



# Turkey River Recreational Corridor Board Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2021 – 6:30 p.m. | Elkader

**Present:** Rod Marlatt, Sharon Harris, Larry Stone, Kenny Slocum, Janell Bradley (alt.), Aimee Hilgerson, Dina Taylor (alt.), Troy Schott, Jenna Pollock (alt.), & Jennifer Cowsert

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

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

**Others Present:** Mallory Hanson

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

\*\*Motion to approve the agenda by Taylor, second by Hilgerson. Approved.

\*\*Motion to approve the April 2021 minutes by Stone, second by Schott. Approved.

**Vision Plan Project Updates:** Discussion on the Elkader Community Visioning, Turkey River 360 Video and Water Trail Guide Update, Elkader to Elgin Trail Pre-Engineering, and Pony Hollow Trail took place.

**Grant Updates:** Turkey River Water Trail Guides were printed (UMGC grant). The Turkey River 360 video (UMGC grant) and Information Hub (FCCF grant) projects are ongoing.

**Clayton County Conservation “Attracting Success” Project:** The project continues to progress with planning for a Fall summit (9/10/21) underway. The summit will feature young professionals in the workforce and apprenticeship opportunities for students.

**Turkey River Safari Promotion:** Posts will be installed the week of May 10<sup>th</sup>. Promotion will begin shortly after.

**Trail White Sheet Proposal:** Marlatt shared that Clayton, Fayette, and Winneshiek County worked together to submit a proposal to Iowa legislators for funding to support continuation of the Northeast Iowa Backbone Trail system.

**Iowa Tourism Awards:** The Byways of Iowa Foundation received an Iowa Tourism Award for Outstanding Marketing Collaboration (Rural) for the Byways of Iowa Public Art Initiative, which was inspired by the Eagle’s Nest along the TRRC trail between Elgin and Clermont. Fayette County Conservation also received an Iowa Tourism Award for Outstanding Social Media Execution (Rural) for the Sasquatches of Fayette County promotion.

## Reports

<b>Director:</b>	The TRRC Director presented highlights from the April 2021 report.
<b>Clermont:</b>	The City accepted a bid for the recreation area near the Larrabee building. Planning for the concession stand project is ongoing.
<b>Elgin:</b>	Discussion regarding safety along Franklin St. is taking place. Dotzy’s has sold and is anticipated to open May/June.
<b>Elkader:</b>	Planning for Dam Bypass signage is ongoing. Elkader’s 175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will take place June 19 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>Motor Mill:</b>	The Mill will be open for tours on Saturdays starting May 29 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>Supervisors:</b>	Multiple secondary roads projects are taking place in Fayette County. West Union Trenching hosted Senator Grassley on May 4 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>Conservation:</b>	CCCB: A spring cleanup is scheduled for May 15 <sup>th</sup> . Earth Day celebrations took place with Central Schools including a Turkey River cleanup and tree plantings. A walk will be held on May 28 <sup>th</sup> at the Becker East Wildlife Area. CCCB has a pending application for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for the Osborne Campground project. CCCB plans to make improvements to the Lovers Leap Property (in the 5 year plan).  FCCB: Travel is expected to “boom” in the summer of 2021. There is large potential for partnership projects with current and incoming COVID-19 recovery funds. West Union has received a \$100,000 Large Match Wellmark Grant for their West Union to Echo Valley State Park trail project.

**Other Business:** Hanson will begin working to develop community welcome packets for Clermont, Elgin, and Elkader for new residents and visitors considering a move.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 6:30pm in Elkader.

**Adjournment:**

\*\*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47pm by Taylor, second by Pollock. Approved.

*Respectfully Submitted – Mallory Hanson*