

TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

Thursday May 26, 2016 @ 7:00 PM

Lafayette County Courthouse – Darlington, WI

Present: Committee members – Heimann, Wiegel, Wolfe and Ludlum of Lafayette County. Blumer, and Roth from Green County and Ross from Iowa County. Excused was Fiduccia from Green County.

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, the Lafayette County Highway Dept. and on the website. Mr. Heimann declared this to be a properly posted legal meeting with enough members present to constitute a quorum.

A motion by Wiegel and second by Wolfe to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

A motion by Ludlum and second by Blumer to approve the April 28, 2016 minutes. Motion carried.

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

Tom has been working with Annie Loeschler from the DNR to resolve a grant issue that dates back to 2010 and 2011. According to DNR records the TCTC was awarded two different grants, one in 2010 and one in 2011. The DNR has no paper work for the reimbursement of the one from 2011. They show that the TCTC was granted an advance payment and they need copies of approved vouchers that show the funds were spent on the project they were approved for. There are two options available to resolve this issue. 1. If we are able to find copies of the vouchers, we can submit them and get reimbursed for any of the work that was done up to the limit of the grant. 2. We currently have an approved bridge rehabilitation grant that the DNR is holding funding until these previous grants are cleared up. If we can't find old vouchers to prove that money was spent for what the previous grants were approved for, then we will have to appeal for an extension of the previous grant, relinquish the current grant, and use old funds for the current project. Tom and Deb will continue to work with the DNR to resolve this issue. A motion was made by Blumer and seconded by Roth to allow the extension of the former grant if necessary. The motion passed.

Discussion and update on the General maintenance and signage along the Cheese Country Trail

Tom reported that the Lafayette County Highway Dept. has completed grading on the trail up to the funding limits that were approved last fall. The trail was graded from the Green County line to Calamine and fines were applied from Roller Coaster Road to the Green County line. A total of \$20,893 was spent of the \$21,699 that was approved. It took approximately \$7,000 of grading and \$14,000 of material to complete the project. There have been many positive comments received by the Trail Committee regarding the improvement.

Lee McCarville has been doing some general maintenance and will be adding more fines and grading with the remaining snowmobile and ATV/UTV funds. Jim Johnson reported that he had compiled a list of about 36 different signs that needed to be repaired or replaced. Several were down, broken or just in need of repair. The majority were bridge signs. Jeff Voegeli will use the balance of the snowmobile funds and the remainder of the ATV/UTV funds to complete mowing, grading and adding aggregate to the Green County portion of the trail. Jeff also requested to use some of the trail pass money, some of which is generated in Green County, to add more fines to the eastern end of the trail. After some discussion, a motion was made by Wiegel and seconded by Wolfe to allow Jeff to use \$4,000 of trail pass funds to add fines in Green County. The motion passed.

Public comment:

There has been an ongoing discussion to consider blacktopping the trail through Calamine and to look into doing something with the standing water in Calamine. The gravel presents a dust issue and the standing water is a breeding ground for mosquitos. Tom reported that he had given Tom McQuire some bags of Calcium

Chloride to try to control the dust. Kevin Baker, who lives in Calamine next to the trail, reported that the chloride has improved the situation. There was also discussion regarding whether it would be cost effective to lay a mat of asphalt through Calamine and who would pay for it. Tom will get some cost estimates and will be put on the next month's agenda.

Mr. Wolfe reported that he has had complaints about farmers planting too close to the trail and infringing on trail Right of Way. The coordinator and maintenance personnel will investigate and report back next month.

Fencing Request. None.

Status of Funds and approval of vouchers. The Status of the funds were reviewed and explained and a motion was made by Roth and seconded by Ludlum to approve. Motion carried.

Vouchers were presented in the amount of \$22,299.16 including: Bard Materials for fine- \$12,140.81, Lafayette County Highway Dept. for grading-\$7,053.67, and T-Riders Snowmobile Club for trail maintenance-\$3,104.68 (of which they had \$2,745.33 left in snow funds).

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday June 23rd, 2016 at 7:00 PM. in Mineral Pt. at the Mineral Pt. city hall.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Wiegel and seconded by Ross to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Submitted 5/20/16 TRJ