

**Price-Taylor Rail Trail Corridor Commission
Westboro Community Center Town Hall
October 19th, 2021 Minutes**

1. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting of the Price-Taylor Rail Trail Commission was called to order by President Dan Roiger on October 19th, 2021, at 7:07 p.m. at the Westboro Community Center Town Hall.

Commission Members present: Bob Meyer, Marvin Kuenne, Dan Roiger, Gene Knoll, Jeff Hallstrand, Ron Kendziera, and Steve Thums. Ex-Officio Members: Jake Walcisak and Joe Grapa. Members absent: Jeff Mauch, Troy Larson. Others present: Buzz Meyer

2. Approve Minutes of the April 13th, 2021 meeting

Motion by Gene Knoll, seconded by Ron Kendziera to approve minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

3. Approve the Agenda

Motion by Steve Thums, seconded by Marv Kuenne to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was presented by Bob Meyer. Beginning balance of \$15,797.45 and an ending balance of \$10,792.45. Revenue included \$175.00 in donations. Expenses totaled \$5,000 in a contribution to Price County for improvements to the trail. Motion by Gene Knoll, seconded by Steve Thums to approve treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

5. Trail Condition and Maintenance

Walcisak presented an update for Taylor County. Shoulders were mowed the week of June 14th. Grading occurred the last week of June. Spraying was conducted the second and third week of July. "No ATV" signs have been installed at all road crossings. Remainder of trail sponsor signs have been installed, including a large sign on the Westboro gazebo. Jeff Peterson has conducted nuisance beaver trapping in spring and recently this fall. Side slope damage was fixed north of Cemetery Ave where a beaver dam washed out. Walcisak and Thums conducted removal of eighteen wind thrown trees in mid-July between Gunnar Road and the Price County Line. Excessive ATV traffic, with damage, between Chelsea Ave and Chelsea Lake Park Road. Walcisak will contact the Taylor County Sheriff's Department for enforcement/compliance action. A tree fell from County owned property near the Westboro gazebo onto a privately owned garage. Walcisak has been attempting to contact the landowner. Eby's Welding completed rehab of the last two bridges in Taylor County. Grapa provided an update for Price County. Trail has been mowed twice this summer. Primarily to control aspen sprouts. Trailside brushing was conducted by Luke Bacholl. Nuisance beaver trapping was performed in-house.

6. Price County Culverts and Gravel Projects

Gravel project has been completed as planned. South 3 miles in Price County not graveled at this time. Bush Benders snowmobile club replaced three culverts. The large washed-out culvert on the north side of Spring Road was also repaired. Discussion occurred regarding future plans

to finish the last three miles of gravel in Price County and a wish list item of applying a smaller aggregate on top of the crushed gravel to facilitate ease of walking and biking. Sufficient funding is needed to progress significant improvements on the trail.

7. Price County Timber Sale

Joe Grapa reported that Brian Kennedy has completed the harvest. All wood has been hauled. Final invoicing is pending. Price County Forestry Department and Kennedy logging conducted landscape raking, box blading and dozer work of the trail post-harvest.

8. Center Avenue Utility Crossing

Walcisak spoke with Spence at Medford Utility. Medford Utility installed two power poles on Pine Line property with an overhead line. They did not receive permission for this crossing from the County and did not know there was a fee for a utility crossing. Discussion occurred regarding this topic and how to proceed. Motion by Steve Thums, seconded by Marv Kuenne to invoice Medford Utility \$500 for this utility crossing. Motion carried.

9. Encroachment Update for Chelsea and Westboro

Dryerson encroachment agreement: debris pile removed prior to deadline. Pearson was found to not be encroachment. Pearson also had a professional survey conducted of his property boundaries. Walcisak mailed two letters to SAE New Beginnings without response. Walcisak will contact Taylor County Sheriff's Department to identify the trailer and vehicle on County property so the owner can be contacted for removal.

10. Price County Trailhead Signing

Sign has been installed and parking area improvements include new gravel. DOT sign for the intersection of State Highway 13 and Morner Road has been ordered.

