

## TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

March 29, 2012

6:30PM

Lafayette County – Bridges Restaurant – Darlington, WI

Present: Committee Supervisors Heimann, Wiegel, and Wolfe of Lafayette County, Guth and Koopmans of Green County. Absent, Meek of Iowa County and Shea of Lafayette County, Iverson of Green County.

Guests Present: Members of local ATV and snowmobile clubs.

The Tri-County Trail Commission meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by committee Chairman Gerald Heimann.

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. Wiegel second, by Mr. Wolfe to approve the agenda. Voice vote, motion carried.

Motion, by Mr. Wiegel second, by Mr. Wolfe to approve the minutes as written of the February 23, 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: No report. The CCT survey report will be unveiled following the commission meeting with light refreshments and an appreciation program. Many thanks go to all the volunteers who helped gather the information. There was little discussion about how the commission might use the information.

Discussion, update, possible action on the status of the DNR grant funding for the projects along the Cheese Country Trail: Deb reported that the public comment period is open as it relates to the projects along the CCT. The public comment period closes April 12. Provided there are no comments the permits will be issued. We will then secure the funding and place ads for bidding. The project is projected to begin August 16, 2012. Deb informed the commission that Warden Jeff King has been promoted within the DNR and will no longer be the local warden for Lafayette County. She expressed concern that this will leave a large void in permitting processes for any future projects along the CCT. She has invited Jeff to attend the next commission meeting to give ideas about how the commission might proceed without a DNR warden involvement. The information for the bridge project needs to be submitted to the DNR as soon as possible. The annual maintenance grant requests are due April 15.

Discussion and possible action on general maintenance/signage and encroachment issues along the Cheese Country Trail: The CCT was opened to motorized users on March 15, 2012. This is the earliest opening that anyone can remember.

Public comment:

Rob McConnell of WATVA reported that the UTV bill did pass and will become permanent in July 2012. Rob also reported that legislation will also increase the maintenance rate for ATV and snowmobile maintenance. Rob also reported that WATVA has good information on their website about the UTV program. There is going to be some confusion as the program gets started. The registration cycle is going to change to match all other DNR licensing/registration programs. He also stated that not all DNR trails have adopted a UTV program and will be signed as such.

Trail Update: The CCT trail is open and there has been good use and good comments from the users. Lee asked that the commission look at the opening of the CCT during an open winter such as the one that we had this year. Deb will add to agenda for next month.

The Green County ATV Club reported that they had a washout in Green County near Browntown. There was some discussion about how to pay for the repair. The cost of the repair is about \$1300. The repair had to be made before it could be approved as it was a safety issue and the trail could not have been opened if not repaired. Mr. Guth instructed Don Noble to submit the repair bill at next month's meeting.

Fencing Requests: There are no fencing requests to report. Deb did have a fencing inquiry from Troy Bader of Carousel Farms in Green County. She sent out the paperwork. There will probably be a formal request next month from the Bader's.

Status of Funds: Deb passed out the financial report for Feb/March. The new financial report has a new format created by the finance director of Lafayette County. The committee members are to look over and give input as to whether they like the new format or not. Deb will work with the finance director to get a report that is easy to use by the committee. Motion, by Mr. Koopmans second, by Mr. Guth to accept the status of funds as reported. Voice vote, motion carried.

Approval of Vouchers: Bills presented tonight include Bridges Restaurant \$253.00 for the volunteer program, Fayette Sno-Goers \$3363.75 for CCT maintenance and Southwest Graphics \$440.00 for the 2012 CCT passes. Total of voucher 5062 is \$4056.75 Motion, by Mr. Guth, second, by Mr. Wolfe to accept the bills as presented. Voice vote, motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 26 2012 in Iowa County. The location in Mineral Point will be on the agenda.

Motion, by Mr. Wiegel second, by Mr. Guth to adjourn. Voice vote, motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

