



# Turkey River Recreational Corridor Board Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.

Elgin City Hall/Elgin Public Library – Elgin, Iowa

**Present:** Rod Marlatt, Steve Doeppke, Kenny Slocum, Troy Schott, Chris Schoen, Kelly Shaffer, Heather Gamm (alt.), Jenna Van Meeteren (Alt.), Roger Buchholz

**Not Present:** Chris Wachal, Bruce Lehman, Kayleen Schrader

**Others Present:** Mallory Hanson, Sheryl Struthers

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chair, Rod Marlatt.

\*\*Motion to approve the January 2026 agenda by Schott, second by Schoen. Approved.

\*\*Motion to approve the December 2025 minutes by Doeppke, second by Schott. Approved.

Hanson reviewed financials with attendees.

\*\*Motino to approve the financials, as presented by Buchholz, second by Schoen. Approved.

**Annual Report Presentation and Financial Request Updates:** Hanson reported that she presented to the Elgin City Council on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Project Updates:

- Flowers in the Corridor (TRRC) – Hanson held meeting in mid-January with the artist, Gamm, and Van Meeteren to move forward with planning for spring fabrication and summer installation.
- Pedal Paddle Racks (TRRC) – Hanson reported that the bike racks have arrived and that the signs are currently being fabricated by ThINK in Elkader. Plans are in place for installation and promotion this spring/summer.
- Clermont Trail Expansion (FCCB) – Gamm reported that coordination meetings continue with the County Engineer and that plans are in place for multiple grant applications to support the project.
- Pony Hollow Trail Expansion (CCCB) – Van Meeteren reported that two of the four required easements have been recorded and that they are aiming for an April 21<sup>st</sup> letting date for the project.
- Motor Mill Stabilization (CCCB & Motor Mill Foundation) – Van Meeteren reported that engineers are reviewing proposals to help determine a plan to move forward either with a formal Request for Proposal or other stabilization plans.

**Final Approval of 2026 Turkey River Safari Sites:** Hanson presented the final list for discussion and consideration.

\*\*Motion to approve proposed 2026 Turkey River Safari Sites, with the addition of Lincoln Park in Clermont, by Slocum, second by Buchholz. Approved.

**Review and Consideration of Approval of Pedal Paddle Rack Cards:** Hanson presented draft maps for discussion and consideration. Hanson noted that these will be distributed only at in-person events alongside Turkey River Water Trail maps and Northeast Iowa Bike Trail maps.

\*\*Motion to approve Pedal Paddle maps, including recommended edits by Schoen, second by Buchholz. Approved.

## Reports:

**Director:** The TRRC Director presented highlights from the January 2026 report.

**Clermont:** The City plans to begin the Pickleball/Tennis Court project this spring/summer and is continuing to work on budgeting.

**Elgin:** Wachal shared a report ahead of time via email: The City is working on getting the secondary well in scenic heights back up and running and is advertising for someone to mow and trim the cemetery and possibly the entire park system in town (interested individuals can contact the City Clerk).

**Elkader:** The final performance of the Keystone Chorus Barbershop will take place Feb. 28th at the Elkader Opera House.

**Motor Mill:** The Motor Mill Foundation plans to meet with the Side by Side club for assistance with the holiday bridge lighting moving forward.

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**Supervisors:** Clayton County: The Supervisors continue the budgeting process and reported that permitting is in process for the gas station along Hwy 13. There was additional discussion about Casey's General Store coming to Elkader and about Mobile Track Solutions securing a contract to build John Deere equipment.

**Fayette County:** No report.

**Conservation:** CCCB: The final listening session for Osborne Heritage Days will take place Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> at Osborne with a virtual wrap-up planned for Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>. The Clayton County Pheasants Forever banquet will be held Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> at Johnsons in Elkader. A presentation about iWILL hosted by Dan Cohen will take place Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> at Osborne. The Motor Motor 5k/10k will be held Mar. 21<sup>st</sup> (Volunteers are needed).

FCCB: A timber stand improvement work day is planned for Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>. Conservation staff are beginning preparations for the spring/summer season.

**Other Business & Public Comments:** Hanson requested interest from board members to volunteers during the Motor Motor 5k/10k in Elkader on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Additionally, attendees discussed legislation that is currently being considered at the Capital. There was no public comment.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be March 3, 2026 at 6:30pm at Elkader City Hall/Opera House.

**Adjournment:**

\*\*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42pm by Doeppke, second by Schoen. Approved.

*Respectfully Submitted – Mallory Hanson*