



TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

Meeting minutes of Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 7 PM

Lafayette County Multi-Purpose Building
Darlington, WI

Present: Committee members – Blumer, Torkelson and Withee of Green County along Reichling, Flannery and Fisker from Lafayette County. Stauffacher had an excused absence and the Iowa County representative, Richard Rolfsmeyer was not present. Coordinators present were Tom Jean and Deb Krahenbuhl along with ATV Club members.

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 Courthouses, Darlington Municipal Building, 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.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Blumer, seconded by Ms. Flannery and the motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 30, 2020 meeting was made by Mrs. Fisker, seconded by Mr. Withee and the motion carried.

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

Tom explained to the Committee how the grant funding from the DNR works and the dates and amounts that applications and reimbursement requests must be submitted. He explained how the normal maintenance funds are used and how funding for special projects such as bridge rehabilitation or flood damage repairs need to be applied for.

Deb Krahenbuhl explained the \$15 annual trail pass system and gave a brief accounting of how much revenue it brings to the Cheese Country Trail each year.

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 reported that the trail was generally in pretty good shape and is getting a lot of use. The more it's used, the rougher it becomes and the more grading is going to be required.

Opening the trail during the COVID19 situation has presented an opportunity for many trail users to escape the metropolitan areas, but it has also created some concern over the social distancing requirements. The Sheriff's dept. and the game warden are constantly monitoring the groups of ATV/UTV riders and reminding them to practice social distancing.

There was an accident on the trail near Slough lane that Lee and Tom responded to on Saturday evening May 16th. A UTV traveling south on the trail, hit the east railing of bridge # 19, destroying the 3 guard rails and braces. Lee and Tom made a temporary repair and Lee will go back and fix it permanently once he obtains the materials. Tom will get the insurance information so that a bill can be submitted to the driver of the ATV.

Mrs. Quinn, who lives where the trail crosses Sargent road, has called to report that a large hole has developed next to her field, due to ATV's getting off the trail and running through the mud. Lee will look into getting it repaired.

Legislative update: None.

Public comment: None.

Fencing Request : None

Status of Funds : Tom presented the Status of funds report through May 15th of 2020. Following a review, a motion was made to accept the Status of Fund report, by Ms. Fisker and seconded Mr. Blumer by and the motion carried.

Following some discussion regarding the timeline for the snowmobile clubs to submit their grooming and non-grooming activities to the coordinators, a motion was made by Mr. Blumer that all snowmobile vouchers need to be submitted to the coordinator by March 31 in order to qualify for reimbursement. This will allow the Commission time to decide what to spend any excess funds on before the June 30th deadline. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Fisker and the motion carried.

Vouchers: Vouchers presented for payment were from; Jeff Voegeli Landscaping for gravel in the amount of \$3,595.41 and for grading in the amount of \$3,595.00. Flesher Fabricating for bridge rehabilitation materials in the amount of \$988.84 and to Bard Materials for gravel in the amount of \$690.84. Total voucher amount was \$8,870.09. A motion to approve the vouchers was made by Ms. Flannery and seconded by Mrs. Frisker and the motion carried.

Date of next meeting: July 23, 2020 at 7 PM at the pavilion in Calamine for our annual picnic.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Withee and seconded by Ms. Flannery and the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Submitted 5/19/20 TRJ