

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board: Flyway Trail, Phase II Public Meeting

Date of the Meeting: March 3, 2021

Mr. Dave Schams, Chair of the Flyway Trail Board called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. at the Town of Buffalo Town Hall, Fountain City, Wisconsin.

Mary Anne McMillan Urell, Buffalo County Supervisor for the Towns of Buffalo and Cross, expressed that the trail is being used and is very pleased with the project. She stated that the view from the trail and the bridge over the railroad is unique and encouraged others to experience the adventure.

Attendees: Sonya Hansen, Steve Schiffli, Tara Krista, David Schams, Laureen Pagler, Jean Galasinski, Dennis Bork, Mary Anne McMillian Urell, Carson Lentz, Rob Grover, Jim Wilke, Steve Sedlymar (TEAMS) David Danzinger, Nettie Rosenow, Missy Vanlanduyt, Paul Zajackowski, Rick Diermeier

Attendees introduced themselves to each other.

Public Comments regarding Agenda Items: There were no public comments.

Review/Discussion: Phase I Update: The total expenditures and revenues from Phase I was reviewed. The County has applied for a LAWCON grant to cover the shortfall of approximately \$419,000. The DNR committed that the funding is designated for this project once the State receives the award of federal funding. The Flyway Trail Board committed to finding a funding mechanism from the capital campaign to cover the shortfall pending receipt of the LAWCON grant. Buffalo County Board Chair Dennis Bork indicated that Phase I funding issues need to be resolved before moving forward to Phase II and that this matter will be placed on the upcoming Finance Committee meeting agenda on March 18th at 8:30 a.m.

Review/Discussion: Phase II Overview: Buffalo County Economic Development Coordinator Steve Schiffli reviewed Phase II which extends the existing trail from the Town of Buffalo Park to connect into the Great River Trail with an estimated cost based from known costs from Phase I for engineering, project management and construction in an amount of \$1,975,000. He explained that Buffalo County was awarded the FLAP Grant, had existing funding for engineering/design from the Phase I Tap Grant in the amount of around \$90,000 and that the matching funds from the capital campaign. Based on these very preliminary figures, the shortfall is around \$445,000.00.

Review/Discussion: The Way Forward:

Administrative Coordinator Ms. Sonya Hansen indicated that she felt that we need to increase the project costs as the cost of land acquisition, additional retaining walls, DOT oversight and wetland mitigation costs were not included.

Discussion was that next steps would be:

- Find funding to start the engineering process which would need to be competitively bid. Buffalo County would check to see if the \$90,000 TAP grant can be used to start the preliminary engineering process without having to commit to the total project until a better estimate of the total cost of the project could be obtained.
- Apply for additional grant funding, including looking into the Federal LTP Program, LAWCON funding,
- Flyway Trail Board would continue additional fundraising activities.

Review/Discussion: Timelines:

The proposed timeline was reviewed.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Schiffli, Recording Secretary