

Public Works Committee Minutes  
Tuesday, April 9, 2013 – 8:30 a.m.  
Department of Public Works Committee Room  
3715 Newville Road - Janesville, WI

Call to Order. Chair Yankee called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Arnold, Bussie, and Yankee

Committee Members Absent: Supervisor Fox

Parks Advisory Committee Members: Floyd Finney, Dean Paynter and Tom Presny

Staff Members Present: Ron Burdick, Airport Director  
Ben Coopman, Public Works Director  
Jim Hessenauer, Parks Patrol Worker  
Jeff Kuglitsch, Corporation Counsel  
Deb Lawton, Secretary II  
Adam Pritchard, County Engineer  
Lori Williams, Parks Director

Others Present: Rob Baller, Rock County Prairie Enthusiast  
Dave Bendlin, Rock County Prairie Enthusiast  
Kevin Kawula, Rock County Prairie Enthusiast  
Donavon J. Mitchell, Interested Citizen  
Matt Zine, Wisconsin DNR

Approval of Agenda. Supervisors Arnold and Bussie moved the agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Minutes of March 12, 2013. Chair Yankee and Supervisor Bussie moved the minutes. MOTION CARRIED.

Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements. Ben Coopman reported this department has put safety procedures in place following the recent termination of two employees.

Vouchers/Bills/Encumbrances/Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendments & Transfers. None.

## **PARKS BUSINESS**

Magnolia Bluff Trail Update – Matt Zine, DNR.

Kevin Kawula commented on trying to arrange an annual meeting according to the Memo of Understanding with the DNR. Main concerns are that the State Natural Area

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Minutes of the Rock County Public Works Committee  
April 9, 2013

was not delineated correctly and the object of the State Natural Area is to protect kitten tail plants and oak trees. He would like to see it expanded as only 20%-30% of the plants are protected. The crushed limestone trail needs to be moved over.

Lori introduced Matt Zine. He is a conservation biologist for the DNR. She stated the SNA was agreed on between the DNR and Rock County. The DNR proposed an area and the County accepted. We have to flag out routes before the contractor begins work. If something needs to be adjusted, it will be adjusted so it will not affect the kitten tail area.

Matt Zine stated we agreed to meet once per year to discuss the plan. He acknowledged Joleen's help. The plan was that it would be flagged and we would look at it before any work is done. He is not in favor of a crushed limestone trail, but acknowledged it was part of the improvement project going on there. The County does not have the right to destroy a listed plant. If the trail is going over a kitten tail area, the trail will have to be moved. He stated the SNA is not static. It can be adjusted, but both parties have to agree to it. He apologized for not being attentive to Kevin and Joleen's emails. He will be out in a couple of weeks to look at the kitten tail area. He stated the kitten tails have persisted there in part due to the mowing which kept the canopy open. In response to a question from Dean Paynter, discussion on the flowering and seed setting of the plant took place. Tom Presny stated the SNA designation brings education to the area and discussed recreational users and other users of the park. Matt stated it is hard to please everyone.

Dave Bendlin spoke about the big changes in wildflowers due to the garlic mustard invasion. He urged the County to rethink the limestone trail. Opening up the trail will allow garlic mustard to take hold.

Donavan Mitchell stated education is important. There are very few areas that remain as they once were. Kevin has helped him manage his land that includes a prairie and wildflower areas.

Discussion on number of kitten tail plants at this location took place. Kevin stated there are 500 kitten tails with 30% of them in the protected area.

Rob Baller inquired about the width of the trail and Lori replied it will be 4' wide and debris will be moved, not pushed to the side. The trail will be 7,700' long and 4' wide.

Rob Baller, Matt Zine and Dave Bendlin departed.

Approve Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of Long-Term Easement Agreement for Property Along the Beloit to Janesville Trail from the Hendricks Holding Company. Supervisor Bussie and Chair Yankee moved the resolution. Lori explained this easement is for the Beloit-Janesville Trail and the easement will include the proper legal description. MOTION CARRIED.

**NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Rock County Public Works Committee  
April 9, 2013

Approve Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of Long-Term Easement Agreement for Property along the Beloit to Janesville Trail from the Town of Beloit. Supervisors Bussie and Arnold moved the resolution. Lori explained this easement is for the Beloit-Janesville Trail and the easement will include the proper legal description. MOTION CARRIED.

Approve Resolution Authorizing Application with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for Snowmobile Grant Funds. Supervisors Arnold and Bussie moved the resolution. Lori stated this is the annual request to apply for snowmobile grant funds. MOTION CARRIED.

Approve Resolution Authorizing Lease and Partnership Agreement with the Friends of Beckman Mill, Inc. Supervisors Bussie and Arnold moved the resolution. Lori stated the agreement is in Corporation Counsel's office. We are waiting for the legal description. She discussed the changes to the agreement:

This Committee has not seen the actual lease. Jeff Kuglitsch stated his only concern is the legal description being redone to accurately reflect the actual location. Jeff has already gone over the lease and compared it item by item with the old lease and stated there are only minor operational changes. Supervisor Bussie reported that the Friends of Beckman Mill complimented Lori on working out a new lease with them. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion and Possible Action on Rental Rates for Turtle Creek Parkway Facility. Lori recommends resident rates of \$125 per weekday and \$250 per weekend day plus holidays and non-resident rates of \$150 per weekday and \$300 per weekend day plus holidays. No deposit will be charged at this time. Discussion. Supervisors Bussie and Arnold moved the recommendation. MOTION CARRIED.

Parks Director Project Report. The Committee discussed the report and all questions were answered.

Parks Advisory Committee Comments. Dean appreciates the work being done on the easements. Floyd Finney had nothing particular to report. Tom Presny discussed the Magnolia Bluff trail improvements and State Natural Area.

Ben Coopman introduced Adam Pritchard, our new County Engineer.

Jim Hessenauer discussed kitten tail area and how it has changed over the years. He also discussed the plant's life cycle following questions from the Committee.

Next Meeting Date. Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Per Section 19.85(1)(g), Wis Stats. Conferring with Legal Counsel Regarding Potential Litigation.

**NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Rock County Public Works Committee  
April 9, 2013

Supervisors Bussie and Arnold moved to go into executive session at 10:15 a.m. A roll call vote was recorded:

Supervisor Arnold	- Yes
Supervisor Bussie	- Yes
Chair Yankee	- Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

SUPERVISORS ARNOLD AND BUSSIE MOVED TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AT 10:24 A.M.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment. Supervisors Arnold and Bussie moved to adjourn at 10:25 a.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Lawton  
Secretary II