



COUNTY OF BECKER

Recreational Advisory Committee

• telephone: 218-847-0099

Website: www.co.becker.mn.us

RAC Meeting NOTES

March 9, 2026

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Becker County Highway Dept

1771 North Tower Rd, Detroit Lakes, MN

Committee Members Present: Keith Zachariason, Commissioner Meyer, Commissioner Hansen, Howard Kluender, Jim Granger, Del Bergseth, John Okeson

Absent: Karen Mulari, Glenn Gifford

Staff Present: Mitch Lundeen, Steve Skoog

Guest: Sarah Hoffman, Amy Stearns (Project 412)

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome & Introductions –
2. Open Forum – **None**
3. February 9, 2025 –Meeting Notes Review and Approval – **Approved Hansen, Kluender.**
4. Becker County Trail Alliance- Sarah Hoffman & Amy Stearns- Project 412

Project 412 handed out a packet displaying the logo/brand book examples and quotes for signage for the trail alliance. The RAC reviewed the quotes and different types of signage. Mitch will talk with HWY dept sign shop for their advice. Commissioner Hansen made a motion to approve up to \$5,000 spending on signage/branding materials, John Okeson seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. Funds will be taken from Recreation budget but will not exceed \$5,000. This appropriation will be discussed at NRM committee as well. Staff will work with Project 412 to break down quotes and select one.

Project 412 will work with staff to determine how we can post and maintain links on the Becker County website. It's the individual clubs or interest groups' responsibility to ensure their weblink are up to date not the counties' responsibility. The RAC recommended reviewing the weblinks at least once a year. Trail counters are still being tested.

BCTA funding request and alliance update attached.

5. Heartland Trail –

Heartland Trail Committee is seeking an amendment to the 2011 DNR heartland trail masterplan to cover the Cormorant lakes area and possible other trail routing corridors westward.

6. Wannigan Park-
In the process of creating a brand book specifically for the park, Wannigan Park Committee members have been participating in Trail Alliance as well.
7. City of DL – Park Board-
No recent meeting. Zach Foltz has been appointed to replace Jackie Buboltz on the Park Board.
8. Little Sugarbush Cabin-
Cabin is being offered for sale currently, bids close on March 20th. The County is interested in seeing how much it's worth to have it removed, no guarantee that it will be sold. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids for multiple reasons.
9. BC/WE DNR Meeting-
Steve and Mitch met with various department heads/natural resource managers from White Earth DNR. WE Parks department is interested in collaborating on the Little Sugarbush parcel, and says there is a void for recreational opportunities in that general area of the county. WE DNR may have a dock available that could be put on this parcel.
10. Disc Golf Opportunities-
Committee discussed possible frisbee/disc golf locations on county managed lands. Cost for 9 frisbee baskets is +/- \$3,500. Dunton Locks would be a desirable location for a course once the vegetation work is completed later this year. Possible disc golf course installation would take place in 2027. Little Sugarbush parcel is also a candidate location for a course in the future.
11. North Country Trail (NCT)– Multi Use Trail Proposal –
Nearly 16 miles of NCT crosses over Becker County Managed Lands. Mitch has requested the local NCT chapter to allow a segment or two to be open for other non-motorized uses such as Mt. Biking or Horseback riding, this currently is not allowed on the hiking trails. Mitch will report back to committee on this proposal.
12. Yurts-
The committee is not interested in focusing on building or purchasing yurts currently. The committee is more interested in providing primitive camping opportunities. Yurts are high maintenance.
13. Per Diems – **handed out.**
14. Other-

-Kluender stated that DNR GIA Program is recommending local clubs use contractors to do work on their trails vs. club members doing the work and getting reimbursed. DNR recommending this based on fraud prevention.

-Kluender asked when the ATV trails become part of the Grant in Aid System could the county be considered a contractor to implement maintenance work on trails for the club? Mitch will look into this.

-Zachariason- provided a note for the committee stating that the City Of Lake Park is looking into developing a disc golf course. The city is also looking to add a fishing pier on Labelle Lake NE of Lake Park. Zachariason is working with MNDNR, Cormorant Sportsman Club, and Lake Park EDA to get this accomplished.

15. Adjournment –2:23 PM

**NEXT RAC MEETING IS April 13, 2026, HIGHWAY DEPT
Mitch will send calendar invite.**

DRAFT