

# Clinton County Conservation Board

## Meeting Minutes

March 17th, 2025  
and Via Zoom

### **Welcome & Introductions:**

The regular meeting of the Clinton County Conservation Board was called to order by Karen Bradway on March 17th at 6:00 pm.

**Board members present:** Gloria Friederichsen, Brian Grell, Brian Tugana, Jeff Beckwith and Karen Bradway via zoom.

**Guests:** Jim Irwin

**Staff:** Philip Visser, Jill Schmidt and Tiffany Wink

**Agenda:** The Board approved the agenda.

**Meeting Minutes:** Meeting minutes from February 17th, 2026, meeting was presented. Gloria Friederichsen moved to approve the minutes, Brian Grell seconded, motion carried.

**Financial/Treasurer's Report:** Review of current budget report and upcoming expenses.

**Approval of Bills:** Bills were presented for Conservation, Brian Grell moved to approve the bills; Gloria Friederichsen second, motion carried.

### **Department Report:**

**West District:** They have been working on the Sherman house with kitchen renovations. A tree fell on the deck of one of the cabins at Eden Valley, an incident report was completed, and it has been submitted to our insurance company. Karri has blocked off the cabin so no one can make a reservation until it is replaced.

**East District:** A park ranger has been selected and accepted the position, now just going through the background checks.

**Natural Resources:** Darin and Allen have been busy with tree clearing at Manikowski and Mockridge properties. Getting ready for burn season.

Administrative: Phil was able to go to Des Moines for ISAC and Tiffany attended the Iowa Tourism Conference in Des Moines. Phil submitted the CCDA grant for the restrooms at Killdeer and Follets locations, and the Lincoln Highway grant for Walnut Grove basketball/pickle ball court.

We are currently taking applications for the Camp Host position at Sherman Park.

EE: Naturalists will be wrapping up with In-school programs, they have public programs and working with the Star Lab that has been a lot of learning with it, but teachers really love our new addition to programming. Jill is hosting a public session day at Rock Creek with the Star Lab starting at 2pm and going through 6pm for the adult only session.

Eden Valley Nature Center is coming along, the alligator snapping turtle filter is going and they were able to get the fish tank filled up, hopefully April the project will be completed.

The new EE Mobile learning trailer is in Milan, IL with Edwards Creative to finish up with the wrap and displays.

Emma was able to attend IAN on the fundraising committee.

### **New Business:**

- a) Solar Panels on Conservation Board Buildings – Jim Irwin discussed the opportunity for the county to participate in installing solar panels to some of the county buildings. Two of the buildings are Conservation Board buildings, the first one being Shed 2 at the Grand Mound location and the second one being at Rock Creek. There are many obstacles that need to be figured out, there will be future discussions on the possible project.
- b) Possibility Thinking Items and Projects – Brian Tugana shared some of his ideas of possible additions and contributions to Conservation.
  1. An outdoor auditorium for speakers and programs
  2. Trail cams set up at locations and stream it live on the T.V. at RC.
  3. Brian is working with Margo Hansen who has always wanted to make a coloring book and connecting her with an artist for illustrations to make available to children for free.
  4. Bird vocalization instruments were also discussed
- c) KROS Public Service Announcement – Jill and Brian Tugana traveled to KMRQ and learned about the KROS system. We can make a 60-second recording to have

stations play and advertise programs we are having. This is an opportunity that has no cost involved and would be a great marketing tool.

- d) EE Program Data Requests – Brian Tugana would like to get numbers for attendance on programs we have had, how many kids/adults. Jill does keep track and can provide these numbers.
  
- e) Mowing Contract for East District Parks – Discussion about renewing the contract with Triple A Mowing for the 2026 season.

**Resolution** to enter into the mowing contract with Triple A services for the mowing at Lake Malone Park, Killdeer Recreation Area, and Follet’s Park for the 2026 calendar year.

**Whereas** the Clinton County Conservation Board, being satisfied with the overall work done by Triple A Services in the past, hereby wishes to renew the contract for the 2026 mowing season.

**Therefore,** by the Clinton County Conservation Board enter the mowing contract and authorize the Executive Director to oversee that the terms are met.

Roll Call

Gloria Friedrichsen	Yes
Brian Grell	Yes
Jeff Beckwith	Yes
Brian Tugana	Yes
Karen Bradway	Yes

- f) Conservation Board Seat on Clinton County Conservation Foundation – Discussion was held about the need for a replacement Conservation Board Member to be seated on the Conservation Foundation Board since Dan Srp not seeking re-election. It was decided to table until next month.

**Old Business:**

- a) Conservation Board Representation on Foundation Board – The Conservation Board discussed the need for representation on the Foundation Board; they shared their thoughts and were unable to appoint a member due to individual scheduling conflicts. Phil will meet with the Foundation board to discuss the situation and see what we need to do moving forward.

**Public Comment:** Phil is going to be off a couple times in March.

Adjournment – Jeff Beckwith to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, April 21st, 2025 – 6pm - Location Grand Mound or via Zoom

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Jeff Beckwith, Chair

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Brian Grell, Secretary/Treasurer