

**OFF-ROAD VEHICLE ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA & RECORD****June 7, 2016**

Rib Mountain Municipal Building, Wausau, WI

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Key Points</b>	<b>Outcomes, Next Steps, Assignments</b>
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	<p><b>Members Present:</b> Rob McConnell, Chair; Adam Harden; Ernie Pulvermacher; Bryan Much; Jim Wisneski</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Bill Schumann</p> <p><b>Others Present:</b> Cathy Burrow, Faith Murray, Jillian Steffes, Ed Slaminski, Ann Loechler, DNR; members of the public</p>	Introductions around the room were made.
<b>2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>		Bryan Much moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting, second by Ernie Pulvermacher. Motion Passed Unanimously.
<b>3. Agenda Repair</b>	None	
<b>4. Chair Report</b>	<p>Applications appear to be in better order than they've been in the past.</p> <p>Rob will be appointing an ad hoc committee to make recommendations to the Council on the feasibility of using more video as part of the application process.</p> <p>The idea of asking Trail Patrols to help gather data was discussed as well.</p>	<p>Rob appointed Bryan and Adam to the committee to look into use of video and other technology in conjunction with the applications.</p> <p>The recommendation for the study is posted with the minutes as the <a href="#">ATV Technology Study</a>.</p>
<b>5. Department Reports</b>	<p><b>Grant &amp; Program Issues:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On May 18, 2016, any ATV decals sent that day, were sent out as "Non-expiring" registration stickers. These are all being replaced with proper decals and instructions.</li> <li>2. DOT rates. We had a request for considering a rate other than the standard DOT rate. Answer was no. When a DOT rate exists, it should be used unless the council has set an alternate rate.</li> </ol>	

	<p>3. A request came in to set a rate for a larger box scraper.</p> <p>4. Budget Update: None at this time. The budget for FY17 will be known by August 12 and Cathy will send it out to the Council before the funding meeting.</p> <p>5. Snowmobile Recreation Council (SRC) update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. ORV Council was mentioned when applicants applied for joint funding. They look at those applications favorably although they know the funding won't always be 50/50.</li> <li>b. Bridge Standard – The SRC's discussion was reviewed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The SRC will be talking to bridge engineers and manufacturers about what a change from 14,000 to 20,000 pounds actually entails.</li> <li>ii. In addition, they will address the discrepancy between maximum bridge load and reimbursing groomers that exceed that maximum weight.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>LE issues:</b> Trail Signing Handbook will not be updated until Off-Highway Motorcycle signs added. DOT rules may be pulled from the DNR Signing Handbook with a reference to DOT rules. It's not good business practice for the DNR to publish DOT rules because keeping the handbook current then becomes a problem.</p>	<p>3. Consensus was that this is already included in the DOT rates.</p> <p>5. The Council is concerned that increasing the maximum bridge load will not solve the problem but will lead to clubs purchasing even bigger equipment. They're also concerned with funding these bigger bridges because they are not needed for ATV use.</p>
<p><b>6. Forest County amendment request to ATV-3215</b></p>		<p>Jim Wisneski moved to approve this amendment of \$61,472.25, second by Bryan Much. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>This results in a total award of \$202,267.25 for ATV-3215.</p>
<p><b>7. Oconto County emergency grant request</b></p>	<p>There was no paperwork submitted by the county. Jim Wisneski showed pictures and talked about the project. Apparently the boardwalk has rotted and it is now failing. He asked if this is a request the Council could consider at the August funding meeting.</p>	<p>The Council will be able to consider this request only if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oconto County's submits a variance request AND is it approved by the DNR.</li> </ul>

