

Clinton County Conservation Board

Meeting Minutes

June 16th, 2025
and Via Zoom

Welcome & Introductions:

The regular meeting of the Clinton County Conservation Board was called to order by Jeff Beckwith on June 16th at 6:02 pm.

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

Staff: Philip Visser and Tiffany Wink

Agenda: The Board approved the agenda

Meeting Minutes: Meeting minutes from May 18th, 2026, meeting was presented. Karen Bradway 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, Gloria Friederichsen moved to approve the bills; Brian Grell second, motion carried.

Department Report:

Administrative: Camping numbers at Eden Valley, Sherman Park and Walnut Grove are a little lower than last year, however Rock Creek numbers have almost doubled.

There is a district meeting coming up that Phil and Jill will be attending in Benton County.

EE: Field trips are completed for the season and now Naturalists are doing summer camps. Pollywog is happening now as well as some public programs. Emma is at Ringneck Marsh tonight for a Herping program. We also have our 2 teacher externs Emma from Calamus and Evan from Clinton that are helping with camps this summer.

West District: Eden Valley campground was closed Thursday and opened back up on Sunday for flooding. Walnut Grove was closed on Sunday due to the river starting to come out of its bank.

East District: The slough at Rock Creek is flowing through with a strong current, which tends to happen when the Mississippi is lower than the Wapsi. Electrical renovations are finally completed.

The Eco Center A/C unit is having issues and not keeping up. It is a Honeywell System that requires a repair company to have a license to access the system, ACI had been working on it but does not contain the license. We are now working with RHA for a solution.

New Business:

- a) FY2027 Committal of Funds – Phil submitted 3 projects that didn't get finished in FY26, they are:
 - 1. Replacing joists on the Rock Creek Deck
 - 2. Vault Restrooms that will be done in September
 - 3. Replacing the roofs on cabins at Rock Creek

Karen Bradway motioned to approve the committal of funds as submitted, Brian Tugana seconded, motion carried.

- b) FY2027 One-Ton Truck Review / Possible Purchase -Phil presented the options for the replacement of the Eden Valley one ton truck, after some discussion with the board, Brian Grell motioned to purchase the Ford F350 Supercab for \$47,317 from Clinton Auto Group, Gloria Friederichsen seconded, motion carried.
- c) FY2027 Zero Turn Mower Review / Possible Purchase – Phil explained to the board that we should start with the rotation of mowers so we can avoid replacing them all at the same time. He would like to start with one of Eden Valley's. After some questions and discussion, it was decided to table the decision until further information was available about each mower for hours and trade-in values.
- d) Eden Valley Bunkhouse / Nature Center Deck – We are wanting to add a 10 X 8 deck to the community room door that leads to nowhere/outside. Options of a deck vs concrete pad, there were concerns on the life of a deck. This project was estimated at \$5,000. Board is waiting for more information for the Nature Center deck.

The Bunkhouse is also in need of a deck replacement. This is something that can be done by our staff with the estimated cost of materials being \$15,000 with

composite decking being used. Karen Bradway motioned to purchase materials for the bunkhouse deck now in FY26 budget surplus for liability reasons, Gloria Friederichsen seconded, motion carried.

Old Business:

- a) Clinton County Compensation Policy – Phil updated the Conservation Board on the Compensation Policy that the Board of Supervisors approved that will start July 1st.
- b) Rock Creek Dredging Project – WHKS reached out to Phil asking about the dredging project at Rock Creek and wanted to submit a proposal for their scope of work. Phil didn't have enough time to look through all the information provided and stated he would be ok to table this item. The board decided to table it until next month for discussion.

Public Comment:

Adjournment – Jeff Beckwith to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

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

Jeff Beckwith, Chair

Brian Grell, Secretary/Treasurer