet.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Lee L. and seconded by Myra V. was unanimously passed

Minutes by Ellen Collins