11. Morner Road to County Road X

The sale of this rail segment to Watco has not be finalized. Grapa will contact Watco to inquire once the sale is complete.

12. Boy Scout Project Proposal

Dan Roiger was contact by a local Boy Scout leader, Pam Henderson, for an eagle scout project on the Pine Line. The project would be for bench building and installation. Discussion occurred supporting the project idea. Motion by Gene Knoll to establish a sub-committee made up of Walcisak, Roiger and Thums to work with the Boy Scouts, seconded by Ron Kendziera. Motion carried.

13. Agricultural Use Permits

Renewal of Frischmann's 2017 agriculture use permit was approved and returned. This new permit will expire in 2024. Lamberty permit will expire in 2022.

14. Additional Items Needed to be Presented to the Committee

- Steve Thums brought up a concern with horse riders not cleaning up the waste created by their horses. Discussion occurred regarding adopting a policy or ordinance. No action taken at this time.

- A recommendation was made to install a sign on the Pine Line indicating the location of the Chelsea Lake County Park. Walcisak will order and install the sign.

15. Set Next Meeting Date

April 26th, 2022 7:00 p.m.

16. Adjourn

Motion made by Gene Knoll, seconded by Bob Meyer to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by Jake Walcisak, Taylor County Forestry and Recreation Administrator

**Price-Taylor Rail Trail Corridor Commission
Westboro Community Center Town Hall
April 13th, 2021 Minutes**

8. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting of the Price-Taylor Rail Trail Commission was called to order by President Dan Roiger on April 13th, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Westboro Community Center Town Hall.

Commission Members present: Bob Meyer, Marvin Kuenne, Jeff Mauch, Troy Larson, Dan Roiger, Gene Knoll, Ron Kendziera, and Steve Thums.

Ex-Officio Members: Jake Walcisak and Joe Grapa.

Members absent: Jeff Hallstrand.

Others present: Dave Roiger, Buzz Meyer, Jeff Peterson.

9. Approve Minutes of the October 20th, 2020 meeting

Motion by Bob Meyer and second by Gene Knoll to approve minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

10. Approve the Agenda

Motion by Troy Larson and seconded by Jeff Mauch to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

11. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was presented by Bob Meyer. Beginning balance of \$9,100.05 and an ending balance of \$15,797.45. Revenue included \$500 for a trenched utility crossing from Xcel and \$6,197.40 in stumpage revenue from Price County. Motion by Gene Knoll and second by Marv Kuenne to approve treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

12. Price County Commission Members

Troy Larson introduced Joe Grapa as the new Price County Forest Administrator and ex-officio member for Price County. Troy also introduced Ron Kendziera as the new at-large Commission member for Price County. Ron will be a strong silent sport asset to the Commission.

13. Trail Condition and Maintenance

- Pine Line Commission members and Taylor County Snowmobile Grooming Association members removed a beaver dam and repaired a washout at the bridge located between Alfalfa Ave and Cemetery Ave.
- Jordan Lutz and Joe Svejda from Taylor County removed hazard trees along the first mile of trail, which was not logged.
- Culvert repair is needed just north of the Whittlesey Ballpark bridge. The Snowmobile Grooming Association will call diggers hotline and conduct the repairs.
- The Commission authorized Jeff Peterson to trap nuisance beavers near the bridge between Cemetery Ave and Elm Street.
- Eby's Welding and Fabrication has started rehabilitation of the bridge between Alfalfa Ave and Cemetery Ave. This bridge will be completed prior to the April 24th Pine Line Marathon. Eby's has requested to start rehab of the bridge between Cemetery Ave and

Elm Street on Monday April 26th. Taylor County has sent out the necessary press releases and closed the appropriate segments of trail.

14. Price County Culverts and Gravel

- Joe Grapa reported that Olynick's hauled gravel late last year from Morner Road to just north of Ogema. The Town of Ogema donated their grader and operator. Joe will send an invoice to the Commission for their \$5,000 financial commitment made to the Price County project.
- Joe Grapa is working with the Price County Highway Department to address the culverts which partially washed out just north of Spring Road. Additionally, several culverts will need to replacement in the future between Ogema and the county line.

