

## TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

September 27, 2012

7:00PM

Lafayette County – Lafayette County Courthouse – Darlington, WI

Present: Committee Supervisors Heimann, Wiegel, and Wolfe of Lafayette County, Guth and Koopmans of Green County, Lindholm of Iowa County. Absent is Williams of Green County and Shea of Lafayette County.

Guests Present: Members of local ATV and snowmobile clubs.

The Tri-County Trail Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by committee Chairman Gerald Heimann.

Mr. Heimann welcomed Judy Lindholm of Iowa County to the commission. She introduced herself and looks forward to working with the group.

Mr. Heimann asked if the meeting was properly posted. Ms. Krahenbuhl verified the meeting was posted at the Green, Lafayette and Iowa County Courthouses and the Darlington Municipal Building, Memorial Hospital of Lafayette County and Lafayette County website. Mr. Heimann declared a legal meeting of the Tri-County Trail Commission.

Motion, by Mr. Guth second, by Mr. Koopmans to approve the agenda. Voice vote, motion carried.

Motion, by Mr. Wiegel second, by Mr. Wolfe to approve the minutes as written of the August 30, 2012 meeting. Voice vote, motion carried.

Discussion, update, possible action from the report given in regards to the impact study of the Cheese Country Trail: Mr. Guth reported that he has contacted several groups in Green County to be put on an upcoming meeting agenda to present the fact sheets and information about the study and the Cheese Country Trail and the economic effect it has on our area. Mr. Wolfe also reported that he is waiting to get on an upcoming meeting agenda with the City of Darlington to give a report on the study findings. Leon also reported that the full written report is expected to be completed before the end of the year. Leon also reported that he is on a regional committee that is working on a project called "Grow Southwest Wisconsin". He anticipates that this group will also be using the information that was gathered during the survey for economic development purposes. The commission agreed that promotion and marketing of the Cheese Country Trail is key to the economic development of the area.

Discussion, update, possible action on the status of the DNR grant funding for the projects along the Cheese Country Trail: Deb reported that the wetland scrape (frog pond) in Calamine has been completed. The pond was dug by Casey Crist, the project went well with no problems. There was more material that had to be removed than

originally planned. The area will be seeded with a winter cover and the prairie plants mix will be planted in the spring. Deb also reported that the two rip-rap projects in Iowa County have been completed by Kojak Excavating. Those two projects also went well with no problems. There was an additional 42 feet of rip-rap placed on one of the sites. Kojak will be moving to the Pecatonica River sites in the near future. Deb also reported that she received the final payment on the 2011-2012 annual ATV maintenance grant. She will submit the rip-rap project bills for grant reimbursement when the projects are all completed.

Discussion and possible action on general maintenance/signage and encroachment issues along the Cheese Country Trail; The trail is in good shape. No other discussion.

Discussion and possible action on defining the responsibilities of the coordinator position and recruitment of a new coordinator; Mr. Wolfe and Deb will be working together to create a job description for the trail coordinator position. Mr. Wolfe has spoken with a couple of different people about the position with no commitment from anyone. Mr. Wolfe spoke about the planning and zoning department being combined with the land conservation department and how that will most likely leave no time for any of those folks to help out with the coordinator position. Mr. Guth spoke with Mike Doyle of Green County about taking the position over also. Mr. Doyle and his office just do not have the resources to take over the duties of the position either at this time. Mr. Doyle would consider taking over the responsibilities if no one can be found from Lafayette County. Mr. Guth spoke about how the commission should look at a restructure of the group to include economic development groups. There was some discussion on how the group might get more outside resources involved the same way that the ATV and snowmobile clubs have involved themselves. This item will stay on the agenda and Deb will continue to fulfill the duties of the coordinator.

Public comment: None

Trail Update: Lee McCarville of the Tri-County ATV Club reported that the CCT trail is open and is in good shape. He plans on grading the trail before the leaves all drop from the trees. He also commented on how well the rip-rap projects look. He suggested that Deb contact the snowmobile clubs to see if they are interested in splitting the cost of a mowing this fall. Lee also reported that he had Kojak replace a tube on the CCT while he was in the area with his equipment. The invoice for the culvert from the Lafayette County High Department is included in the voucher.

Green County ATV Club reported that the Bill Cowell rest area along the CCT has become a play area. The Green County ATV Club will be contacting the local snowmobile clubs to possibly clean up the area as a joint effort to try and keep the area as more of a picnic/rest area. Green County ATV club also reported that the Green County section of the CCT is in good shape. They do have a few signs that are in need of attention and plan to get that done soon. They also reported that there is a parking shortage in Monroe at the trailhead and they are looking at different signage options in the parking area.

Fencing Requests: There are no fencing requests to report.

Status of Funds: Deb passed out the financial report for August and reviewed with the group. There were no questions or discussion Motion, by Mr. Guth second, by Mr. Koopmans to accept the status of funds as reported. Voice vote, motion carried.

Approval of Vouchers: Bills presented tonight include Bill Crist & Son \$4345.00 for the wetland scrape, Ivey Construction \$280.29 for gravel, Kojak Excavating \$5414.10 for the Iowa County rip-rap projects and Lafayette County Highway Dept. \$384.00 for a culvert. Total of voucher 5068 is \$10,423.39. Motion, by Mr. Wolfe, second, by Mr. Wiegel to accept the bills as presented. Voice vote, motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 25, 2012 at 7PM in Iowa County at the new municipal building in Mineral Point.

Motion, by Mr. Guth second, by Mr. Wolfe to adjourn. Voice vote, motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.