

Clayton County Pioneer Cemetery Commission
Meeting Minutes July 22, 2023

The scheduled meeting of the commission was called to order about 9:30 a.m. at the site of the Noggle Pioneer Cemetery at 38485 Skiplelevel Road near Colesburg by Chairperson Lee Embretson.

Attending the meeting were Chairperson Lee Embretson, Lee Lenth, Sue Meyer, Ellen Collins, Bruce Collins, friend of the commission Dave Beck and land owner Arlan Kickbush.

Prior to the official meeting, we, the commission members and Dave Beck, met Arlan Kickbush at the site of the Noggle Cemetery, which is on his property. Arlan welcomed us and showed us where the graves were located. The graves are maintained by Arlan with a small white picket fence surrounding the site.

Four children of Jacob and Sarah Noggle are buried here, Philip, Elizabeth, Freda and Ana with the time period being in the 1870's. On the headstone is written "Sweet little buds of earth so fair have gone to heaven to blossom there."

(Thank you Arlan for so nicely maintaining this site.)

When the official meeting started, a motion was made by Sue Meyer to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Bruce Collins and passed unanimously.

The minutes from the last meeting were summarized by Secretary Bruce Collins. A motion was made by Ellen Collins to approve the minutes, seconded by Sue Meyer and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was presented with the bank balance at Freedom Bank \$1,470.64 of which \$220.64 is restricted to the McClelland Cemetery and \$1,250.00 that can be used at the discretion of the commission.

As of July 01st with the beginning of a new fiscal year for the county, \$2,000.00 has again been budgeted to the commission by the county. For the fiscal year ending 6/30/23, \$525.63 was unspent and therefore no longer available for commission use.

Old Business

The Dohrer Cemetery sign installation was discussed. That took place on June 27th and was done by Bruce Collins with the help of Charles Jaster using a post and other fastening materials as discussed at previous meetings.

Bruce Collins noted that on the other side of the fence (the pasture side) from where the sign was installed, a gravestone foundation stone or cement casting was found, giving evidence that the sign was in the right location.

A bill was approved for \$62.75 for the materials and labor (Charles Jaster) for the sign installation.

Ellen Collins again discussed the Garretson Cemetery and she would talk to Kim Klocke about getting the additional gravestone found at this site.

Also there was discussion about how to place the gravestones when doing the installation at the Garretson Cemetery—using a cement form, fiberglass rods, and a specialty glue were among the products and procedures discussed.

The Schmidt Family Cemetery was discussed. Bruce Collins presented a draft for a sign to be placed at the site using information obtained by Dave Beck and an obituary for Adam Schmidt published in the *Elkader Weekly Register* in November 1887.

After some interesting discussion related to Adam Schmidt, his life and his time, the 1880's, and this cemetery, Dave Beck noted there is some information on a website about Adam's son that died when he was about 30 and is buried here; maybe some information about him could be added to the wording on the sign. Bruce Collins will follow up.

Discussed briefly was the Griffith/Graham Cemetery in Millville Township as well as the Railroad Employees Cemetery in Giard Township. Sue Meyer and Dave Beck will do some research related to the Railroad Employees Cemetery.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 12th and it will be a working meeting at the Eastman Cemetery in Mendon Township near McGregor.

A motion to adjourn at 10:30 a.m was made by Bruce Collins, seconded by Sue Meyer and passed unanimously.

Bruce Collins
Secretary
CCPCC