



## TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

Meeting minutes of Thursday, December 21, 2023  
7 PM at the Historic Green County Courthouse  
Monroe, WI

Present: Committee members – Chairman Russ Torkelson and Melissa Even from Green County, Jeff Berget, Donna Flannery, Luke McGuire and Jack Sauer from Lafayette County, and Kevin Peterson from Iowa County. Coordinators Tom Jean and Deb Krahenbuhl were also present along with members from the various snowmobile and ATV Clubs.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Russ Torkelson at 7:00 PM. Tom Jean verified the meeting was posted at the Green, Lafayette and Iowa County Courthouse's, the Lafayette County Highway Dept. and on the website. Mr. Torkelson declared this to be a properly posted legal meeting with enough members present to constitute a quorum. Lafayette County Board Chairman, Jack Sauer was also present at the meeting in place of Kurt Malott who recently resigned.

Approval of the agenda: A motion was made by Jeff Berget and seconded by Donna Flannery to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2023 meeting was made by Melissa Even and seconded by Kevin Peterson and the motion carried.

### **Discussion and update on the status of the DNR grant funding for the projects along the Cheese Country Trail.**

Tom is currently working with Kurt Byfield of the DNR to bring all of the requests for reimbursement up to date and to get a report from him on the approved rehabilitation projects that have been approved by the DNR. Tom will reach out to Kurt to get an update to present at the next meeting.

Tom has reached out to Misty Molzoff of the PRTC to find out the status of the ongoing lawsuit against the landowner who removed trees from the Cheese Country Trail right of way, just East of South Wayne. She has not gotten back to Tom with any new report, however the County Representatives have a meeting of the PRTC coming up soon and may get some information then.

### **Discussion and update on general maintenance/signage or encroachment issues along the Cheese Country Trail along with Trail Maintenance Update – Local ATV & Snowmobile Clubs.**

The trail is in good shape and we are just waiting for snowmobile season to arrive. The trail will remain open for ATV use until we get sufficient snow for snowmobiling and then we will close it to ATV/UTV traffic.

### **Trail Usage update – Local ATV and Snowmobile Clubs.**

Closed session at the request of the Tri County Trail Commission pursuant to Statute 19.85(1) (c) of the WI State Statutes for the purpose of discussing hiring and compensation for the Trail Coordinator's position to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of the current Trail Coordinator in March of 2024. A motion was made by Jeff Berget to go into closed session for this purpose. The motion was seconded by Donna Flannery. By roll call vote: Berget-yes, Flannery-yes, McGuire-yes, Peterson-yes, Even-yes, Torkelson-yes, Sauer-yes,

Following the discussion in Closed session, a motion was made by Jeff Berget and seconded by Donna Flannery to come out of closed session. By roll call vote: Berget-yes, Flannery-yes, McGuire-yes, Peterson-yes, Even-yes, Torkelson-yes, Sauer-yes, Action taken in closed session: Melissa Even made a motion to accept the agreement with Lafayette County as discussed in closed session to retain a new Trail Coordinator and to give Chairman Torkelson the authority to sign the final agreement on behalf of the Tri County Trail Commission with Lafayette County. The motion was seconded by Donna Flannery and the motion carried unanimously.

**Legislative update:** No report.

**Public comment:** None

**Fencing Request :** None

**Status of Funds :** The Status of Funds was presented by Tom. A motion was made by Jeff Berget and seconded by Kevin Peterson to accept the report and the motion carried.

**Vouchers:** Tom presented invoices to be paid; Lafayette County Highway Department for gravel - \$2,583.12, Tri County ATV Club -\$2,100.00 for grading, and \$433.51 for bridge repair and maintenance. Total vouchers were \$5,116.63. A motion to approve the vouchers was made by Melissa Even and seconded by Donna Flannery and the motion passed.

Next meeting date: January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in Darlington at the Lafayette County Multi-purpose building.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Melissa Even and seconded by Kevin Peterson and the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

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