

Clinton County Conservation Board

Meeting Minutes

August 18th, 2026
and Via Zoom

Welcome & Introductions:

The regular meeting of the Clinton County Conservation Board was called to order by Gloria Friederichsen on August 18th at 6:00 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 July 21st, 2026, meeting was presented. Karen Bradway moved to approve the minutes as amended, Brian Tugana seconded, motion carried.

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

Approval of Bills: Bills were presented for Conservation, Karen Bradway moved to approve the bills; Brian Tugana second, motion carried.

Department Report:

Administrative: Reservation at Rock Creek have been steady compared to last year, while camping is almost equal to last year. Sherman Park camping has decreased due to the highwater. Eden Valley and Walnut Grove camping is up. It's been really hot this season with bad storms that may have affected camping numbers. We also had a booth at the Clinton County Fair and was well attended.

There was an IMWCA, training that Phil was able to attend, our two park supervisors and our EE coordinator were able to all attend that. IMWCA is the Iowa Municipal Workers' Compensation Association, which is our workers' comp insurance.

EE: We are wrapping up the last summer camp, which is today as well as Clinton Night out, and we will be shifting to field trips as school gets started around September.

East District: The Catfish Classic is this weekend. We are currently limiting the Heron boat to 15 people for cruises; it is very shallow right now. It is still up in the air if we are doing cruises next week. They did look at other launching options; the issue is turning the boat around without getting stuck.

New Business:

- a. **Clinton County Development Association Vault Restroom Grant** – We were not the grant due to not having a Board of Supervisors resolution. Phil has resubmitted the grant application with the Board of Supervisors resolution and he will find out if we will receive the grant by September.
- b. **Sharing – A sharing of books or articles of possible interest to people interested in Conservation** – This month, Dr. Brian Tugana is touting “Shade”, a book that he says that for himself, was one of the most interesting kinds of conservation-oriented books that he’s read in an awful long time. It’s about the concept; he really knew next to nothing about. He’s come to find out that it’s had a huge impact. If you go down to some of our big cities, there are all kinds of regulations that have impacted on how our cities look, and how the big skyscrapers look based on shade. Again, the impact on the climate, which we all are wrestling with so much these days, so... he really touts this one, and it’s an interesting concept. Shade is a natural resource.
- c. **Discussion about the Review of Contracts** – Dr. Brian Tugana would like to see Phil and Conservation Board to submit all contracts to the County Attorney first before we move forward with any of them. Phil said he has done this in the past with the bigger contracts but doesn’t with smaller items.

Old Business:

- a. **Rock Creek Dredging Project Follow-up and Schedule** – Phil spoke with WHKS for updates on the dredging project. He was informed that the study will be done in October and they will have a presentation to give. Phil is proposing that this presentation to be a joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors at the November 17th Conservation Board meeting at Rock Creek starting earlier around 4:00 p.m. so there would still be daylight to visually see the slough and the park.

Public Comment:

Adjournment – Jeff Beckwith to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 15th, 2026 – 6pm - Location Grand Mound or via Zoom

Jeff Beckwith, Chair

Brian Grell, Secretary/Treasurer