



COUNTY OF BECKER

Recreational Advisory Committee

- 915 Lake Ave., Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
- telephone: 218-846-7316
Website: www.co.becker.mn.us

RAC Meeting Notes

August 13th, 2024

1:00 –2:30 pm

Becker County Highway Department

Committee Members Present: Howard Kluender, Keith Zachariason, Jim Granger, Karen Mulari, Hank Ludke, John Okeson, David Meyer, Del Bergseth.

Absent: Phil Hansen

Staff Present: Mitch Lundeen, Cody Piper, Steve Skoog

Guest: Nick Banks (TPL) online

July 9th Meeting Notes – Ludke motioned to approve, Meyer Seconded.

1. **Toad Mountain Project Update:** The committee reviewed preliminary survey results for Toad Mountain, discussed how the open house went and that there are two more public input meetings coming up on August 14th and 15th. Commissioner Okeson will be moderating both meetings and staff will have a presentation summarizing the Toad Mountain Project and background. Commissioners Jepson and Meyer will also plan to attend the public input meetings. There has been some local opposition towards this project mostly themed around taxes, increased traffic, government spending, etc. However, overall, the survey results show many would be in favor of acquiring Toad Mountain for various reasons such as recreational activities, natural area, and scenic views. Staff will bring the Toad Mountain project reconsideration of the Master Plan contract back to the County Board at a future date. The RAC committee is still in favor of moving forward with the Toad Mountain Project.

2. ***Dunton Locks:***

Shelter Grant Update- RFPs for shelter construction are posted. Bid Closing will be on Friday, August 23rd at 10:00 am at the County highway department. Shelter will be constructed before June 1, 2025.

Bike Path- Staff are gathering estimates to fog seal bike path stretch from the park to the bowling alley. Mitch will talk with hwy dept and local contractors to gather a price estimate.

Tram- Two docks will be installed soon to help unload passengers from the tram trolley due increasing weight of watercrafts using the tram and low water levels.

Wannigan Park – Hank Ludke provided an update on Wannigan Park, trail counter had counted a lot of people using the park, many of those were likely troll hunting.

Eagle Lake – Acquisition is being held up in the courts, plan is to turn over to Becker County to manage lake access and grounds maintenance of park in the future.

Heartland Trail- Trail scheduled to be constructed this fall? with a parking trailhead near Lions Park in Frazee. The Heartland Trail Committee has narrowed down a preferred travel route from Clay County to Detroit Lakes.

Osage Beach – DNR is planning to remove the rebar and concrete this fall. Plan will be to do some improvements/renovations next spring on site.

Woods N Wheels ATV Club GIA Process- Woods and Wheels is finishing up its trail map in coordination with Staff to line up with their formal request to Becker County to sponsor them for GIA. Staff will then prepare a resolution for the county board to see if they are willing to sponsor the clubs +/- 47 miles of existing atv trails over Becker County Tax Forfeited Lands.

Parks and Rec Funding/Staffing- The committee recommended looking for funding to complete existing projects and future assistance from a planning and operational standpoint.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:21pm

NEXT RAC MEETING DATE – Tuesday, September 10th, 2024

2024 Meeting Dates (1-2:30)

~~7-9-2024~~

~~8-13-2024~~

~~Toad Mountain Open House AUGUST 9th~~

~~Toad Mountain Public Meeting August 14th 5:30 ? (WOLF LAKE COMM. Center)~~

~~Toad Mountain Public Meeting August 15th 5 ? (DETROIT LAKES, COURTHOUSE)~~

9-10-2024 10-8-2024 11-12-2024 12-10-2024.