



## TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

Meeting minutes of Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 7 PM  
Green County Courthouse  
Monroe, WI

Present: Committee members – Torkelson and Even of Green County along with Flannery and Berget from Lafayette County. Coordinators present were Tom Jean and Deb Krahenbuhl along with ATV Club members and snowmobile club members and area DNR wardens Mike Burns and Jane Voskuilen.

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.

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

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2022, meeting was made by Ms. Even and seconded by Mr. Berget and the motion carried.

DNR Warden Mike Burns from Iowa County was here to introduce the new DNR warden for Lafayette County, Jane Voskuilen. They also explained how the DNR funds their enforcement efforts on the trail systems. They both left their contact information and the committee thanked them for their efforts and their presence at this meeting. Both wardens stayed for the duration of the meeting.

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

Tom explained that he has received the checks for the rip rap project that was recently completed near Tibbets road. The two checks totaled \$255,344.00 and the project cost was \$265,257. Tom will apply for and hopefully receive the additional \$10,000 needed to make this project fully funded.

The new members of the committee were asking how the side trails were funded and Tom and Leon Wolfe explained to them that the funding mechanism is the same for them as they are for the Cheese Country Trail. The committees and coordinators are completely separate however. Each County has its own trail committee that takes care of their respective trail systems.

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

At the last meeting a motion was passed to spend up to \$12,500 with the Lafayette County Highway Department to repair some of the rough areas of the trail before snowmobile grooming began. Tom reported that the Highway Department was able to repair a few areas before trail became too frozen to work on. Craig Shager was curious why the committee approved spending Trust fund/trail pass funds to repair the trail before all of the maintenance money was expended. Ms. Even explained that the motion was passed to make these funds available for emergency repairs outside of the normal maintenance funds.

The Tri County ATVers would like to build an additional 24 feet onto the existing pavilion in Calamine. The current structure is not quite big enough for some of the groups that are using it. The Tri County ATV Club would fund the project themselves. Tom will have to check with and get permission from the PRTC for this project. A motion was made by Mr. Berget and seconded by Ms. Even to support this project and the motion carried.

Tom has been contacted by a contractor for Alliant Energy to perform some tree and brush clearing along the trail adjacent to their lines near Browntown. The lines are the main electrical transmission lines for the cities of Browntown and Monroe. A motion to approve this work was made by Ms. Flannery and seconded by Ms. Even and the motion carried. Tom will also check with the PRTC to get their approval.

**Trail Usage update – Local ATV and Snowmobile Clubs:** Lee McCarville was not present to give a trail condition update. Craig Shager said that the Green County portion of the trail was in good condition and ATV's have been using it since there has been no snow for snowmobiling.

**Legislative update:** None

**Public comment:** None..

**Fencing Request:** None

**Status of Funds:** Tom presented the updated 2022-2023 Status of Funds showing an up to date balance. A motion to accept the Status of funds was made by Ms. Even and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Berget, and the motion carried.

**Vouchers:** Vouchers presented for payment were: Fayette Sno Goers for non-grooming -\$155.00, County Mutual Insurance for Liability Insurance -\$464.00, Tri County ATV Club for non-grooming -\$151.00, Lafayette County Highway Dept. for grading-\$1,963.29 and Bard Materials for gravel- \$555.58. The total vouchers was for \$3,288.87. A motion to approve the vouchers was made by Mr. Berget and seconded by Ms. Flannery and the motion carried.

**Date of next meeting:** Feb. 23, 2023, in Darlington at the Lafayette County Multipurpose building at 7 PM.

**Future Agenda Items:** Coordinators job description and compensation.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Even and seconded by Ms. Flannery and the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

submitted 2/21/23 TRJ