



# 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.

**February 14, 2023**

**BOARD MEETING**

**6pm Osborne**

Chairman Daryl Landsgard called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Members present included Gary Kregel, Larry Stone, and Natasha Hegmann. Director Jenna Pollock was also present.

Kregel motioned to approve the agenda, Hegmann seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Stone motioned to approve the January 2023 minutes with the corrected spelling of Landsgard, seconded by Kregel. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Kregel motioned to pay the claims for the month, Hegmann seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

The board reviewed the financial report from the County Auditor through 1/31/2023. Pollock mentioned one correction in a distribution for reimbursement of deposit that was corrected and removed from the report this month.

## **New Business**

1. Discuss FY24 Staffing

Pollock provided updates on two work comp injury reports. One staff member is currently operating on a temporary modified work assignment. This time of year we start advertising public programs, and Pollock expressed concern with how to proceed to carry out our mission. Pollock will advertise programs on our regular schedule and adjust work assignments for staff as needed to continue with our mission.

Leadership goals in the conservation positions were also discussed. Pollock will research and seek to provide additional leadership training and experience.

2. Consider awarding water line project for the Inn

Pollock presented a not to exceed estimate from West Union Trenching to bore a 2" waterline from the existing well-house at Motor through the hill to the Inn. The estimate is a worst-case scenario of \$43,880. Stone made a motion to allow the Director to enter into contract negotiations with West Union Trenching for the boring project not to exceed \$43,880. Hegmann seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

3. Consider approval of grant submissions

- a. Clayton County Foundation for the Future (due March 24)- Animal Exhibit, programming
- b. Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation pre-application (due April 19) Osborne Campground Phase 2

Hegmann made a motion to allow Pollock and staff to submit the grant applications for Clayton County Foundation for the Future and Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation Pre-application. Stone seconded the motion. The board discussed grant guidelines for CCFF and whether a wolf program would be an appropriate ask. The Osborne Wolf was euthanized February 8, 2023 due

to a fast growing bone cancer. The Board also discussed the elements of Phase 2 of the Osborne Campground and instructed Pollock to confer with Dan Kuempel with UMGC on eligibility. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

4. The board reviewed the options on replacing four windows in the main office. Pollock presented the figures for casement vs. double-hung windows and some of the pros vs cons in regards to ease of use, insulation factor, and timeliness of the install. Kregel made a motion to proceed with order/install of double-hung windows. Stone seconded. All voted in favor. Motion approved.

### **Old Business**

1. Discuss FY24 Budget proposal and potential revisions  
Pollock requested to increase our LP Heating Fuel ask for FY24 from \$8,000 to \$10,000. Kregel made a motion to request the increase in spending authority for LP heating fuel. Stone seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.  
Pollock presented an increase in the salary lines for FY24 from a 6% increase to a 8.25% increase based on the Compensation Board's 8.5% recommendation. Discussion was held on the merits of the increase, with the overall increase in ask not exceeding \$5,000 in general tax fund. Hegmann made a motion to request the increase in spending authority for salaries and supplemental lines. Stone seconded the motion. Stone and Hegmann voted in favor, with Kregel abstaining. Motion passed.
2. Update on Inn  
Pollock provided updates on the Inn and contractor timeline. To be finished by June 30, 2023.
3. Update on Campground  
Pollock provided an update on survey work being complete and public feedback from a recent article on the project.

### **Upcoming Programs/Events** available at [www.claytoncountyconservation.org](http://www.claytoncountyconservation.org)

Feb. 14 Valentine's Hike/Snowshoe (Osborne 5:30)

Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> collaborative Conservation Departments Meeting- Board welcome to attend at Osborne 9:30  
Pollock explained the collaborative agency meeting and invited board members to attend.

### **Director's Report/Updates/Communications**

Welcome Center numbers included 122 individuals and 12 groups in January

Env. Edu. Numbers for the past month included 98 presentations to 1499 youth and 177 adults

### **Open Items**

**Meeting Adjourned: Stone motioned to adjourn. Hegmann seconded. All voted in favor. Adjourned.**

**Next meeting scheduled:** March 14, 2023 Osborne 6pm