



TRI-COUNTY TRAILS COMMISSION MINUTES

July 24, 2025

7:00 PM

Lafayette County Multipurpose Building
11974 Ames Road, Darlington

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Torkelson

Members Present:

Green County – Russ Torkelson, Larry Kranig, William Burchard

Iowa County – Michael Gates

Lafayette County – Jeff Berget, Donna Flannery, Mark Pinch

Members Absent:

Lafayette County – Luke McGuire (excused)

Others Present:

Max Blackbourn – Trail Coordinator, Deb Krahenbuhl – Trail Liaison, Laney Finkelmeyer – Conservation Specialist

Sheldon Krahenbuhl, Jim Lange, Scott McGowan, Shelly McGowan, Jean North, Dick North, Doug Mayer, Brad Eckerman

2. Proof of Proper Posting

Chair Torkelson asked for proof of proper posting. Blackbourn stated the agenda was posted at the Green, Iowa and Lafayette County Courthouses, sent to all Lafayette County Departments to post in their facilities and the Lafayette County Website.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Berget, seconded by Gates, to approve the agenda. Voice vote. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes for June 19, 2025

Motion by Pinch, seconded by Burchard, to approve the minutes as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

None

6. Legislative or WATVA Updates – Rob McConnell

Rob gave updates on the following: ORV council received all grant requests. There was 5 million dollars in requests and only 3 million in grant funds to award. Council will work on what projects will be awarded funding. There is also potentially legislation to be introduced to increase weight limit to be designated a UTV.

7. Discussion and Possible Action – Revision to Tri-County Trail Coordinator cooperative agreement

Blackbourn stated there were a few slight changes after being reviewed by Green County Corporation Counsel & Lafayette County Corporation Counsel. After brief discussion, motion made by Flannery, seconded by Berget to approve the revision to Tri-County Trail Coordinator cooperative agreement. Voice vote. Motion carried. Commission welcomes Laney Finkelmeyer as new co-coordinator with Max Blackbourn.

8. Discussion and Possible Action – Encroachment Issues on trail system (if any)

Blackbourn stated the sign discussed at last meeting was still there and he would work on sending out a letter for it's removal. No action taken.

9. Discussion and Possible Action – CCT Usage, conditions, grants, and maintenance needs

a. Trail Coordinator's report

- Blackbourn reported the following:
 - Wrapped up 2024-2025 grants
 - Received additional cost estimates for bridge grants as requested by DNR
 - Waiting for trail to dry up for more rehab gravel to be placed
 - Shared more trail counter data
- Krahenbuhl reported the following:
 - Got interviewed with Blackbourn by Milwaukee Magazine about the trails.

No action taken.

b. Clubs Report (ATV and Snowmobile)

- Tri-County ATV reported that they've been busy with cleaning up lots of trees. Looking into doing some additional tree trimming work as well.

No action taken.

c. Replacing signs for Pecatonica State Trail

- Blackbourn stated this is a project started last year and hoping to get it done soon. He further stated that he has talked with the Tech. Ed. Teacher at Darlington High School to give students a project to re-make a similar sign to the current one in Belmont that is dilapidated and make an additional sign to place at the Cheese Country Trail intersection. Currently Blackbourn is looking at donating cedar boards towards the project.

No action taken.

10. Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Vouchers

Blackbourn presented the vouchers for the commission's consideration.

24-25 Snowmobile Maintenance Grant:

\$1,741.51 – NBI Engineering Services LLC – 42 Bridge Inspections

24-25 ATV Maintenance Grant:

\$26,608.49 – NBI Engineering Services LLC – 42 Bridge Inspections

\$3,817.27 – Bard Materials – 3/4" Gravel

\$145.50 – Tri-County ATVer's – Tree removal / cleanup

\$34.00 – Tri-County ATVer's – Tree removal / cleanup

\$280.75 – Tri-County ATVer's – Tree removal / cleanup

\$773.65 – Tri-County ATVer's – Grading / cleanup washouts

\$7,044.34 – Green County ATV – Paving trail intersection at Ullom Road

ATV-4701 Rehab Grant

\$12,506.63 – Bard Materials – 3/4" Gravel

Trail Pass / Trust Account:

\$77.13 – Bard Materials – 3/4" Gravel (*Note this was reimbursed by Tri-County ATVer's)

Motion made by Berget. Seconded by Kranig to approve the voucher as presented. Voice vote.
Motion carried.

11. Discussion and Possible Action – Status of Funds

Motion made by Pinch, seconded by Berget to approve status of funds. Voice vote. Motion carried.

12. Future Agenda Items

Updating trails ordinance

13. Adjournment

Motion by Burchard seconded by Kranig, to adjourn. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Time: 7:36 PM

Minutes by Max Blackbourn, Tri-County Trails Coordinator

Posted by County Clerk's Office on 8/22/2025, Barbara Weinbrenner