

Meeting Minutes of the River Trail Commission
(Towns of Cloverland, St. Germain and the City of Eagle River)
May 4, 2022 4:00 PM
Vilas County Courthouse, Conference Room B. Eagle River 54521

1. Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM public present included:

Carlton Schroeder (CS) Eagle River,
Jeff and Ann Currie (JC)- Cloverland
Robin Ginner- (RG) Eagle River Administrator
Holly Tomlanavich- Cty. Board (Wash.)
Todd Bierman- Vilas Cty. Parks and Rec.
Marv Anderson-Vilas Cty. Board (St.G)

Karen Anderson (St. G.),
Francine Gough (FG) -Supv. Cloverland,
Dutch Deick - Eagle River
Fritz Laweser (Lincoln)
Woody Albhorn - Washington

2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Meeting Posting was verified for all 3 participating municipalities.

4. Roll Call - **Ron Kressin** (RK), **Joe Spitz** (JJS), **Jim Swenson** (JS) - Chairman. Quorum Present.

5. No objections were made to taking the agenda in any order at the discretion of Chairman

6. RK moved to approve the 2/25/22 minutes. JJS seconded. Board vote approved the minutes.

7a & b Current Bank statement was a \$3701.85 after spending of \$80. to attorney Garbowicz. Garbowicz input confirmed developing budget annually and suggested that we do not discontinue annual payments into it as it is much more difficult to reinstate them later. JJS said it is still unclear how the budget for the commission vs. the eventual obligation of the individual municipalities to maintain individual accounts “on their own” vs. the “group” commission fund. RK suggested that we should continue funding but consider setting up individual accounting within the general fund account that would be for the individual towns. JJS will bring this concept to Cloverland board to see if they will approve continuing on that basis. FG said that there is some resistance on the board to being responsible for such a large portion of the maintenance when it has such a small business benefit. She said that it was brought up by a resident at the annual electors meeting and that the other municipalities need to consider taking on the cost of more of the trail miles. This was tabled until the next meeting with motion by JS and second by RK.

7c. Steve Garbowicz was asked by Jim Swenson regarding the addition of a County Supervisor to the Commission to help facilitate the trail. He questioned what value that would add and that it would require a significantly modification. (He did not know that they would be involved in the bridge). County Board members present agreed that they feel there is a role relative to helping to develop grant applications for the bridge and coordination with other recreational trail groups at the Forest Rec. and Land Committee. RK said that he has spoken with Tim Okowski and that it will be on the County Board agenda on Tuesday May 24.

7d. RTC minutes and agendas are now posted on the St. Germain Town Website thanks to Ted Ritter’s work to incorporate documents onto the site. JJS also worked to create a single .pdf document with bookmarks that shows the concept as well as the detailed engineering drawings of the draft route plan. This will allow residents along the trail to view, in detail, what areas it will occupy along its route. Click on the River Trail Commission button at: https://townofstgermain.org/town_bd.html
Then hit the hyper link for the River Trail Plan at : https://townofstgermain.org/Minutes%20RTC/trail_plan.pdf
[about:blank](#)

7e. Other users along the trail were discussed. St. Germain and Landover trail clubs have been contacted by JS and HT and they are interested in additional discussions regarding the bridge and the extension of their trail system in the Zeman Rd. to the County H area. Jeff Currie asked for a meeting to be arranged by all the involved parties to discuss a plan for the bridge. This would also include the snowmobile interests.

8a. CS stated that they are waiting for a proposal from MSA as a statement of work for their land easement acquisition group to formalize the Town of Lincoln easements for the 22 property owners. RG has been in contact with the Town of Lincoln and has taken them the “answers to 5 questions” for the consideration during a 5/24 town board meeting there about Eagle River taking over the ownership of the private property easements in Lincoln when they are hopefully granted.

8b. &c - no commentary

8d. The ribbon cutting for the Conover/Phelps trail will be held 5/28 and will be expected to last 30-45 minutes.

8e. Covered in 7d.

9. There were no public comments or letters and communications noted

10. none

11. Next regular meeting was scheduled for July 27th at 4:00 PM at Eagle River City Hall.

12. Motion to adjourn was made and passed at 4:59 PM

Meeting minutes submitted by Joe Spitz