



Tri-County Trail Commission
Meeting minutes of Thursday, April 20, 2023, at 7 PM
Green County Courthouse
Monroe, WI

Present: Committee members – Torkelson, Wilke and Even of Green County along with Flannery, Berget, McGuire and Malott from Lafayette County, and Peterson from Iowa County. Coordinators present were Tom Jean and Deb Krahenbuhl along with ATV Club members and snowmobile 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, the Lafayette County Highway Dept. and on the website. Mr. Torkelson declared this to be a properly posted legal meeting.

Approval of the agenda: Donna Flannery would like the wording of the amended agenda item regarding the closed session to read: As per WIS. STAT. § 19.85(1) Any meeting of a governmental body, upon motion duly made and carried, may be convened in closed session under one or more of the exemptions provided in this section. The motion shall be carried by a majority vote in such manner that the vote of each member is ascertained and recorded in the minutes. No motion to convene in closed session may be adopted unless the chief presiding officer announces to those present at the meeting at which such motion is made, the nature of the business to be considered at such closed session, and the specific exemption or exemptions under this subsection by which such closed session is claimed to be authorized. Such announcement shall become part of the record of the meeting. No business may be taken up at any closed session except that which relates to matters contained in the chief presiding officer's announcement of the closed session. A closed session may be held for any of the following purposes: To discuss and act on employee compensation or performance review. A motion to approve the agenda with the change in the wording of item 8b was made by Melissa Even and seconded by Sam Wilke and the motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2023 meeting was made by Melissa Even and seconded by Jeff Berget 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 that he needed any of the work that was done by the snowmobile clubs along the Cheese Country Trail to be turned into the SNARS system as soon as possible and that if they have completed their work, the committee needed to make a motion to approve the extra money to be turned over to the maintenance personnel. All of this work or materials purchased must be done before June 30, 2023. A motion was made by Jeff Berget and seconded by Melissa Even that the funds not used by the snowmobile clubs, be used by the Tri County ATV Club and the Green County ATV Club for gravel on the trail. The motion carried and both of the clubs will report to the committee as to where they used it.

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

Tom has been in contact with Misty Molzof, who is the new coordinator for the PRTC. Misty has issued a formal complaint regarding the clearing of trees along the trail to the East of South Wayne. She will keep us informed as to any developments in this case.

The Tri County ATV Club is looking to build an addition onto the pavilion in Calamine. While this committee has given its approval, the PRTC must also give approval since this building is located on their property. Tom has reached out to them and waiting to hear back.

Trail Usage update – Local ATV and Snowmobile Clubs: Both Lee McCarville and Craig Shager gave reports that reflected higher than normal trail usage this Spring. They both planned to be grading soon and applying gravel where needed.

Legislative update: Rob McConnell was present and updated the Committee on a new piece of legislation that would prohibit open intoxicants by either a driver or passenger of a ATV or UTV on a public trail. Rob said the legislation was endorsed by the WI Tavern League and discussion will be forthcoming.

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 Jeff Berget and 2nd by Sam Wilke and the motion carried.

Vouchers: Vouchers presented for payment were: Monroe Stateline Trailblazers for grooming - \$216.00, Southwest Graphics for trail stickers _\$580.00, T-Riders Snowmobile Club for parking lot snow removal -\$880.00, Tri County ATVers for tree and brush maintenance -\$379.50, and WISNET Inc. for website domain fee -\$25.00. The total of all vouchers was \$2,080.50. A motion was made by Jeff Berget and seconded by Kevin Peterson to approve the vouchers and the motion carried.

Closed Session: A motion was made to go into closed session to discuss employee compensation as per Statute 19.85. By roll call vote; Torkelson-yes, Even-yes, Wilke-yes, Berget-yes, Flannery-yes, Malott-yes, McQuire-yes and Peterson-yes.

A motion was made to come out of closed session as per Statute 19.85. By roll call vote; Torkelson-yes, Even-yes, Wilke-yes, Berget-yes, Flannery-yes, Malott-yes, McQuire-yes and Peterson-yes.

Action in closed session: A motion was made by Luke McGuire and seconded by Donna Flanner to approve a 10% increase in the contract with both the trail coordinator and trail liaison retroactive to the beginning of the current contract year. The motion carried.

Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be in Darlington at the multipurpose building at 7 PM on May 25.

Future Agenda Items: Disclosure of where gravel is placed and a detailed billing provided to the committee.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Luke McGuire and seconded by Kurt Malott and the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

submitted 5/23/23 TRJ