

Clayton County Pioneer Cemetery Commission
Meeting September 10, 2022

The regular monthly meeting was called to order shortly after 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Lee Embretson at the Clayton County Genealogy Center in Elkader.

Attending were all five commission members plus friend of the commission, David Beck.

Agenda Approval

The first order of business was approving the agenda for the meeting. A motion was made by Lee Lenth to approve the agenda, Myra Voss seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce Collins reported that no disbursement have yet been made from the \$2,000 allotted by the county for the fiscal year beginning July 01, 2022. Also the commission still has \$1,500 in an account at Freedom Bank, of which \$500 is dedicated for McClelland Cemetery and \$1,000 is unrestricted.

Minutes—Prior Month's Meeting

The minutes from last month's meeting of August 20th were sent to the commission members prior to this meeting. Since everyone had read them, Chairperson Embretson asked if there were any corrections. There being none, Myra Voss moved the minutes be approved as written, Lee Lenth seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Garretson Cemetery

A proof for a sign for Garretson Cemetery prepared by thINK Custom sign company was distributed to the commission members with minor edits to the basic wording discussed at the last meeting. The quote was \$175.00 for an 18”x24” 3mm aluminum panel mounted on a 4x4 8’ post outdoor treated lumber stained dark walnut.

Also discussed was fencing and fence posts to place around the sign to protect it from livestock (cattle) that may be in the surrounding field and cemetery area. Protecting the two recovered headstones from this cemetery by placing them, and how to place them, within the fenced area was part of this discussion.

After the discussion of the above, a motion was made by Myra Voss to approve ordering the sign and for Lee Embretson to purchase the fencing materials he considers appropriate for this purpose—protecting the sign and the gravestones that will be placed by the sign. Lee Lenth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

King Cemetery

Related to the headstones which Lee Embretson has in his possession pertaining to the King Cemetery, Ellen Collins reported that she secured a copy of the deed from the Auditor’s Office for the property on which the King Cemetery was located.

Ellen said she asked the Auditor’s Office if there is any protocol for replacing headstones on private land. That office did not know of any.

Ellen said she also asked the CC Attorney about this. He was unsure but will follow up with the Auditor's Office to see if there is any history and will advise the CC Supervisors.

The CC Attorney suggested contacting the person listed on the deed and Ellen said she attempted doing that a number of times but has had no response as of this meeting date.

The CC Attorney said he has also spoken to Lee Embretson on this matter.

Ellen noted she would continue to follow up and Lee Lenth suggested we should continue to keep this whole matter on the agenda for upcoming meetings.

Pioneer Signs—Painting Project

Lee Embretson said he spoke with Reid Koehn related to painting the metal signs that are at many of the Pioneer Cemeteries, some of which are very much in need of a new paint job. Painting these signs would first require that the metal be properly prepped (rust removed) before the painting could occur. Lee said R. Koehn said he would do some of this work free of charge once he has finished his business projects. There was a consensus that our commission would purchase the supplies necessary for this project to happen.

Eastman Cemetery

There is a report of large tree limb down in the Eastman Cemetery. Dave Beck said he would check on this and Lee Lenth said he would go too. The two of them will make arrangements to do this at a mutually agreeable time.

Myra's Records

Myra Voss said she is working on getting the records at her house in order so David Beck could continue his work of getting them on computer files.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Oct 08th at 9:00 a.m. with the place to be determined later.

At this point a motion was made by Myra Voss to adjourn, seconded by Lee Lenth and passed unanimously. The time 10:30 a.m.

Bruce Collins
Secretary-Treasurer