

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Clayton County Conservation Board was held Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2021 at the Osborne Welcome Center and via Zoom.

Chair, Gary Kregel, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Members present on Zoom were Daryl Landsgard, Larry Stone, Pam Vaske and Marilyn Lenth. Staff present were Jenna Pollock and Molly Scherf.

AGENDA

Stone made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Old Business #3 Transmission Line Follow-up and New Business #6 Consider Motor Mill Turbine Conservator, second by Landsgard, unanimous approval. Passed.

MINUTES

Stone made a motion to approve the 12/8/2020 meeting minutes, second by Vaske, unanimous approval. Passed.

CLAIMS

Landsgard made a motion to approve all claims and allow Director Pollock, authority to sign claims, second by Vaske, unanimous approval. Passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT & ENDOWMENT STATEMENT

The financial report was reviewed by the board.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Motor Mill Trail Construction Update–

IA DOT wants the Doc Express closed out ASAP in the spring when work is completed. Documentation can take up to 4 months to complete and be closed out. Partial pay #5 is in claims for this month. Balance owed to C.J. Moyna is \$13,000 plus \$25,000 that is held until project completion.

2. Pony Hollow Trail Extension Update –

Pollock reported that she is working on scheduling a second meeting between John Moyna, Lyle TeKippe, and herself. TeKippe has shared ROW plans to district DOT reps. Area of concern in wetland area, no fill allowed. DOT won't allow boardwalk in ROW so Pollock will speak to DNR about it going in wetland, outside the ROW. Hoping to have more information after meeting with John Moyna later this month.

3. Transmission Line Follow Up Discussion –

Kregel stated he believed the line has been started on one of the ends, either Dubuque or Madison. Stone reported the Clayton County Historic Commission is opposed to the line going

through Clayton County, but sounds like the project is going on as planned and that easements to property owners have been approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider Awarding Easy Walking Path/Native Wildlife Exhibit Trail Bid–

Five bids were received for the project which includes a concrete sidewalk through the Native Wildlife Exhibit and a concrete sidewalk through the Pioneer Village.

Bid #1 Welcher Concrete: \$91,000 lump sum

Bid #2 Chris Funk Construction: Wildlife Area \$54,100, Pioneer Village \$28,250, Total \$82,350

Bid #3 Swales Construction: Wildlife Area \$54,828, Pioneer Village \$32,845, Total \$87,673

Bid #4 Bacon Concrete: Wildlife Area \$46,640, Pioneer Village \$24,645, Total \$71,285

Bid #5 Fekkether Construction: Wildlife Area \$37,300, Pioneer Village \$25,700, Total \$63,000

Landsgard made a motion to approve the bid from Fekkether Construction for \$63,000 as long as a credit and reference check on the company passes, seconded by Lenth, unanimous approval. Passed.

2. Consider Approval FY22 Budget–

Pollock reported that Shannon Plaht didn't make it into the January Basic for Certified Officer training but can get a spot in the May class. Academy fees will be billed in June so have decided to place it in the FY22 budget as well as mileage for traveling to/from Johnston for 16 weeks. This increases the FY22 budget \$15,000 from previous FY21 budget. It is important to note that we have also added an additional full-time position therefore not an unreasonable increase.

Lenth made a motion to approve the FY22 budget and take to the Board of Supervisors, seconded by Vaske, unanimous approval. Passed.

3. Review Bylaws –

The Board reviewed the bylaws and no changes were made by Pollock or the board.

4. Election of Officers 2021 –

Landsgard made a motion to approve Gary Kregel as President, seconded by Lenth, unanimous approval. Passed.

Lenth made a motion to approve Daryl Landsgard as Vice-president, seconded by Vaske, unanimous approval. Passed.

Lenth made a motion to approve Larry Stone as Secretary, seconded by Vaske, unanimous approval. Passed.

5. Review Annual Report --

Vaske will send some edits to Pollock

Stone moved to approve the Annual Report with the edits, seconded by Landsgard, unanimous approval. Passed.

6. Consider Motor Mill Turbine Conservator –

Pollock would like the CCCB to make recommendation to the Motor Mill Foundation to use the generous donation from Ken Zichal for professional restoration in Maryland of two turbines from the mill. Stone feels the MMF will be in favor of doing this with the donation from Zichal.

Stone made a motion to approve the use of the Zichal donation for professional restoration of the turbines, seconded by Vaske, unanimous approval. Passed.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

January 22	Resin Jewelry Workshop	6pm
March 20	Motor Mill Trail Grand Opening/ 5K & 10K Trail Run/Walk	9am

Director's Report/Updates/Communications

Welcome Center numbers included 79 individuals and 11 groups.

Environmental Education numbers for the month of December included 32 presentations to 651 youth and 68 adults.

USDA inspector visited Osborne December 8, 2020 and the annual Vet visit took place January 5, 2021. After the inspection park staff noticed the fox had blood on its face. It was then taken into the vet in Elkader. The Vet euthanized the Red Fox after finding a large tumor. Rattle Snake had an abscess and a specialist made a house visit, meds have been placed by Slocum on the sore.

Elevator Inspection anticipated – Schumacher's provided estimate on code update for doors. This will be taken care of this fiscal year since the courthouse and Scenic Acres have already done so.

Marketing Clayton Co: Attracting Success is a group effort between Elkader, Alpine Communications, Conservation, and hopefully businesses/industries in the county. Ripple grant has been completed with Alpine.

Slocum has proposed applying for the upcoming Five Star Waters Grant. His plan is to take the slash material from undergrowth and burn it for bio-char. This will be added to bags and put into streams and monitored by DNR. The end product can then be applied to an acre of land.

Stone made a motion to authorize Slocum to apply for the grant but giving Pollock the authority to veto it if it takes up too much staff power, seconded by Landsgard, unanimous approval. Passed.

ADJOURNED

Landsgard made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Lenth, unanimous approval. Passed.

NEXT MEETING February 9, 2021, 6pm Osborne Nature Center