15. Price County Timber Sale

Joe Grapa reported that Brian Kennedy has completed the area between the County Line and Ogema. Kennedy plans to finish this summer. Future maintenance will likely include mowing of aspen saplings which are starting to sprout on the trail shoulder.

16. Morner Rd To County Highway X

CN is selling their rail and operation in this area to Watco. Jake Walcisak contacted Brian Buchanan from CN regarding the sale of this one mile. Buchanan informed Walcisak that with CN selling to Watco the Commission would have to wait until the sale is complete to discuss this future potential project with Watco. Discussion was held regarding potential funding and information from the Rail Trail Conservatory.

17. Dave Tlusty Land Transfer Request

Walcisak presented a request from Dave Tlusty, adjacent property owner to the Pine Line, to transfer 560 square feet of land from the Pine Line to him. His request was based on an errant survey conducted in 1980 by Charles Offerman. This errant survey describes a small triangle, approximately 560 square feet in size, as belonging to Tlusty. However, this is in direct conflict with the deed and legal description held by the Pine Line. Walcisak requested that Tlusty re-survey the property to produce the correct legal description due to the land transfer process being very cumbersome. Tlusty agreed to this request. No action taken by the Commission.

18. Agriculture Use Permits

Frischman request renewal of his 2017 agriculture use permit of the Pine Line. This permit starts at Alfalfa Ave and continues north for approximately 0.75 miles. Frischman is required to sign the permit, deposit \$75.00 with the Commission and provide proof of liability insurance during the duration of the permit. Motion by Bob Meyer to approve the Frischmann agriculture use permit, second by Troy Larson. Motion carried.

19. Additional Items Needed to be Presented to the Committee

- Dyreson Encroachment Agreement: still pile of debris on Pine Line adjacent to the Dyreson property. The encroachment agreement requires this debris to be removed no later than May 31st, 2021. Walcisak followed-up with a phone call to Alexandria Dyreson. She explained that the pile of debris would be removed by the deadline. Taylor

County will remove the debris after May 31st at the expense of Dyreson with the potential to revoke her encroachment agreement.

- Discussion was held regarding potential encroachment by Joseph Pearson at the north end of Westboro. Walcisak inspected the issue and sent him a letter on November 10th, 2020. Jeff Peterson informed Walcisak that Pearson is getting a professional survey of his property.
- Steve Thums informed the Commission that a camper is being stored on Pine Line property adjacent to the SAE New Beginnings property. The Commission has an encroachment agreement with this adjacent landowner. Walcisak will request the landowner to move the camper to a location that complies with the encroachment agreement. Walcisak sent a letter to SAE New Beginnings on Wednesday April 14th, 2021 addressing this issue.
- Donation to the Town of Westboro for the use of their facilities. Motion by Troy Larson to donate \$200 to the Town of Westboro, second by Jeff Mauch. Motion carried.
- Price County Trail Signs: Discussion was had regarding a trailhead sign on Morner Road as well as location signs on State Highway 13 on either side of Morner Road. It was suggested that an information sign and map be placed at the Morner Road trailhead as well to provide users with directions to Prentice. Troy Larson and Joe Grapa will work with each other and the Price County Highway Department on this matter. They will bring information back to the Commission at the next meeting.
- Steve Thums notified the Commission that there is frequent ATV use on the trail, especially in and near Westboro. It was decided that signs should be placed at all road crossings in Taylor County indicating that winter-use of ATV's is allowed but summer use was prohibited. Walcisak will check with the Taylor County Highway Department for surplus signs and report back to the Commission.

20. Set Next Meeting Date

October 19th, 2021 7:00 p.m.

21. Adjourn

Motion made by Gene Knoll, second by Marv Kuenne to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by Jake Walcisak, Taylor County Forestry and Recreation Administrator