	<p><a href="#">NR 64.13(14), Wis. Admin. Code</a> allows the DNR to grant a variance for applications received after April 15.</p> <p>Oconto County must submit a variance request that meets the requirement of the administrative code as stated below:</p> <p>(14) (a) The department may approve a variance from nonstatutory requirements of this chapter upon the request of a sponsor if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The department determines that the variance is essential to effect necessary grant actions or program objectives; and</li> <li>2. Special circumstances indicate that the variance is in the best interest of the program.</li> </ol> <p>(b) In determining whether to grant a variance under par. (a), the department shall take into account such factors as good cause and circumstances beyond the control of the sponsor.</p>	<p>2. Oconto County submits a detailed request.</p>
<p><b>8. Consideration of elimination of standing advisor positions</b></p>	<p>As discussed at the last meeting, instead of having a standing advisory position, the Council will call upon experts as needed.</p>	<p>Ernie Pulvermacher moved to remove the standing WCFA advisory position from the Council, second by Bryan Much. Motion Passed Unanimously.</p>
<p><b>9. ATV, UTV &amp; Trout Application Review</b></p>	<p>Projects were reviewed by the Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many projects were approved to proceed as is.</li> <li>- Some projects had outstanding questions, those projects will be reviewed at the council funding meeting in August, provided those questions are answered.</li> <li>- RTP funding decisions will be made on July 20, 2016, and Snowmobile decisions will be made on August 22, 2016. The Council will know results of those funding decisions when they meet.</li> </ul>	<p>The <a href="#">reviewed funding spreadsheet</a> is posted with the minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If the Council had unanswered questions, they are listed on the spreadsheet.</li> <li>- Those questions need to be answered in order for the Council to make a decision on recommending funding for these projects at the August funding meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Common themes encountered during this review:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pictures/video would really help show the condition of trails needing rehab.</li> <li>2. When requesting gravel, it's important to include the dimensions and compaction depth.</li> <li>3. Particularly in the case of trails that are shared with other users like bicyclists, horses, hikers,</li> </ol>

		<p>and others, applicants should also apply (when available) for other funds that can contribute to these uses. This brings in additional funds to support these uses instead of relying solely on the ATV program.</p> <p>4. Winter ATV rules should be submitted with any applications involving winter ATV trails.</p>
<p><b>10. Council members' matters</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ernie Pulvermacher was reappointed to the Council.</li> <li>• Bill Schumacher is not seeking reappointment but has agreed to serve until his replacement is appointed.</li> </ul> <p>Riding:          -Ernie rode Lincoln &amp; Oneida counties and a new connection that was funded last year. He thought they did a good job on the work and was happy to see that.          -He also rode the Enterprise trail system where they had created a pit to do some trail rehab. The project may not be complete but what he saw was done well. There was heavy rain on Friday night and he rode on Saturday, the trail held up well in the wet conditions.</p> <p>Adam spoke of the Trail Ambassador program which is detailed below under WATVA comments.</p>	
<p><b>6. Citizen Participation</b></p>	<p>WATVA – Looking to introduce legislation to reinstate the funding for the Safety Enhancement Program.</p> <p>Completely revamping the Trail Ambassador program to provide more tools for land managers to utilize those services rather than just patrolling. This project is being piloted right now.</p>	

	<p>It is expanding to other states. New York State is coming on board next year and will be using the same program. NOHVIS will be overseeing it.</p> <p>The program has the ability to track Trail Ambassadors using GPS while they are actually patrolling. It also works well to pinpoint a spot on the trail that may need repairs or presents a safety hazard. He demonstrated this on the Trail Ambassador website.</p> <p>The WATVA VIP ride will be September 9, 2016.</p> <p>WCFA – No comments.</p> <p>PUBLIC – No comments.</p>	
<b>10. Next Meeting Date/Location</b>	<p>Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at Dale's Weston Lanes in Weston, WI</p> <p>There will be a presentation on the ATV Program at the September 27-28, 2016 Natural Resources Board meeting in Black River Falls.</p>	
<b>11. Adjournment</b>		<p>Ernie Pulvermacher moved to adjourn, second by Adam Harden. Motion Passed Unanimously.</p>