

TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

July 28, 2011

7:00PM

Lafayette County – Trailside Calamine, WI

Present: Committee Supervisors Shea, Wiegel and Heimann of Lafayette County, Guth Koopmans and Iverson of Green County. Absent were Meek of Iowa County and Wolfe 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 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. Iverson second, by Mr. Shea to approve the agenda. Voice vote, motion carried.

Motion, by Mr. Koopmans second, by Mr. Iverson approve the minutes as written of the June 16, 2011 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 the survey is going well. He reported on the highlights of a news release that was released by Cara Carper of the Green County Extension office. August is another peak month for gathering survey information. There continues to be a need for more survey volunteers. Thank you to all of the volunteers that have helped gather the information so far. We have three full months till the end of the survey period.

Discussion, update, possible action on the status of the DNR grant funding for the projects along the Cheese Country Trail: The extension of rip-rap on the Bonner Creek project (Belmont Trail) will be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Jeff King, Conservation Warden for Lafayette County is in attendance at the meeting. Jeff reported on the progress that has been made for the rest of the restoration projects that are slated for the CCT. It has been determined that a wetland scrape will be needed to protect the Blanchard Cricket Frog. The wetland scrape will be placed on the piece of property that is currently owned by the DOT of Wisconsin in Calamine. The DOT is going to do a “quit claim deed” to the Pecatonica Rail Transit Committee (PRTC). The committee members are

requesting a special meeting of the PRTC. The PRTC will need to accept the land and pay any of the costs associated with the land transfer. After approval at the PRCTC meeting of the land transfer, the PRTC would then have the TCTC manage the property. Deb will contact Amy Seeboth to schedule a special meeting before the regular quarterly meeting in October. Permitting for the wetland scrape would be between the DNR and the TCTC. Permits must be in place to get the project funded. The goal is to build the wetland scrape and do the work on the restoration projects this fall, September/October. Jeff and Deb will work with Al Brandt of the Lafayette County Land Conservation to complete the cost projection for the wetland scrape and submit the paperwork to the DNR for approval. This topic will continue to be on the agenda of the TCTC as the process moves forward.

Discussion and possible action on general maintenance and repair of the Cheese Country Trail; No problem areas noted on the trail that need immediate attention for maintenance or repair. Members of the Green County ATV club lead discussion about whether or not there should be some maintenance work done on the "access" to Cadiz Springs State Park. There is a set of wood steps that leave the CCT that lead to the park. NO ATV's are allowed into the park, the only access would be walking the grass trail that goes around the park to the beach and facilities area of the park. There was some discussion on the matter among the committee members. This will be an agenda item for the meeting next month.

Public comment: Larry & Mary Whitehead of the Green County ATV club asked the committee members if they could be reimbursed for their mileage that they have incurred during the survey. Mr. Guth explained to the Whiteheads that they could use their mileage as a tax deduction on their tax return, if they submitted an itemized return. Mr. Guth asked that the topic of reimbursement for survey volunteers be on the agenda next month.

Trail Update: Lee McCarville of the Tri-County ATV Club reported that the trail is in good shape and he continues to receive several calls each week from ATV'ers looking for information on the trail system. Lee and Deb have received positive comments about the condition of the trail this summer.

Green County ATV Club reported that they had many hours of cleanup from a recent storm.

Jeff King asked if the area under the bridge on Cty G in Calamine could be looked at by the Tri County ATV club. The area is not part of the trail but users continue to make their way to the area. There recently was an accident in the area. Lee will take a look at the area and see if it can be safely barricaded.

Fencing Requests: There are no fencing requests to report.

Status of Funds: Deb passed out the financial report for June/July and there was little discussion. The new maintenance funds start on July 1, 2011 thru June 30, 2012. Motion, by

Mr. Wiegel second, by Mr. Guth to accept the status of funds as reported. Voice vote, motion carried.

Approval of Vouchers: Voucher # 5054 was presented for payment total of voucher #5054 is \$16,562.97. Bills included Bard Materials \$12,713.09 and Tri County ATV Club \$3,849.88. Green County ATV Club also presented an invoice for \$1021.50 voucher # 5055 will be created to pay this invoice. Motion, by Mr. Guth, second, by Mr. Iverson to accept the bills as presented. Voice vote, motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 25, 2011 at 7PM in Iowa County. The meeting place is yet to be determined in Mineral Point.

Motion, by Mr. Shea second, by Mr. Koopmans to adjourn. Voice vote, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

Picnic supper was enjoyed by a committee members and guests.