



COUNTY OF BECKER

Recreational Advisory Committee

• telephone: 218-847-0099

Website: www.co.becker.mn.us

RAC Meeting NOTES

December 1, 2025

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Becker County Courthouse

915 Lake Ave, Detroit Lakes, MN

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

Absent:

Staff Present: Mitch Lundeen, Steve Skoog

Guest: Amy Stearns, Sarah Hoffman (Project 412)

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Open Forum – **None**
3. October 13, 2025 –Meeting Notes Review and Approval – **Approved Hansen, Granger.**
4. Becker County Regional Trail Alliance- **Amy Stearns, Sarah Hoffman (Project 412)**

A new alliance has formed within Becker County with individuals and special interest groups looking to increase and formalize current assets and future recreational opportunities. The committee has formed three subcommittees; Signage, Trail Counters, and Funding. The committee discussed the need for cohesive branding and signage around the county amongst many other things such as funding. Project 412 will work on coming up with a logo or brand for signage. The alliance is looking for endorsement from the RAC.

A motion was made by Jim Granger to endorse the alliance, Del Bergseth seconded. The endorsement will be brought to NRM Committee, then the County Board.

5. Dunton Locks Old VFW Shelter Renovations:

Mitch is meeting with contractors to gather cost estimates to make improvements at the old shelter. Okeson mentioned the VFW members are looking for projects to work on and this could be a volunteer service they provide. Becker County may need to apply for grant funding if project costs are out of scope. MN DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant project proposals are expected to open mid-December with a deadline to submit March 2026.

6. Heartland Trail –

Next Heartland trail committee meeting is December 18th at 1:00 at the chamber of commerce. The trail committee will finalize the trail route or have more discussion on various routes at that time. The committee discussed the reason of bringing the trail down to Bucks Mill. The county engineer is waiting to find out if ADA compliancy fixes are needed on the new segment of trail from old Hwy 10 to Frazee next spring, if fixes are needed this may need to come out of the \$550k 2023 bonding money.

7. Trail Routing Study- **The Study is posted on the Becker County Website to view. Routes have yet to be determined. https://www.co.becker.mn.us/dept/parks_recreation/planning_projects.aspx**

8. Wannigan Park- **2 miles of trails have been paved over in the park. FCDC has raised about one million dollars for the park. FCDC meeting next week.**

9. City of DL – Park Board- **Granger and Hansen updated the committee. The park board is continuing to fundraise for the city of DL ballpark improvements. Long-term planning efforts are ongoing to make improvements to DL parks and recreation infrastructure.**

10. Other-

Toad Mountain- DNR is planning to acquire Toad Mountain in 2026.

Osage Swimming Beach – Title search is being conducted to ensure the property is Becker County Tax Forfeited. Improvements were made to the beach by DNR and Becker County this fall.

Eagle Lake Parcel- City of Frazee hired a new attorney, hopefully closing on property in the near future.

11. Adjournment –2:25 PM

NEXT RAC MEETING IS JANUARY 12, 2026, Mitch will send calendar invite.