



COUNTY OF BECKER

Recreational Advisory Committee

• telephone: 218-847-0099

Website: www.co.becker.mn.us

RAC Meeting NOTES

June 10, 2025

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Becker County Courthouse, Boardroom

915 Lake Ave, Detroit Lakes, MN

Committee Members Present: Keith Zachariason, Jim Granger, Commissioner Hansen, John Okeson, Howard Kluender, Glenn Gifford, Karen Mulari, Commissioner Meyer

Absent: Commissioner Jepson (meeting conflict), Del Bergseth

Staff Present: Mitch Lundeen, Cody Piper, Steve Skoog

Guest: None

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Open Forum – **None**
3. March 11th, 2025 –Meeting Notes Review and Approval – **Approved Hansen, Granger.**
4. Update on Current and Ongoing Projects –
 - a. Dunton Locks:
New Shelter Update–
Shelter is completed and open to the public, trail connection is also complete.
Picnic Tables- **Received \$7,750 for donations, of that \$1,500 was for renovations to the old VFW shelter. 8 new picnic tables are installed at the new shelter. Staff will have an acknowledgement plaque made up and installed for all the donations received. Thanks to all those committee members who reached out for donations.**
 - b. Old Shelter Update- **VFW has offered to provide labor to renovate the shelter, Staff will come up with cost for materials and have a discussion with VFW volunteers about renovations.**
 - c. Parking expansion Dunton Locks Park and Dunton Locks Rd/HWY 59- **Lakeview Twp OK with mirroring parking lot expansion onto the south side, staff will work with HWY dept or local contractor to begin work before fall 2025.**
 - d. Pelican Watershed Building Status- **Becker County has made an offer and drafted up a purchase agreement to purchase all rights to the building and location Pelican River Watershed District has used historically, the tentative plan is to expand parking in this location once building is removed.**

5. Heartland Trail Update –
Construction of the trail from OLD HWY 10 bridge to Frazee is expected to be completed by early July 2025. 2023 Bonding Language is expected to be accepted into law, then \$550,000 bonding funds can be used for other portions of the Heartland Trail for planning, designs, environmental reviews.
6. Trail Routing Study-
The County Board awarded the trail study proposal to Houston Engineering. Project Steering Committee kick off meeting planned for June 20th. Draft study will receive public input and engagement, be presented to RAC and full County Board in late September 2025. Glenn Gilford offered to serve on the Project Steering Committee for study. Website for the public to comment on the Trail Routing Study below:
<https://tinyurl.com/heartland-trail-study>
7. Wannigan Park Update- **Next Meeting will be held July 22 at 1:30, virtually. Minutes attached from April 22, 2025 meeting.**
8. Osage Swimming Beach- **DNR extracted rebar and some concrete from the beach early June. Staff are planning to develop a park plan for the beach and execute portions of the plan this year, likely in the fall when beach is not heavily used.**

Osage Twp has made a request to Becker County to maintain restrooms at the old lion's club on the south side of HWY 34, staff will meet with twp. representative on site to determine the condition of the restrooms.
9. Little Sugarbush TF Parcel-
Discussion about what could be done with this parcel to make it more park/recreational user friendly. There is a sand point well on site, staff will check it out with MN DOH in the coming month. There is no bathroom facility onsite. Staff have been mowing lawn and some minor maintenance upkeep to parcel so the public can get to the lakeshore.

No plans for the parcel have been developed to date. Mulari will gauge the interest from local community members in creating it into a park or primitive camping sites and report back to the committee at the next meeting. Staff will try to attend next Twp Board meeting (July 10th) to see if they have any ideas or concerns with a park like project.
10. Per Diems- **Staff handed out per diem claim forms for members. Staff will bring blank per diem forms to every meeting moving forward for member to sign vs. every couple months.**

Other- Publicize the Opening of new shelter at Dunton Locks via Facebook and TV3.

Eagle Lake Parcel- City has yet to sell the parcel to the nonprofit group but plans to. Nothing to be done at this time.

11. Adjournment –2:05 PM

NEXT RAC MEETING IS MONDAY, JULY 14th

DRAFT