

**County of Rock
Public Works Department**

Highways
Parks
Airport



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- A G E N D A -
Public Works Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 14, 2013 – 8:30 a.m.
Public Works Department Committee Room

**Note time
change!**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of April 9, 2013
4. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements
5. Vouchers/Bills/Encumbrances/Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendments & Transfers

PARKS BUSINESS

6. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approve Resolution Acceptance of Acquisition and Development funds from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for Turtle Creek Parkway and 2013 Budget Amendment
7. Parks Director Project Report
8. Parks Advisory Committee Remarks
9. Next Meeting Date
10. Adjournment

CHEESE GRITS

Magnolia Bluff: A local treasure

My daughter and I took full advantage of the first mild weekend of the spring season. We traveled west to Magnolia Bluff County Park for an early morning hike.

Magnolia Bluff is the second highest point in Rock County, and if you hike to the west look-out of this sandstone/limestone bluff around sunset, apparently you are in for a treat. (I can't wait to return for sunset.)

As we hiked up to the top of the bluff we saw green plants just beginning to poke their shoots out from underneath the blanket of fallen leaves of the forest. We talked about the life cycle of decaying leaves on the forest floor. Most of the green that we saw was a result of moss covering fallen logs and exposed rocks, but we did see a few ferns beginning to unfurl their fronds in the early spring.

Only one type of flower graced the forest floor, and I did not recognize it. It came in clusters of white, blue or lavender flowers, intriguing the geneticist in me. Paper birch trees lined our walk and were everywhere we turned. The leafless trees of the forest canopy revealed squirrel and bird nests. My daughter stopped often to admire rocks along her path and looked hard with binoculars for the woodpecker who was very busy some-

where above us.

At the top of the bluff, we had a picnic lunch, pulled out our watercolor paints and our journals, and we recorded our experience. We listened for the turkeys that were gobbling in the field across the way; we watched the crows and marveled at several beautiful, but unidentified, birds flitting from tree to tree.

All in all it was a lovely, delightfully tiring morning.

I had never before explored Magnolia Bluff Park, but this weekend my daughter and I discovered a real treasure. So often we spend our time longing after the attractions and special places of faraway locales, when we have marvels in our own backyards.

A little reading about the bluff teaches you about Galena dolomite and the St. Peter limestone that make up the bluff, the water that has shaped it, and the plant and animal life that fills it – including the rare plants of its forest. It is a marvelous natural wildlife area. I would love to hike the bluff with a geologist and a botanist in tow – I could learn so much.

For my daughter it was a chance to discover something special close to home, to have a picnic (one of her favorite activities). For me it was a chance to spend some quality time with my daughter – no technology, just backpacks, a picnic lunch and Mother nature to accompany us.

This natural area is a true gem. If you have a chance, go and visit the bluff and see what treasures you can find in our back yard.



Michele
Arduengo

RESOLUTION

ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Public Works Committee
Initiated by _____

Public Works Committee
& Parks Advisory Committee
Submitted by _____



Lori Williams, Parks Director
Drafted by _____

April 18, 2013
Date Drafted _____

ACCEPTANCE OF ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TURTLE CREEK PARKWAY AND 2013 BUDGET AMENDMENT

1 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors Resolution 10-9A-128 on the 9th day of September,
2 2010, purchased what is now called the Rock River Parkway property (formerly Stateline Boys and Girls
3 Club); and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, Rock County applied for DNR Stewardship grant funds pursuant to provisions of sec. 23.09(12)
6 of the Wisconsin Statutes and as authorized by county board resolution 12-3B-624 on the 22nd day of March,
7 2012 to acquire and develop this property for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the
8 application; and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, our application for funding was approved by the Wisconsin DNR for \$70,000 with \$70,000
11 matching County Funds.
12

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
14 this ___ day of _____ 2013, does hereby accept the Stewardship grant;
15

16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Park's budget be amended as follows:
17

