



Turkey River Recreational Corridor Board Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.

Clermont City Hall/Larrabee School – Clermont, Iowa

Present: Rod Marlatt, Steve Doepke, Kayleen Schrader, Bruce Lehman, Kenny Slocum, Troy Schott, Deb Schmidt, Chris Schoen, Kelly Shaffer, Heather Gamm (alt.)

Not Present: Chris Wachal

Others Present: Mallory Hanson, Sheryl Struthers

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

****Motion to approve the September 2025 agenda by Schott, second by Schrader. Approved.**

****Motion to approve the July 2025 minutes by Schoen, second by Lehman. Approved.**

Hanson reviewed financials with attendees.

Project Updates: Hanson provided an update on funding applications for the Flowers in the Corridor Project: The Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation (UMGC) full application has been submitted and Hanson is working on an application to the Fayette County Community Foundation. Hanson also confirmed the committee that would like to work on the Kayak/Canoe Rack project: Chris Wachal, Rod Marlatt, Jenna Van Meeteren, Brian Balster, and Kelly Schaffer.

Large Infrastructure Grant Discussion and Consideration: Attendees discussed potential large infrastructure project and made the following motion. This discussion will remain on the agenda until the opportunity for either project or another project arises.

****Motion to authorize Hanson to write a State Recreational Trails Grant for the trail along the Great River Road for the Fayette County Conservation Board or a Rural Heritage Revitalization Grant (or similar grant) for the Motor Mill Stabilization project for the Clayton County Conservation Board if either opportunity comes to fruition by Schmidt, second by Schrader. Approved.**

Trail County/Infrared Data Presentation: Hanson presented current infrared trail count data (March-August) to attendees.

Schedule Vision Planning Session: Hanson proposed scheduling the annual vision planning session for the November meeting.

Reports:

Director: The TRRC Director presented highlights from the July-August 2025 report.

Clermont: The City is planning for a Pickleball/Tennis Court project. New solar feedback speed signs will be installed soon. Updated banners are planned for Hwy 18.

Elgin: No report.

Elkader: The City will be seeking applications for a new Chamber of Commerce Director. The Elkader Opera House performances will take place October 3-12. Witches Night Out will take place October 3. The Earthmoving Legacy Museum is hosting 100 Years of CAT September 12-14. Clayton County Development Group's Farm to Fork event taking place September 14 is sold out.

Motor Mill: The Motor Mill Foundation held a donor appreciation event in July. A new interactive display is available to visitors.

Clayton County: The County is finishing up cleanup from flooding in the Bear Creek area. Ditch work continues.

Supervisors: Fayette County: Trail bed for the future bike trail along Great River Road near Clermont continues, utilizing excess dirt from the Juniper Road project. The County Farm property is currently for sale. Ditch work and road construction projects continue.

CCCB: A Resource Enhancement and Protection Grant application was submitted for the Pony Hollow Trail Expansion. A Prairie Seed event is planned for September 3. OWLS will be at Cedar Road September 25. Heritage Days will take place October 11-12. The Pony Hollow 15k is planned for October 25.

Conservation: FCCB: A new doggie station was installed along the trail between Clermont and Elgin, donated to Fayette County Conservation by Kristy and Kevin Meyer in memory of their dog, Dallas. FCCB is currently fully staffed. Fayette and Clayton County Conservation and ISU Extension offices are currently hosting a Master Conservationist program. Labor Day was a successful camping weekend. FCCB is currently assisting with work along the trail along Great River Road outside Clermont, including discussions with the Dover School regarding trail alignment and access.

Other Business & Public Comments: Hanson reported that the Fayette County Conservation Board dedicated the trail bridge between Elgin and Gilbertson Conservation Education Area in honor of Rod Marlatt, recognizing his 41 years of service as Conservation Director.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at Clermont City Hall/Larrabee School.

Adjournment:

****Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39pm by Schrader, second by Slocum. Approved.**

Respectfully Submitted – Mallory Hanson