



TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION  
Meeting minutes of Thursday, June 23 2022  
Green County Courthouse  
Monroe, WI at 7 PM

Present: Committee members – Even, Wilke and Torkelson of Green County along with McGuire, Malott and Berget from Lafayette County. Coordinator Tom Jean was present, along with Rob McConnell from the WATVA council. Flannery from Lafayette County, and the Iowa County representative 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 a properly posted legal meeting with enough members present to constitute a quorum.

With the new members of this committee present, Russ Torkelson once again asked everyone to introduce themselves.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jeff Berget and seconded by Luke McGuire and the motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes as of the May 5, 2022 meeting was made by Luke McGuire and seconded by Kurt Malott and the motion carried.

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

**Update on Riprap project between Ferndale & Tibbets Road:** Tom is continuing to work with Ellery Schaeffer from Jewell Associates to get the Riprap project completed along the trail between Tibbets road and Ferndale road. The project was let for bids on June 9 and only two contractors supplied bids. The low bid was from Rule Construction Ltd from Dodgeville for \$204,990.00. Tom explained that this bid was a few thousand dollars higher than we have DNR funding for, but the DNR also had told us that we could apply for an amendment to the grants should we need to. With that in mind, Tom has emailed both Kurt Byfield and Jillian Steffes of the DNR, asking for additional funds to complete this project, add some additional footage downstream, and to hire Jewell to complete construction oversight. The additional amendment asked for would amount to an additional \$67,000 in addition to the \$198,344 already awarded. Tom explained that there would be a DNR funding meeting on June 28 via Zoom. Tom plans to attend to explain the need. Following some discussion, a motion was made by Luke McGuire to allow Tom to award the bid to the low bidder if the additional funding is approved. The motion was seconded by Sam Wilke and by voice vote was approved 5-1 with Melissa Even voting no. She explained that she wasn't opposed to awarding the project, but felt she would like to see a contract before agreeing to it.

**Bridge Rehabilitation grants:** Tom explained that he canceled the bridge rehabilitation grant applications that he had previously applied for. Tom explained that these grants are reimbursement grants and that the project needed to be completed and paid for before we are

eligible for payment from the DNR. With that in mind and the riprap project scheduled to be done this year, it would be stretching our funds to complete both in one year. Tom will apply for bridge rehabilitation funding next April.

**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:**

Matt Horner from the PRTC has received a request from Alliant Energy to complete some utility work along the Cheese Country trail near Calamine. A motion was made by Luke McGuire and seconded by Melissa Even to allow Tom to sign the permit on behalf of the Tri County Trail Commission. The motion carried.

**Trail Usage Update:** Lee McCarville and Craig Shager updated the committee on the trail usage. All segments are being used heavily each weekend and even during the week. For the most part the trail is in pretty good shape and Lee had been grading and mowing as needed.

**Legislative Update:** Rob McConnell was present and presented a copy of the 2021 WI Recreational Vehicle Safety Education and Enforcement report along with an economic impact report regarding UTV/UTV usage. Rob said we should continue to apply for funding for projects along the trail since there seems to be an influx of funds in the treasury now.

**Public Comment:** None

**Fencing Request:** Lee presented a fencing request in the amount of \$662.00 from Huey Brynes for fencing along the trail just south of Mineral Point. A motion to approve this request was made by Kurt Malott, seconded by Luke McGuire and the motion carried.

**Status of Funds:** Tom presented the updated 2021-2022 Status of funds which shows the balances of funding that needs to be spent before June 30<sup>th</sup>. A motion to approve the Status of funds was made by Jeff Berget and seconded by Sam Wilke and the motion carried.

**Vouchers:** Bard Materials for gravel-\$10,023.75, Huey Brynes for fencing - \$662.00, WisNet for websit domain -\$25.64, Tri County ATV Club for ATV maintenance -\$9,968.48, Ivey Construction for gravel -\$3,000, Lee McCarville for Green County ATV maintenance - \$906.80, Green County ATV Club for Green County ATV maintenance-\$527.00, Jewell Associates Engineers for Rip Rap project -\$498.90, for a total of \$25,612.57. A motion was made to approve by Luke McGuire and seconded by Melissa Even and the motion carried.

**Date of next meeting:** July 21, 2022 at 7 PM at the Calamine pavilion.

**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 8:24 pm.

Submitted 7/19/2022 TRJ