



Turkey River Recreational Corridor Board Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2026 | 6:30 p.m.

Clermont City Hall/Larrabee School - Clermont, Iowa

Present: Rod Marlatt, Roger Buchholz, Chris Schoen, Steve Doeppke, Troy Schott, Heather Gamm (alt.), Ean Popenhagen, Brian Balster (alt.), Bruce Lehmann

Not Present: Kelly Shaffer, Chris Wachal, Kayleen Schrader

Others Present: Mallory Hanson

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

****Motion to approve the September 2026 agenda by Schott, second by Doeppke. Approved.**

****Motion to approve the August 2026 minutes by Schoen, second by Lehmann. Approved.**

Attendees reviewed financials.

****Motion to approve the financials, as presented by Schoen, second by Popenhagen. Approved.**

Project Updates:

- Clermont/Elgin Trail Wayfinding Signage (TRRC) – Hanson reported that she attended the Clermont City Council meeting August 3rd and the Elgin City Council meeting August 17th to propose replacement and update of the trail wayfinding signage in both communities.
- Coneflowers in the Corridor (TRRC) – The artists continue working on fabrication. Hanson will coordinate with CCCB and FCCB for coordination on installation once fabrication is completed.
- Clermont Trail Expansion (FCCB) – Gamm reported that a Resource Enhancement and Protection grant was submitted and that they continue to work on a Destination Iowa request.
- Pony Hollow Trail Expansion (CCCB) – Popenhagen reported that weekly progress meetings continue and they are working on NEPA & SHPO clearances.
- Motor Mill Stabilization (CCCB & Motor Mill Foundation) – CCCB and the Motor Mill Foundation continue to consider proposed solutions.

Large Infrastructure Grant Discussion and Consideration: Participants discussed potential projects and grants.

December/January Annual Report Presentations: Hanson reminded participants that she will be reaching out to schedule report presentations and financial requests for December/January.

Reports:

Director:	Hanson provided highlights from the August 2026 Director's report.
Clermont:	The pickleball court project will be completed soon.
Elgin:	No report.
Elkader:	Art in the Park is planned for October 3 rd . An Iowa Economic Development Authority Regional Arts Forum will take place on October 15 th at the Elkader Opera House.
Motor Mill:	Travel Iowa recently completed some photography at the Motor Mill site. Clayton County: Graveling projects have been completed and multiple paving projects are underway.
Supervisors:	Fayette County: Alex Popenhagen has resigned. Multiple road and bridge projects are at various stages of progress and planning. An EMS levy will be on the November ballot for Fayette County voters. A new sanitation assistant has been hired. The BOS is considering a draft land division ordinance. CCCB: The Driftless Adventure Race will take place October 3 rd . CCCB received Forest Resiliency and Wildlife Habitat Stamp grants for Timber Stand Improvement. CCCB is considering grants to re-do the Osborne Playscape. A full time maintenance technician has been hired. Osborne Days will take place October 10 th -11 th .
Conservation:	FCCB: The Gilbertson Conservation Education Area brochure was updated and re-printed. There is an unpaved section of trail near the Valley Bridge currently. Rod Marlatt attended REAP Congress in August, representing Northeast Iowa. Camping is going well. The Petting Zoo and Nature Center will close for the season after Labor Day. A new Environmental Education employee has been hired. The Gilbertson shop road was re-done. There is a tour at Becky's Fen Friday, September 11 th .

Other Business & Public Comments: Hanson reported that a new Director for Clayton County Development Group has been hired: Kelsey Bergan. Gamm also shared statistic from Project A.W.A.R.E.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be October 6, 2026 at 6:30pm at Clermont City Hall/Larrabee School.

Adjournment:

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm by Schoen, second by Popenhagen. Approved.

Respectfully Submitted – Mallory Hanson