

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA & RECORD

October 28, 2015

DNR Service Center, Rhinelander, WI

Presenter/ Time	Agenda Item	Key Points	Outcomes, Next Steps, Assignments
	1. Call to Order	<p>Members Present: Rob McConnell, Chair, Dave Traczyk, Vice Chair, Bryan Much, Ernie Pulvermacher, Jim Wisneski, and Mike Peterson – Advisory, Absent: Adam Harden, Bill Schumann</p> <p>Others Present: Cathy Burrow, Liaison, Ed Slaminski, Ann Loechler, Jillian Steffes, Diane Conklin – DNR Staff, members of the public and applicants</p>	Meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM
	2. Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting	Minutes of August 25, 2015	Motion by Dave Traczyk to approve minutes as written. Second by Jim Wisneski. <u>Motion carried.</u>
	3. Chair Comments	<p>Rob McConnell, Chair</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Met with Motorized Recreational Vehicle ad hoc committee, they were promoting a resolution regarding riding on road shoulders and ditches. That motion was rejected and won't move forward. 2. DOT published their standard (posted on Council & ATV Grants website). 3. Rob & Bryan attended Master Trail Building Training and when it's offered again, other Council members are encouraged to attend. 	
	4. DNR Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget – Diane Conklin gave the budget report. <p>We had a balance after the funding meeting of approximately \$200,000. However, we found that there was a \$550,000 error. Therefore, our current balance is (\$151,000). The storm damage currently before the Council may be awarded as we do have access to a source of funds to take care of those concerns after the Council makes decisions today. We have approximately 16 grants that have not been issued that go back several years. We will be</p>	

		<p>working to get those cleaned up and/or canceled. We also have only 22 projects left to write out the 72 applications we received this year. We should be able to make this deficit up with projects that either cancel or turn funds back,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LE Report – Gary Eddy <p>Gary informed council members that there were currently 19 ATV deaths this year compared to 24 at this time last year. Gary was optimistic that we would not surpass last year’s record high of 27. Of the 19 deaths this year: 9 were on private property, 7 were on public roads (4 of which were legal routes), 2 on waterways and 1 was on a trail.</p> <p>There is a proposal which Polaris Industries was trying to find bill sponsors for. The proposal includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a small UTV exception for children under age 16 to operate UTVs with an engine size of 200 cc or less.• Similar to the small ATV exception, operation would only be allowed on off-road, ATV trails.• Passengers on small UTVs would be restricted to designated adults.• There will also be a clean-up with the Agricultural Use provisions for UTVs to make it consistent with ATVs. Currently there is no minimum age for an operator on the road if they are using a UTV for Agricultural Use. ATV operators must be a minimum of age 12 and be ATV Safety certified. The proposed language is that UTV operators must be a minimum age 16 to operate on roadways for any reason, other than to legally cross.	
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	<p>5. ORV Council & Advisor Roles & Responsibilities</p>	<p>The Council Bylaws were adopted at the May 29, 2014 meeting.</p> <p>Bryan will look at updating the Bylaws to add the role of the Advisor to the Council.</p> <p>The role of individual council members was addressed.</p> <p>Council members are all involved in motorized vehicles/recreation that’s why they’ve been nominated to be on the Council. It’s fine for them to check things out as long as they’re not having unpublished/closed meetings.</p> <p>They all ride trails and gain knowledge about trails by doing that. They recreate and it brings experience and knowledge and that’s a good thing.</p> <p>Concern was raised about actions not being transparent.</p> <p>Reconsidering two projects that the council has received further information on at an open meeting is</p>	<p>Bryan will work on updating the Bylaws to better define the role of the Advisor to the Council.</p> <p>Majority of Council members feel the roles of individual council member don’t need further clarification.</p> <p>When council members go out on their own, it’s a good thing to gain knowledge, but they should not represent themselves as official council members.</p> <p>When they’re acting in an officially designated sub-committee role, then they are representing the Council.</p>

		<p>transparent.</p> <p>On other councils, commissions it's been encouraged that people go and do more research and gain knowledge and then share it with the council.</p> <p>Should DNR provide the Council members training regarding what is the role and responsibilities of the Council members?</p>	
	6. Citizen Participation	<p><u>WATVA</u> – None</p> <p><u>PUBLIC</u> – Rob asked members of public to identify themselves and limit their time to 2-3 minutes.</p> <p>A number of people spoke on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council's overall view of trail maintenance in relation to landowner's views • Trail management concerns • Public's ability to speak during Council's project • Project review questions • Grant application date deadline • Impact of private citizen input <p><u>Wisconsin County Forest Administration (WCFA)</u> - None</p>	
	7. Trail Area matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment Rates • Storm Damage Requests • Town of Nokomis Trail Project #54 <p>There was a great deal of discussion from Town of</p>	<p>Bryan moved to approve the revised equipment rates for the 15-16 season, Dave seconded. <u>Motion carried.</u></p> <p>Ernie moved to approve the Clark County request at \$19,750, Jim seconded. <u>Motion carried.</u></p> <p>Bryan moved to offer no funding at this time and return it to the local jurisdiction to sort it out and then bring a revised proposal back to the Council.</p>

		<p>Nokomis landowners affected by the proposed trail, by a representative of the Nokomis Town Chair, Oneida County ATV Coordinator and the Council members.</p> <p>Consensus among the council members was the project wasn't shovel-ready and that many details needed to be worked out at the local level before it could be considered for funding by the Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rusk County Rehabilitation Project #6 <p>There was much discussion and personal opinions shared on the process involved in putting this project on the agenda for review.</p> <p>Peter Boss, Rusk County Board Chair presented an amended application with a bit more detail for \$153,409.13.</p> <p>Mike Zimmer, Rusk County Parks handed out the new information.</p>	<p>Ernie seconded. Bryan amended the motion to rescind the prior approval Ernie seconded. <u>Motion carried</u> for approval of the amendment. <u>Motion carried</u> for approval for the amended motion. Bryan moved to deny the Town of Nokomis application, Dave seconded. Motion carried.</p> <p>Dave moved to approve the Rusk County amendment to their application to reduce it to \$153,409.13, Jim seconded. <u>Motion carried</u>.</p>
	<p>8. Council Member Items</p>	<p>At future funding meetings if we feel there are unanswered questions, the Council needs to defer those grants and not fund them at that time.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Up the quality of the applications. Don't just say it needs this, tell us why. Document the need. Don't use generalities such as safety, explain why/how it's unsafe and how to fix it. 2. Maybe we need an ad-hoc group to document what's need in applications. <p>Bryan suggests forming an ad hoc committee to document what is needed for a complete application. Bryan, Jim, Ed and Cathy will be on that committee.</p>	<p>An ad hoc committee of Bryan, Jim and CSS: Ed Slaminski was formed to document a guide on what is needed for a complete application. Mike will be able to review it from a County Forester perspective prior to it being presented at a Council meeting.</p> <p>At the next meeting review the scoring system that ad hoc committee has been working on needs to be on the agenda.</p>

		Dave – At the next meeting review the scoring system that the ad hoc committee has been working on.	
	9. Next Meeting Date/Time Location	Friday, December 11, time and location to be determined	
	10. Adjourn		Motion to adjourn at Noon by Ernie, seconded by Jim. <u>Motion carried.</u>

DRAFT