



# Turkey River Recreational Corridor Board Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.

Clermont City Hall/Larrabee School – Clermont, Iowa

**Present:** Rod Marlatt, Chris Wachal, Kayleen Schrader, Kenny Slocum, Troy Schott, Chris Schoen, Kelly Shaffer, Heather Gamm (alt.), Brian Balster (alt.)

**Not Present:** Steve Doeppke, Bruce Lehman, Deb Schmidt

**Others Present:** Mallory Hanson

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

**\*\*Motion to approve the October 2025 agenda by Schott, second by Wachal. Approved.**

**\*\*Motion to approve the September 2025 minutes by Schoen, second by Schrader. Approved.**

Hanson reviewed financials with attendees.

**Large Infrastructure Grant Project:** Gamm provided updates on the Clermont Trail Expansion project.

**Project Updates:** Hanson provided an update on funding applications for the Flowers in the Corridor Project: The Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation (UMGC) full application was awarded and the Fayette County Community Foundation grant application has been submitted. Hanson also reported that the Kayak/Canoe Rack project committee met prior to this meeting.

**Iowa Bicycle Coalition:** Luke Hoffman, Executive Director of the Iowa Bicycle Coalition (IBC), provided Fayette & Clayton County level results for the Economic Impacts of Cycling in Iowa's 99 Counties study. The Iowa DOT covered 80% of IBC's costs of facilitating the study with a federal grant for \$25,000. IBC is now actively raising the remaining 20% of funds to cover their core costs. Hoffman asked if organizations would be willing to chip in \$500-\$1,000 to sponsor the study project, suggesting \$500 per county whenever possible. Sponsorship would come with various benefits:

- Add logo to IBC webpage dedicated to the project
- Mention sponsorship in marketing materials for the Bike & Trails Summit
- Verbal thank you at Bike & Trails Summit
- Offer 2-3 additional free tickets to the Bike Summit, as desired
- Add logo to marketing emails that reference the study
- Mention sponsorship in any future press releases
- Already provided the results for no charge

**\*\*Motion to contribute \$1,000.00 by Schott, second by Wachal. Approved.**

**Wheels in Motion Workshop & Free Lunch October 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Hanson shared information about this upcoming event in Decorah, hosted by Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission's Safe Routes to School program coordinator.

**Reports:**

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| <b>Director:</b>     | The TRRC Director presented highlights from the September 2025 report.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Clermont:</b>     | The City is planning for a Pickleball/Tennis Court project. The Dyer Vinton is hosting multiple events in the fall, including Faith and Four Letter Words on October 8 <sup>th</sup> , Witches Night Out on October 25 <sup>th</sup> , and a Murder Mystery on November 15 <sup>th</sup> . The Green Door hosts regular live music events. Multiple maintenance projects are underway.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Elgin:</b>        | The City is awaiting information and quotes from a new vendor for their 401 Mill St. kiosk project.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Elkader:</b>      | Schmidt provided a report via email. A summary of that report is included: Progress continues on gas station projects throughout the community, including Sinclair's new addition. JEM Salon will be moving to a new location at the end of the month. Witches Night Out will take place October 9 <sup>th</sup> . The weekend of October 10 <sup>th</sup> is the last weekend for the Opera House Player's Crazy for You production. Elkader Main Street and Chamber of Commerce's Light Up the Night project will be coming up in November with opportunities for individuals and businesses to sponsor holiday light displays. |
| <b>Motor Mill:</b>   | There were approx. 120 attendees at the Music Under the Moon event last week.<br>Clayton County: No report.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Supervisors:</b>  | Fayette County: Lehman provided a report via phone prior to the meeting. A summary of that report is included: Work on the bike trail expansion along Great River Road near Clermont continues. The Supervisors didn't receive any acceptable bids County Farm property is currently for sale.<br>CCCB: Heritage Days will take place October 11-12: Listening sessions will be facilitated November through February for future planning. The Little Haunt on the Prairie event will take place October 21 <sup>st</sup> . The Pony Hollow 15k is planned for October 25.                                                        |
| <b>Conservation:</b> | FCCB: Working on building up their environmental educators. Work on the bike trail expansion along Great River Road near Clermont continues. Working to expand a volunteer program. The Holiday Walk will be held as a winter day event in January based out of Gilbertson Nature Center.<br><br>The Master Conservationist program (Partnership with CCCB, FCCB, and Fayette and Clayton County Extension and Outreach offices) was wrapped up in September.                                                                                                                                                                     |

**Other Business & Public Comments:** No other business was discussed and no public comments were made.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be WEDNESDAY, November 5, 2025 at 6:00pm Elgin Public Library/City Hall. Hanson will conduct a visioning exercise at this meeting. Schott will bring Pizza.

**Adjournment:**

**\*\*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:19pm by Scott, second by Schrader. Approved.**

*Respectfully Submitted – Mallory Hanson*