



Tri County Trail Commission  
Meeting minutes of Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7 PM  
Lafayette County Multi-Purpose Building  
Darlington, WI 53530

Present: Committee members – Blumer, Withee and Torkelson of Green County along with Reichling, Flannery, and Fisker from Lafayette County. Coordinators present were Tom Jean and Deb Krahenbuhl along with ATV Club members and snowmobile club members. Stauffacher and Rolfsmeyer were absent.

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 Mr. Withee and the motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Feb. 18, 2021 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 is continuing to work with Kurt Byfield from the DNR to bring all of the grant reimbursement requests up to date. Tom will be applying for new funding for the 2021-2022 season before April 15. He has contacted Kurt and Jillian Steffes from the DNR regarding the agreement for the Rip Rap project between Ferndale and Tibbets and as soon as he receives the agreement from them, he will sign it, return it and proceed with bid letting.

**Discussion and update on general maintenance/signage or encroachment issues along the Cheese Country Trail along with Trail Maintenance Update – Local ATV & Snowmobile Clubs and Trail Usage update. Local ATV and Snowmobile Clubs:** The Tri County ATV Club would like to see new informational signs installed at several areas along the trail. The current signs have been in place for many years and are in need of replacement. Deb Krahenbuhl had a picture of the signs that are being proposed and the Tri County ATV Club is willing to share some of the cost of the new signs. Each sign will cost about \$1,250 and at least 7 of them would be needed. It was decided to purchase one to make sure it is the sign that we would like to have. Following some discussion, a motion was made by John Reichling and seconded by Donna Flannery, to purchase the signs and the Tri County Trails Commission will fund the balance of the purchase. The motion carried.



It was brought to the attention of the committee that there are many permits that the PRTC is requiring for private crossings into landowner's property and they are requiring both the PRTC and TCTC to sign these permits. Following some discussion, a motion was made by John Reichling and seconded by Nancy Fisker, to allow the TCTC representative on the PRTC board, to sign these permits on behalf of the TCTC and furthermore have the TCTC representatives report to the PRTC at their monthly meetings. The motion carried.

Leon Wolfe was present as a representative of the Lafayette County Snowmobile Alliance. He expressed some concern over the current policy of opening and closing the Cheese Country Trail for snowmobiling. He would like to see better communications as to when the trail is open or closed. The large amount of snow this past season has led to more usage and there were times when it was unclear as to when the Cheese Country Trail was open or closed and it didn't always coincide with Club trail openings. Currently and for many years, Paul McCarville has been coordinating the opening and closing in conjunction with the area Snowmobile Clubs. Following some discussion, a motion was made by John Reichling and seconded by Donna Flannery to leave the opening and closing decision with Paul McCarville and the area Snowmobile Clubs. The motion carried.

Tom reported that the Main street project in Darlington is about to get under way and that crossing Main St. will be altered. Tom has been in contact with project manager Barry Larson and Project Engineer, Ken Plowman and they will call anytime the crossing needs to be changed. Tom will work with Lafayette County Highway Commissioner Dan Rielly and sign foreman (and ATV Club president) Fuzzy North to facilitate the rerouting of ATV traffic across Main Street during the construction.

**Legislative update:** None

**Public comment:** Just an FYI, Bob Voegeli reported that some of the County Roads in Green County are going to open for ATV/UTV travel. This will probably help the entire SW area for tourism.

**Fencing Request:** None

**Status of Funds:** Tom presented the updated 2020-2021 Status of Funds showing an up to date balance. A motion to accept the Status of funds was made by Mr. Blumer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Withee, and the motion carried.

**Vouchers:** Vouchers presented for payment were: Blackhawk Riders \$474.50 for snow grooming, Fayette Sno-Goers, \$3,562 for snow grooming, Green County ATV Club \$201.22 for trail maintenance, Tom Jean, \$5,000 for Trail coordinators salary, Stateline Trailblazers, \$1,183.00 for Snow Grooming, and WIS Net, \$25.00 for Internet Domain



renewal. The total of all vouchers was \$10,445.72. A motion to pay these vouchers was made by Mr. Reichling and seconded by Mr. Withee, motion carried.

**Date of next meeting:** April 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM in Monroe at the Green County Courthouse.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Fisker and seconded by Mr. Reichling and the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

submitted 4/20/21 TRJ