



TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

Meeting minutes of Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 7 PM

Green County Courthouse in Monroe, WI

Present: Committee members – Heimann, Wolfe, Schilling and Bartels of Lafayette County, Blumer and Torkelson from Green County. Winters had an excused absence and Butteris from Iowa County was also absent.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Heimann at 7:00 PM and he asked if the meeting was properly posted. Tom Jean verified the meeting was posted at the Green, Lafayette and Iowa County Courthouses, Darlington Municipal Building, the Lafayette County Highway Dept. and on the website. Mr. Heimann declared this to be a properly posted legal meeting with enough members present to constitute a quorum.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Bartels, seconded by Mr. Wolfe and the motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2019 meeting was made by Mr. Torkelson and seconded by Mr. Blumer. The motion carried.

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

Tom reported that Kurt Byfield from the DNR sent him an email on June 12th stating that the ORV Council has approved our request for \$88,490 in flood rehabilitation funds. Tom will reach out to him to see what the conditions of the grant are and what we need for documentation to get the reimbursements.

The Wisconsin Emergency Management Agency doesn't pay for disaster aid on recreational trails. The only thing that is eligible for their funding would be debris clean-up, which was a small portion of the last two floods.

Tom will check with County Emergency Government manager, Theresa Burgess to see where we are with the FEMA funding from the 2017 event.

Tom is waiting to hear from the DNR on the maintenance funding for the 2019-2020 seasons. The DNR has been reviewing the mileage of all trails in the State and now that they require GPS coordinates to be included on the application, the mileages and associated funding could be reduced subject to their review. Tom is working with Laurie Aulik from the Lafayette County Land Records Dept. to get the correct mileage recorded.

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

Lee said that he was going to work on the area north of Ferndale Road near Reichling's bottom that has washed out next to the trail. Signs and caution tape has been put up, but it is a very dangerous area and if someone isn't paying attention, they may go off there.

Legislative update:

Tom reported earlier that the ORV council has approved \$88,000 funding for trail rehabilitation from the damage done last October and this March flooding. Rob McConnell had a lot to do with getting this money approved and a big "thank you" goes out to him.

Public comment : None.

Fencing Request : None

Status of Funds : Tom presented the Status of funds which showed the 2018/2019 expenditures. It reflects the snowmobile funds that were all used either for grooming or non-grooming purposes. It also reflects the flood related expenses to date of \$69,057.59 (both Lafayette & Green). The report shows the anticipated revenue that we are hoping to be awarded for the 2017 flood declaration, the ORV council rehabilitation grant, the 2019-2020 anticipated maintenance funds and the bridge rehabilitation grant fund. A motion to accept the Status of Funds report was made by Mr. Blumer and seconded by Mr. Torkelson, and the motion carried.

Vouchers: The only voucher presented for payment was from Lee McCarville, that was handed in just prior to the meeting. It was for the bridge rehabilitation project on bridges 22, 25, 26 & 27. Tom explained to the committee that in order to receive the reimbursement from the DNR, the project has to be completed and all bills need to be itemized. Tom will work with Lee to get an itemized bill so that we can get the grant money approved. A motion to approve the bill and hold payment until all of the project is complete and the correct paper work is done, was made by Blumer and seconded by Schilling. The motion carried.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bartels and seconded by Mr. Blumer and the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Submitted 7/23/19 TRJ