



# Turkey River Recreational Corridor Board Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2020 – 6:30 p.m. | Zoom

**Present:** Rod Marlatt, Dina Taylor (alt.), Kenny Slocum, Larry Stone, Sharon Harris, Marty Stanbrough (Partial Meeting), Jenna Pollock (alt.), Aimee Hilgerson & Jennifer Cowser

**Not Present:** Stephanie Mackenzie-Herman (alt.), John Nikolai (alt.), Bob Hendrickson, & Matt McElree

\*Note: No current representative has been appointed by the Clayton County Supervisors to serve on the TRRC board.

**Others Present:** Mallory Hanson & Sara Carmichael (Iowa Rivers Revival)

The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm by Rod Marlatt.

\*\*Motion to approve the agenda by Harris, second by Slocum. Approved.

\*\*Motion to approve the June 2020 minutes by Slocum, second by Stone. Approved.

**Vision Plan Project Updates:** The Board discussed updates on the Clermont Dam Mitigation, Elkader Community Visioning, Elkader to Elgin Trail Pre-Engineering, Motor Mill Trail, Pony Hollow Trail, and Elgin Trail Bridge Lighting.

## Officer Elections:

\*\*Motion to elect Rod Marlatt as Chair and Jennifer Cowser as Vice-Chair by Harris, second by Hilgerson. Approved.

**Updated Vision Plan:** Hanson presented an updated vision plan with current project status updates included.4

**UMGC Grant Application Approval:** Hanson gave the board an overview of the project to the board.

\*\*Motion to approve the Turkey River Recreational Corridor's Upper Mississippi River Gaming Corporation grant application for \$9,200 to develop a 360 video of the Turkey River and update and print new Turkey River Water Trail Guides by Harris, second by Hilgerson. Approved.

**Turkey River Safari Update:** The virtual Safari has not seen a lot of social media traffic. The TRRC has received feedback that participants look forward to the return of the printed guidebooks and crayons in future years.

## Reports

**Director:** The TRRC Director presented highlights from the June 2020 report.

**Clermont:** The new park lights have been installed. There may be an effort to establish the Clermont Depot as an official National Register of Historic Places site.

**Elgin:** The dike project is complete. The trail bridge lights have been installed.

**Elkader:** The City is continuing to work towards an additional Turkey River access/exit. Sweet Corn Days will take place July 24-26. The Keystone Bridge project is in the design stage.

**Motor Mill:** Efforts to stabilize the stable roof are ongoing-applying for a UMGRC grant to renovate the stable. Working to get electricity installed in the Mill. Plan to open for tours July 11. Silt removal is an ongoing discussion.

**Supervisors:** Fayette County is working multiple large road projects. The county bonded for \$7.2 Million for 26 miles.

**Conservation:** The back nine of the disc golf course has been completed. The Clayton County Conservation Board is promoting a new route for Volga River Paddlers (reroute). The Osborne Pioneer Village now has a gravel path to help direct visitors. A new gravel bike route map is available online.

Three TRRC sites were featured on Travel Iowa's website. The Playscape at Gilbertsons now has a dinosaur dig site. The Turkey River Watershed Management Authority received a \$3 Million grant to do projects throughout the watershed. Fayette County Conservation and Economic Development are helping the City of West Union with a West Union to Echo Valley State Park trail project. UERPC continues to work towards the completion of a Northeast Iowa Backbone Trail Economic Study.

**Other Business:** The board discussed the plan for July 10 & 11 and July 17 & 18 in-person trail counts to be conducted by Hanson and Clayton and Fayette County Conservation staff. Sara Carmichael, Iowa Rivers Revival Executive Director, talked to the board about IRR's goals and priorities, including advocacy, education, dam mitigation, toolbox trainings, and River Town of the Year designations.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 6:30pm. Location TBD.

**Adjournment:**

\*\*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32pm by Harris, second by Slocum. Approved.

*Respectfully Submitted – Mallory Hanson*