



## TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION

### MINUTES

May 28, 2026

7:00 PM

Green County Board Room  
1016 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Monroe

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice-Chair Flannery.

**Members Present:**

Green County – William Burchard, Paul Hardenstine, Larry Kranig  
Iowa County – Craig Hardy  
Lafayette County – Jeff Berget, Donna Flannery, Luke McGuire, Mark Pinch

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:**

Max Blackburn – Trail Coordinator, Deb Krahenbuhl – Trail Liaison  
Rob McConnell – WATVA  
Lauren Ray – Origin Design  
Public – Greg Doan, Ryan Federman, Sheldon Krahenbuhl, Doug Mayer, Dick North, Jean North, John Ray, Duke Ruf, Jody Ruf and Leon Wolfe.

2. **Proof of Proper Posting:** Flannery asked for proof of proper posting. Blackburn stated the agenda was posted at the Green, Iowa and Lafayette County Courthouses, sent to all Lafayette County Departments to post in their facilities, the Pecatonica Valley Leader and the Lafayette County Website.
3. **Election of Tri-County Commission Chair:** Blackburn explained this is routine that the commission elects the chair after every county board election. At that time, Flannery asked for any nominations for Chair. Motion by McGuire to nominate Flannery for Commission Chair, seconded by Berget. Hearing no other nominations, a unanimous ballot was casted for Flannery and declared as Commission Chair until April 2028. Flannery thanked the other members for her selection.
4. **Election of Tri-County Commission Vice-Chair:** Flannery asked for any nominations for Vice-Chair. Motion by Berget to nominate McGuire for Commission Vice Chair, seconded by Pinch. Hearing no other nominations, a unanimous ballot was casted for McGuire and declared as Commission Vice-Chair until April 2028. McGuire thanked the other members for his selection.
5. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Hardy, seconded by Berget, to approve agenda as printed. Voice vote. Motion carried.
6. **Approval of Minutes for April 9, 2026:** Motion by Pinch, seconded by McGuire, to approve minutes as printed. Voice vote. Motion carried.
7. **Introductions of new & returning members:** All commissioners introduced themselves.
8. **Public Comment:** None
9. **Legislative or WATVA Updates – Rob McConnell:** Rob reported the following:
  - Legislature is currently out of session until after elections
  - Updates to new ATV/UTV Laws
  - Let's Ride Expo in Oshkosh was well attended. Just shy of 9,000 attendees
  - Ride Safe Event at Harris Park in Dodgeville went well. About 1,600 kids attended
10. **Discussion and Possible Action – Application for Utility Permit per Chapter Trans 29 WI Administrative Code from the City of Mineral Point:** Blackburn pointed out the application in the meeting packet provided to all commission members. Blackburn noted that this was already approved by the PRTC. Following brief discussion, a motion was made by Berget, seconded by Pinch to approve the application. Voice vote. Motion carried.

**11. Discussion and Possible Action – Renewal of Parking Lot Lease to City of Mineral Point:**

Blackbourn pointed out the lease in the meeting packet provided to all commission members. Blackbourn noted that this was already approved by the PRTC. Following brief discussion, a motion was made by Burchard, seconded by Kranig to approve the lease. Voice vote. Motion carried.

**12. Discussion and Possible Action – Update on Bridge #35:**

Berget gave an update on the project. Railcar is to be brought in Friday (May 29). Railings from old bridge #35 have already been removed. Once railcar is placed, gravel approaches and new railings need to be installed. Lafayette County is providing financial assistance on this project.

**13. Discussion and Possible Action – Encroachment issues on trail system (if any):** Blackbourn reported some tree clearing occurred along the trail corridor and piles were pushed into the trail right-of-way. No action taken.

**14. Discussion and Possible Action – CCT Usage, conditions, grants, and maintenance needs:**

**a. Updates on projects or action needed from the commission – Origin Design**

Blackbourn pointed out the contract for engineering services with Origin Design for the Slough Lane riprap project. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Burchard, seconded by Berget to approve signing the contract conditioned on further review by Blackbourn. Voice vote. Motion carried.

**b. Review proposed press release in regard to funding issues for the trails**

Blackbourn apologized and stated he forgot to include the draft in the packet or have a copy with him. Blackbourn stated he'll have an updated draft at the next meeting. No action taken.

**c. Trail Coordinator's Report**

Blackbourn briefly went over some updates:

- Lafayette County's Road Route Ordinance was updated to allow 12-15 year old ATV operators to be on detour routes with their safety certification and accompanied by an adult (18+)
- Received clarification from PRTC and DOT about what type of bridges can be installed on the rail/trail corridor
- DNR will be conducting the annual bat study on the Cheese Trail from July 6-10

Blackbourn also read aloud a resignation letter signed by Blackbourn and Finkelmeyer. They are resigning from the Trail Coordinator duties as it has become too much work to handle to balance with their day-to-day work with Lafayette County and their personal lives. Their effective end date is August 31, 2026.

Krahenbuhl briefly went over some updates:

- Getting lots of phone calls as busy season starts to approach
- Trail is very busy and dusty (hope for rain!)
- Memorial Day weekend went very well
- Brat Feed coming up

No action taken.

**d. Clubs Report (ATV and Snowmobile)**

- Club members in attendance had nothing to report besides what was discussed previously.

**15. Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Vouchers:** Blackbourn presented the vouchers for the commission's consideration.

**25-26 ATV Maintenance Grant:**

\$40.20 – Tri-County ATV – Trail Opening Inspection (25/26-ATV-18)

\$40.20 – Tri-County ATV – Storm cleanup/inspection (25/26-ATV-19)

\$40.20 – Tri-County ATV – Storm cleanup/grading (25/26-ATV-20)

\$40.20 – Tri-County ATV – Weed control & trail inspection (25/26-ATV-21)

\$40.20 – Green County ATV – Tree Cleanup and spraying (25/26-ATV-22)

\$40.20 – Rent-A-Flash – Cheese Country Trail Signs (25/26-ATV-23)

\$15,753.24 – Bard Materials – Invoice 1723310 - 3/4" Gravel (25/26-ATV-24)

25-26 Snowmobile Maintenance Grant:

\$770.00 – T-Riders – Gravel & Spread on Trail (25/26-SNO-17)

ATV-4701 (Trail Rehab) Grant:

\$2,423.60 – Bard Materials – Invoice 1723309 - 3/4" Gravel (25/26-ATV-24)

Motion made by Berget, seconded by Burchard to approve the vouchers as presented. Voice vote.

Motion carried.

**16. Discussion and Possible Action – Status of Funds:** Motion made by Burchard, seconded by McGuire to approve status of funds as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried.

**17. Future Agenda Items:**

- Press release on bridge issues

**18. Next Meeting Date (Lafayette County):** June 11 at 7:00 at the Lafayette County Multipurpose Building

**19. Adjournment:** Motion by Pinch seconded by McGuire, to adjourn. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Time: 8:37 PM

*Minutes by Max Blackbourn, Tri-County Trails Coordinator*