

TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

Thursday January 23, 2014

7:00 PM

Iowa County – Mineral Point City Hall – Mineral Point, WI

Present: Committee members - Heimann, Wiegel, and Wolfe of Lafayette County, Guth and Koopmans of Green County and Lindholm of Iowa County. Excused absent was Pat Shea, Jeff Williams and Deb Krahenbuhl.

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

Mr. Heimann 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, Memorial Hospital of Lafayette County, the Lafayette County Highway Dept. and on the website. Mr. Heimann declared a legal meeting of the Tri-County Trail Commission.

Mr. Guth made a motion to approve the agenda as posted, seconded by Mr. Koopmans, and the motion carried.

The minutes of the Dec. 19, 2013 meeting were presented. Mr. Wiegel made a motion to accept the minutes with no additions or corrections. Mr. Guth seconded the motion, and by voice vote all approved and the motion carried.

Discussion, update, possible action on the status of the DNR grant funding for the projects along the Cheese Country Trail.

Tom has signed the exit report for the FEMA which should finalize the Federal funding for the monies to repair the Iowa County portion of the trail due to the June flooding.

Ted and Leon will attend the meeting of the PRTC on Friday, Jan. 24th and have been informed that the PRTC is going to be asking Lafayette County for \$26,000 for maintenance of the rail corridor. Lafayette County is opposed to this since there is no railroad operating within the portion of the trail in Lafayette County. Ted and Leon will report back to this commission next month.

Polaris Company offers a grant program for ATV clubs and associations to promote safe and responsible riding and preserving access to trail systems. Grant applications are due by March 1st and Sept. 1st of each year and each application is eligible for up to \$10,000 per request. The commission feels that this is something that should be pursued and Tom will check it out further and report back in February.

Discussion and possible action on general maintenance/signage or encroachment issues along the Cheese Country Trail.

Lee and Paul will continue to monitor the condition of the Trails for snowmobile use and after consulting with the different Clubs will open or close it as needed to best preserve it. Many factors go into the decision to open or close the trails and Lee will try to keep everyone in the loop.

The installation of an electric fence on the trail ROW on the Suddeth property last fall has become an issue. Not only is it an encroachment issue, but a safety issue. Lee said he will talk with Mr. Suddeth and report back next month.

Tom was informed in early January of a possible problem with the series of overhead truss bridges on the trail near Browntown. A State of Wisconsin Bridge Engineer noticed what he thought was a hinge pin working its way out of the top of one of the structures. Tom accompanied Mike Reynolds, Lafayette County's bridge inspector, on an inspection of the bridge on Jan. 17th. They found that everything was ok and that what appeared to be a faulty pin was just a longer one that protruded beyond the truss plates. Mike's report will be

kept on file and Tom will reply to the State Bridge inspector with the results. The invoice for the bridge inspection was presented to the Committee for approval and it was decided to pay it out of trail pass money.

Public comment:

Rob McConnell was present and informed the committee that Representative Marklien was co-sponsoring a bill which would allow local jurisdictions the authority to all ATV/snowmobile traffic to use State owned bridges to access local trail systems. More information will be available soon.

Trail Update – Local ATV & Snowmobile Clubs

Mr. Guth presented a request from a local Monroe group that wanted permission to use a portion of the trail for a Suicide Prevention Benefit Walk/Run on Sat. April 26, 2014. The route would be from the trail head in Monroe to Patterson Road and for a few hours on that day. A motion was made by Mr. Guth and seconded by Mr. Koopmans to allow this group to use the trail for this event and by voice vote the motion passed.

Fencing Request. None

Status of Funds. Deb was absent from this meeting and will present an updated status at the Feb. meeting.

Approval of Vouchers: Voucher payments include;

Wisconsin County Mutual Insurance Co.	Liability Insurance	\$1,193.00
Bard Materials	Gravel/maintenance	\$ 552.00
Mike Reynolds Engineering	Bridge inspection	\$ 343.00

Following some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Guth and seconded by Mr. Wolfe to approve the vouchers. On voice vote, motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday Feb. 20, 2014 at 7:00 PM in Monroe, at the Green County courthouse .

Motion by Ms. Lindholm, and second by Mr. Wiegel to adjourn. On a voice vote, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

posted 2/18/14 TRJ