



CLAYTON COUNTY CONSERVATION

Promote the health and general welfare of the people; to model and encourage preservation, conservation, education and recreation through responsible use and appreciation of our natural resources and cultural heritage.

October 10, 2023

BOARD MEETING

6pm Osborne Conservation Center

Chairman, Daryl Landsgard called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Members present included Larry Stone, Pam Vaske and Natasha Hegmann. Director Jenna Pollock and office staff Molly Scherf were also present.

Agenda was approved with the addition of #3 in New Business to Consider Resolution for the Pony Hollow Trail Funding. The motion was made by Stone and seconded by Hegmann. Unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was made by Hegmann and seconded by Vaske. Unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the claims and monthly utilities was made by Vaske and seconded by Stone, Unanimous vote.

Financial Report & Endowment Statement was reviewed.

Old Business

1. Inn Project Financial Closeout:
Pollock reported total expenses of \$775,808.90. There will be one more payout to Steege's with some change orders possible in our favor. The county had agreed to paying \$200,000 of ARPA funds for this project but we will only expend \$67,601.83 and let the board of supervisors know the whole amount wasn't needed for this project.
2. Campground Project Budget:
Current project budget is estimated to be \$867,370 but that doesn't include firepits, picnic tables, trees, or playground items. Much of the funds have been secured with grants and private donations but we are still accepting donations for the additional items that will be needed. Peace Church in Elkader is asking members to donate a tree to the campground during their Centennial Celebration.
3. Discuss Native Wildlife Exhibit Fence:
The USDA inspector would like to see a double fence for the turkey pen now that they are also inspecting the avian animals. Pollock received a quote for a 4' height chain link to match the existing fence for \$10,864.87. This will be added to the FY25 budget discussion and until then we will install a temporary fence.
4. Discuss county property hunting conditions:
Resource manager, Kenny Slocum, proposed changes to hunting regulations in some of our parks at the last meeting. Pollock discussed this with former director, Tim Engelhardt, and is coming up with a template for future properties for why they should or should not be

hunted. Pollock will continue this discussion with DNR officer Jerry Farmer as well as with our Park Patrol Officer Zach Dingbaum.

New Business

1. Discuss Shower house Exterior Components:
Pollock had sent out an email with shower house exterior choices to the board and all staff prior to meeting. She only had a couple responses. The board is okay with her choosing whatever choice we feel works for the park.
2. Discuss Pony Hollow Trail Extension (FFY24 Award):
Federal funds are available this fiscal year to begin work on the Pony Hollow Trail extension. We need to show progress but are still short on funds. Pollock attended the Trails Summit last week and heard a lot of funds are available through grants but many need to show at least 65% secured funding. Pollock believes if we can show ARPA funds as secured funding we would get to the 65% needed. She will propose this to the board of supervisors and feels it helps that we didn't use all the funds on the Inn as requested.
3. Enhance Iowa Grant Resolution:
Hegmann made a motion to approve Pollock pursuing additional funds for the Pony Hollow Trail extension through the Enhance Iowa Grant, seconded by Vaske. Unanimous vote.
Roll Call: Landsgard, yes; Vaske, yes; Stone, yes; Hegmann, yes; Kregel, absent

Upcoming Programs/Events available at www.claytoncountyconservation.org

Heritage Days Oct. 14-15, 2023

Pony Hollow Trail 5k/15k race Oct 28, 2023

Motor Mill Bridge Lighting Nov. 18, 2023

Director's Report/Updates/Communications

Welcome Center Numbers for September Individuals: 635 Groups: 138

Education Program Numbers 53 programs, 212 adults, 311 youth for 42 program hours.

Hegmann motioned for adjournment, seconded by Stone. Unanimous vote.

Next meeting scheduled: November 14, 2023 Osborne 6pm (Begin Budget FY25 Planning)