



Turkey River Recreational Corridor Board Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2024 – 6:30 p.m. | Elkader City Hall/Opera House – Elkader, Iowa

Present: Rod Marlatt, Chris Wachal, Dan Slagel, Bruce Lehman, Chris Schoen, Jenna Pollock, Jennifer Cowsert

Not Present: Kayleen Schrader, Troy Schott, Deb Schmidt, Steve Doepke

Others Present: Mallory Hanson, Sherly Struthers

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

**Motion to approve the April 2024 agenda by Pollock, second by Lehmann. Approved.

**Motion to approve the March 2024 minutes by Wachal, second by Cowsert. Approved.

Review of Financials: Hanson reported that \$2,850 had been secured in 2024 sponsorships.

In Person Trail Count Dates and Planning: In person trail counting will take place July 12-13, 2024 for Clayton Co. and July 19-20, 2024 for Fayette Co. Hanson will conduct a majority of the counts in one location each weekend. CCCB and FCCB will provide staff and volunteers to conduct the counts in the alternate locations each weekend.

Large Infrastructure Project Grant Discussion: Pollock expressed interest in utilizing the large grant writing portion of the upcoming FY '25 project for a State Recreational Trails grant or a grant of a similar workload. There was no other interest at this time from other partnering entities.

Reports:

Director: The TRRC Director presented highlights from the March 2024 report.

Clermont: Still planning for the 175th celebration in July. Solutions for safety at the crosswalk near Casey's General Store and Skip-a-Way are in continued discussion.

Elgin: The City continues to work on demolition at 401 Mill Street. A public works assistant has been hired. The City is working with a contractor to remove 31 Ash Trees.

Elkader: The Elkader Opera House has a show running the first two weekends in April. The Driftless 100 will take place the last weekend in April.

Motor Mill: A memorial is in the works for Jon deNeui. Milling machinery will be placed into the 3rd floor of the Mill for display. A spring clean out will take place April 17th.

Clayton County: No report.

Supervisors: Fayette County: Lehman reported on multiple projects and initiatives happening throughout the County, including sheriff union contracts, substance abuse/opioid funding, courthouse micro-pollinator project, Great River Road trail grading, DOT Hwy 56 overlay, and a tourism award to Fayette County Economic Development and Tourism.

Conservation: CCCB: The Motor Motor 5k/10k on March 16th was a success with 100 registrations. Seasonals will start in April. A walking stick workshop will take place April 22nd. A May Day Hike will take place May 1st. A soft opening of the Osborne Campground is expected in late fall. A follow-up with Enhance Iowa CAT will take place Thursday for Pony Hollow trail funding.

FCCB: FCCB is working to connect the Elgin Lagoon systems into Gilbertson Campground. A micro-pollinator prairie will be installed in the Fayette County Courthouse lawn where trees were removed. FCCB has hired two new employees and is seeking a third for a roadside technician.

Other Business & Public Comments: There was no other business discussed. There was no public comment.

Next Meeting: There will be no May 7th meeting, but board members are asked to attend the Keystone Bridge Rededication on May 7th at 3:00pm.

Adjournment:

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:19pm by Lehmann, second by Wachal. Approved.

Respectfully Submitted – Mallory Hanson