



TRI-COUNTY TRAIL COMMISSION MINUTES

April 9, 2026

7:00 PM

Iowa County Law Enforcement Center
189 East Leffler Street, Dodgeville

1. Call to Order: Due to the Chair and Vice-Chair notifying the Tri-County Trail Commission that they were unable to attend the meeting; Luke McGuire was asked to call the meeting due to the commission still having quorum. McGuire called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members Present:

Green County – William Burchard, Larry Kranig

Iowa County – Michael Gates

Lafayette County – Jeff Berget, Luke McGuire, Mark Pinch

Members Absent:

Green County – Russ Torkelson (excused)

Lafayette County – Donna Flannery (excused)

Others Present:

Max Blackbourn, Laney Finkelmeyer – Trail Coordinator(s), Deb Krahenbuhl – Trail Liaison

Rob McConnell – WATVA

Josh Layer, Lauren Ray – Origin Design

Public – Dennis Crist, Sherry Crist, Greg Doan, Ryan Federman, Sheldon Krahenbuhl, Jim Lange, Doug Mayer, Scott McGowan, Shelly McGowan, Dick North, Jean North, John Ray, Duke Ruf and Jody Ruf.

2. Proof of Proper Posting: McGuire asked for proof of proper posting. Blackbourn 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. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Gates, seconded by Kranig, to amend the agenda to elect Luke McGuire as Chair Pro Tempore for this meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Motion made by Gates, seconded by Pinch to move agenda item #11 “Discussion and Possible Action – Fencing Request on Trail Corridor” before agenda item #6 “Legislative or WATVA Updates – Rob McConnell” and proceed as normal on the rest of the agenda. Voice Vote. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes for March 19, 2026: Motion by Pinch, seconded by Gates, to approve minutes as printed. Voice vote. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment: None.

6. Discussion and Possible Action – Fencing Request on Trail Corridor: Dennis & Sherry Crist explained they border long sections of the Cheese Country Trail and received some funds for fencing materials in the past and were looking to see if there were still funds available from the Trail Commission. After brief discussion, the Commission directed the Dennis & Sherry Crist to reach out to the Pecatonica Rail Transit Commission for funds for fencing materials.

7. Legislative or WATVA Updates – Rob McConnell:

Rob reported the following:

- Nothing new legislative wise as the legislature is currently out of session
- May 1-3 - Let's Ride Expo at Oshkosh
- May 12-13 - Ride Safe Event at Harris Park in Dodgeville

8. Discussion and Possible Action – Encroachment issues on trail system (if any): Blackbourn reported no new issues since last meeting.

9. Discussion and Possible Action – Adjustment of Trail Coordinator(s) & Trail Liaison Payments for 2026-2027: Brief discussion had in regards of shifting funds from Trail Liaison payment to Trail Coordinator(s) payment. Motion by Berget, seconded by Kranig to table this item. Voice vote. Motion carried.

10. Discussion and Possible Action – Updating Lafayette County Road Route Ordinance: Discussion had about potential changes that can be made. Blackburn noted that it is going to be reviewed and discussed with Lafayette Corporation Counsel and may not take effect until June. No action taken.

11. Discussion and Possible Action – Temporary Bridge Solutions: Prolonged discussion was had regarding bridge replacements needed and potential temporary bridge solutions. After discussion, a motion was made by Burchard, seconded Kranig to work with Origin Design for all current engineering needs as prioritized by Blackburn. Voice vote. Motion carried. After more prolonged discussion, a motion by Berget, seconded by Burchard to appoint Berget and Burchard to work together on a temporary solution for Bridge 35 and other bridges. Voice vote. Motion carried.

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

a. Use of remaining snowmobile funds

Blackburn stated after moving around expenses from Blackhawk Riders SC that was approved by the Trail Commission, remaining funds should be able to be used up. T-Riders mentioned an interest in some repairs on Bridge #6.

b. Trail Coordinator's Report

- Blackburn reported that he was working on the Belmont H&H trail project and bridge #72 replacement on DNR owned Pecatonica State Trail. Blackburn presented a contract for services for the project from Origin Design. Motion was made by Burchard, seconded by Kranig to approve the contract contingent on DNR approval.
- Krahenbuhl had nothing to report besides what was discussed previously.

No action taken.

d. Clubs Report (ATV and Snowmobile)

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

13. Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Vouchers: Blackburn presented the vouchers for the commission's consideration.

Trail Pass / Trust Account:

\$2,200.00 – Deborah Krahenbuhl– 2025 Trail Liaison Services

\$580.00 – Southwest Graphics – 2026 Trail Supporter Stickers

25-26 ATV Maintenance Grant:

\$40.20 – Lafayette County Highway Department – 4 Fence Posts

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

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

15. Future Agenda Items: Update on temporary bridge solutions

16. Next Meeting Date: Call of the Chair

17. Adjournment: Motion by Burchard seconded by Berget, to adjourn. Voice vote. Motion carried.
Time: 8:32 PM

Minutes by Max Blackburn, Tri-County Trails Coordinator