



COUNTY OF BECKER

Recreational Advisory Committee

- telephone: 218-847-0099
Website: www.co.becker.mn.us

RAC Meeting

December 17, 2024

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Becker County Courthouse, Boardroom

915 Lake Ave, Detroit Lakes, MN

Committee Members Present: Howard Kluender, Keith Zachariason, Jim Granger, Hank Ludke (virtual), David Meyer, Del Bergseth, Phil Hansen, John Okeson

Absent: Cody Piper, Steve Skoog, Karen Mulari

Staff Present: Mitch Lundeen

Guest: Greg Johnson (Landowner/Project 412)

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Open Forum – **None**
3. November 12th, 2024 – Meeting Notes Review and Approval – **Approved Hansen, Granger.**
4. Update on Current and Ongoing Projects –

a. **Dunton Locks:**

Hwy 59 Parking/Dunton Locks East Trailhead-

The Committee discussed parking expansion along Hwy 59 – Dunton Locks Rd with Greg Johnson (son of the owner). Committee agreed the current parking space is at times full and has overflow issues. Greg Johnson acknowledged that his family supports a possible expansion of the parking area on their private parcel or in that general area. This will be looked at closer when a Trail Feasibility Study is completed from Dunton Locks to Shoreham Area, one of the goals of the feasibility study will be to identify willing landowners to allow parking lot space for the public.

Shelter Update–

Project is ahead of schedule, siding and roofing will be going up this week as well as the drywall. MN DNR Grant staff completed an inspection back in late October, which was good. Staff will need to place appropriate signage identifying the funding sources. The other comment was to ensure there are handicap accessible picnic tables and appropriate signage.

Soo Pass Trail Agreement-

Access agreement has been signed between the BC and Soo Pass Ranch to allow Cross Country Skiers and other winter trail users to use a portion of the Soo Pass Ranch Land for the winter 2025 season. Agreement expires 4-1-25.

MPCA Climate Resilience Grant-

Becker County is applying for a MPCA Community Resiliency Grant, this grant would offer financial assistance to install bike racks and fix it stations, small shelters, benches, water fill up stations, etc. along existing bike paths and community gathering areas. The respective communities or governing agencies are responsible for installation. The grant requires a 10% match, this can be in-kind. Becker county is looking at the locations such as Osage and Middle Cormorant Swimming Beach and Dunton Locks Park. Other Communities or municipalities interested are Cormorant and Detroit twps., City of DL, Lake Park, and Frazee, and Project 412. Grant deadline is 12/19/2024.

Wannigan Park Update-

Becker County is contributing \$150,000 of SMART funds for access road into the park, FCDC received a \$917,000 grant from the GMRPTC to build shelters, design and implement a trail network, camping areas, restrooms, etc. Theres a possibility of more roads being paved in 2026 into the park.

Heartland Trail Update –

Currently getting bid documents prepared to publish for the remaining path construction from the old county Hwy 10 bridge to the city of Frazee. Soon to be advertised, bids projected to opened in Mid to Late January 2025.

Woods N Wheels ATV GIA Application/Proposal-

Application is still being worked on by staff and ATV club. The ATV club is planning to attend upcoming Snowmobile Club and Twp meeting to help spread awareness of the GIA Process and Designation benefits to the existing trail system and take any comments or questions. ATV Club to name the trail “Ice Cracking Trail”.

Member At Large (MAL) Resignations/Commissioner Appointments (tentative) –

Phil Hansen submitted his resignation letter from the RAC. Hansen has been elected as the district 3 Becker County Commissioner. The RAC committee will need to make a recommendation to the County Board for a newly appointed MAL. Interested MAL candidates should inform the RAC committee members or staff. Candidates will be reviewed on January 14, 2025, RAC meeting, then provide a recommendation to the County Board for appointment soon thereafter. John Okeson has expressed interest in being a MAL on the RAC Committee, along with Glenn Gifford (DL Nordic Ski Club) and Amy Stearns (Project 412) to date.

Commissioner Jepson is scheduled to replace Commissioner Meyer on the RAC Committee.

Other-

Forest Road Maintenance has occurred on Camp 5 and 6, Old Many Points 6-8 culvert replaced. Currently the contractor is working on brushing areas that will need road work done next summer.

Mr. Hansen has requested that NRM department put together a 5-year forest road maintenance plan.

NEXT RAC MEETING is 1-14-2025 in the commissioner's board room.

5. Adjournment – Hansen made a motion, Bergseth seconded. 2:02 PM

DRAFT