



COUNTY OF BECKER

Recreational Advisory Committee

• telephone: 218-847-0099

Website: www.co.becker.mn.us

RAC Meeting NOTES

July 14, 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, Del Bergseth

Absent: Commissioner Jepson

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 Gifford, Kluender.**
4. Update on Current and Ongoing Projects –
 - a. Dunton Locks:
New Shelter Update–
Shelter is completed.
Picnic Tables- **Reviewed donation acknowledgement plaque quote, too high. Mulari offered to design and create a wood engraved plaque, Lundeen will work with Mulari to get the right donor names on plaque. Awaiting another check from Disabled American Veterans to arrive still. Once that arrives and is accepted by County Board, then move forward with completing the plaque.**
 - b. Old Shelter Update- **Plan is to apply for grant funding to combine old shelter renovations with parking lot expansion projects. March 2026 is the grant deadline; staff will work on the grant proposal this winter.**
 - c. Parking expansion Dunton Locks Park and Dunton Locks Rd/HWY 59- **Received quotes for parking lot expansion. Work is planned to be completed this fall.**
 - d. Pelican Watershed Building Status- **Becker County will take ownership after August 1, 2025. Staff will put together RFQ for the building and have it removed if not needed for other county storage purposes.**

- e. Pedestrian/Cyclist Counter- Local MN DOT staff have placed a counter out at Dunton Locks from June 18. Plan is to keep it out there until August 11th. Will bring report forward to share with RAC later. Initial report attached from June 18-July 10.
5. Heartland Trail Update –
Construction of the trail from OLD HWY 10 bridge to Frazee is completed. Heartland Trail Meeting is July 23 at 10:30, ribbon cutting to follow at noon. 2023 Bonding language amendment was approved. \$550,000 bonding funds can be used for other portions of the Heartland Trail for planning, designs, and environmental reviews, which must be spent by December 2027. Bonding funds cannot be spent to construct trail or do a routing study. See attached language.
6. Trail Routing Study- Currently seeking public input, staff will display poster of routing study map at the county fair. Public Open House is scheduled for August 25th from 4:30-6:30, at the Detroit Lakes Pavilion on Detroit Lake. RAC members should try to attend. Project website below.
<https://tinyurl.com/heartland-trail-study>
7. Wannigan Park Update- No update, Lundeen will send an invite to member(s) from the Wannigan Park Committee to provide update to RAC committee.
8. Osage Swimming Beach- Staff are currently researching the tax forfeited parcel where the beach lies, might need to order a survey to be completed if needed, staff will also reach out to Osage Twp chair and possibly MNDNR representatives on site to determine the condition of the restrooms and overall maintenance of parcel, Invite Osage Twp chairman to future RAC meeting.
9. Little Sugarbush TF Parcel- Lundeen and Mulari plan to attend the Sugarbush Twp meeting this evening to inform the twp. board of tax forfeited parcel and gauge interest or concerns about turning this parcel into a public use area. Lundeen and Mulari will report back to RAC. If parcel is desirable and a good fit, the RAC will help develop a concept and plan to create recreational features for the site.
10. Per Diems- Per Diems we're handed out.
11. ATV Trail Signage- Kluender informed the RAC there is signage needed for CSAH 38 into Wolf Lake. Commissioner Hansen will bring request to Highway Committee.

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

12. Adjournment –2:43 PM

NEXT RAC MEETING IS MONDAY, AUGUST 11th 3rd Floor Courthouse