<u>Account/Description</u>	<u>Budget at 01/01/13</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Amended Budget</u>
Source of Funds			
41-4592-4800-42200	\$54,738	\$70,000	\$124,738
Use of Funds			
41-4592-4800-67200	\$204,476	\$70,000	\$274,476

27 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Rock County Parks Director be authorized to file all necessary
28 documents for administration and reimbursement of this program;

RESOLUTION ACCEPTANCE OF ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDS FROM
THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TURTLE CREEK PARKWAY AND
2013 BUDGET AMENDMENT

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Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Kurtis Yankee, Chair

Betty Jo Bussie, Vice Chair

Eva Arnold

Brent Fox

Vacant

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tom Presny

Floyd Finney

Dean Paynter

FINANCE COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT:

Reviewed and approved on a vote of _____

Mary Mawhinney, Chair

FISCAL NOTE.

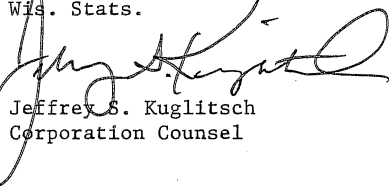
This resolution authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of \$70,000 in State Aid for the Turtle Creek Parkway. County matching funds of \$70,000 are required and are included in the 2012 and 2013 budgets.



Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to accept grant funds pursuant to sec. 59.52(19), Wis. Stats. As an amendment to the adopted 2013 County Budget, this Resolution requires a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the County Board pursuant to sec. 65.90(5)(a), Wis. Stats.



Jeffrey S. Kuglitsch
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.



Craig Knutson
County Administrator

-EXECUTIVE SUMMARY-

**ACCEPTANCE OF ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDS
FROM THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FOR TURTLE CREEK PARKWAY AND 2013 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

The Rock County Parks, Outdoor Recreation, and Open Space (POROS) Plan implementation schedule identified land development of the recently acquired Turtle Creek Parkway near the Tiffany five arch stone bridge as a project in process. In order to move forward on this project, the Parks Division made application for Department of Natural Resources Stewardship Funds in addition to allocating capital improvement funds during the budget process.

The overall project includes building renovations including an accessible facility and restroom accommodations which have been completed. Future project plans to be completed by June 2015 include a canoe launch, pathway, and landscape improvements.

The grant being accepted requires a 50/50 match of local funds. The anticipated project is \$140,000, of which approximately \$70,000 would be Stewardship Funds. In 2012, \$70,000 was budgeted, with \$66,103 being expended in 2012 and \$3,897 of expenditure authority carried over to 2013

**Current Rock County Park Projects
April 1 – May 7, 2013**

- **Beckman Mill** ----- 1) Met with County Surveyor Jason Houle on finalizing FBM legal description.
2) FBM agreement going through contract review.

- **Beloit-Janesville Trail** ----- 1) Working on trail easements property descriptions with County Surveyor Jason Houle.
2) Attended meeting at Hendricks Commercial Properties about trail project and easement.

- **Carver-Roehl** ----- 1) Invasive Species Control Project Completed by Good Oak Ecological Services.
2) Meeting with the Friends of Carver Roehl on Gazebo location.

- **Community Coordinator** ----- 1) David Hoffman Started on 4/30/2013.
2) Working on Wheels against weeds program.

- **Delong** ----- 1) No further development.

- **Ice Age Trail** ----- 1) Committee moving forward with corridor planning. Attended open house at Rotary Gardens on 4/27/13.

- **Indianford** ----- 1) Property acquisition continues in process with staff and planning committees.

- **Magnolia Bluff**----- 1) Met with Matt Zine from DNR to review trail options.

- **Turtle Creek** ----- 1) Work continuing on policies and brochure for building.

- **Other Information** ----- 1) Summer Seasonal Shawn Bohler will start 5/20/2013.
2) Working on summer 4-10's schedule.
3) Working with County Surveyor Jason Houle on Avon acquisition.