



## TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

Meeting minutes of Thursday, July 26, 2018  
Calamine Pavilion in Lafayette County

Present: Committee members – Heimann, Wolfe, and Bartels of Lafayette County and Blumer and Torkelson from Green County. No one was present from Iowa County and Winters was excused from Green County. Rob McConnell from the WI ATV/UTV Association was also present.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Heimann at 7 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. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Bartels and the motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2018 meeting was made by Mr. Blumer and seconded by Mr. Torkelson. The motion carried.

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

Tom has received word that the FEMA grant from the July 2017 flooding will be 75% of the damage inventory amount of \$36,177.81 or \$27,133.36 for the federal portion and another \$4,522.23 for the State portion.

Tom has received the State DNR maintenance grants for the 2018-2019 season. The ATV/UTV amount is \$45,400 and the Snowmobile amount is \$19,200.

Tom also explained that we have an outstanding grant for bridge rehabilitation that we need to use up.

### **Discussion and update on general maintenance/signage or encroachment issues along the Cheese Country Trail**

All of the maintenance funds for the 2017-2018 season have been used up and there has been a wind and rain storm on July 13, 2018. Tom will look into applying for storm damage funds to get reimbursed for the work done to get the trail opened after that storm.

Tom has learned from Ivey Construction that the PRTC would like them to remove a parking lot that they had installed several years ago next to the trailhead in Mineral Point. The PRTC feels it

is an encroachment onto the Rail ROW and they don't want to allow it. Following some discussion, it is the feeling of the TCTC that this parking lot has been an asset to the trail and it should be allowed to remain. A motion was made by Mr. Torkelson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Blumer to have Mr. Wolfe express this commission's support to allow Ivey Construction to leave the parking lot on the trail right of way. The motion carried and Mr. Wolfe will relay this to the PRTC at their next meeting.

The Village of South Wayne needs to drill a new well at its waste water treatment facility and in order to be within State compliance, needs to be a minimum of 75 feet from the existing buildings. This would put the well on the Cheese Country Trail right of way. Following some discussion, a motion to allow this well to be placed on the trail right of way was made by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Bartels and the motion carried.

**Trail Update – Local ATV & Snowmobile Clubs** - The Tri County ATV Club was instrumental in cleaning up after the storm of July 13. They had a crew of volunteers that worked several hours between Darlington and Gratiot to get it opened back up.

**Legislative update** - Rob McConnell, the Vice-President of the WI ATV/UTV Association and Vice-Chair of the Off Road Motorcycle Association, was present and gave a brief update on some ongoing issues with the State DNR. He stated that the DNR has made bridge rehabilitation a priority in order to keep from replacing too many bridges. He also told us that there is DNR money available for resurfacing grants and for storm damage grants. Tom will investigate these further.

**Public comment** - A boy scout from Monroe, Liam Kivirist, is planning an Eagle Scout project which will promote the trail through photographs and videos taken by a drone. With the Committee's permission, Tom wrote a letter of approval for Liam to present to his Scout Leaders. Hopefully he will get their permission to work on this as his Eagle Scout project.

**Fencing Request** - Lee mentioned that Josh Goebel may have a request for a short stretch near Ames Branch south of Darlington.

**Status of Funds** - Tom presented the Status of funds which showed that all of the ATV/UTV and Snowmobile funds for fiscal year 2017-2018 have been used up. It also showed a balance in the fencing fund of \$2,122.52, in the Trust Fund of \$31,736.51, and in the Trail Pass Account of \$76,894.70. A motion to accept the status of funds was made by Mr. Blumer and seconded by Mr. Wolfe. The motion passed.

**Vouchers** - Vouchers presented for payment included Bard Materials for Gravel in the amount of \$130.62, Ivey Construction for cement- \$2,354.00 and gravel -\$82.50, Lafayette County Highway Dept. for: grading and gravel-\$6,181.98 and \$822.16, and to Nodolf lumber for sign materials- \$174.23. The total vouchers were \$9,745.49. A motion was made by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Mr. Torkelson to approve and the motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 26 at the pavilion in Calamine for our annual summer picnic.

**Adjournment** - A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Mr. Blumer and the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Submitted 8/22/18