Wisconsin Conservation Congress
Motorized Recreational Vehicle Ad Hoc Committee
Meeting Minutes

ORDER OF BUSINESS 10/20/2016 6:30pm Conference Call

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS
A. CALL TO ORDER
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Dave Larson at 6:30

B. ROLL CALL
ATTENDEES Dave Larson, Gary Mertig, Ronald Krueger Sr., James Kramer, Eric Booker, David Breunig, Stephanie Blazich,
EXCUSED Wayne Schmidt
UNEXCUSED Pearl Homestadt, Al Marotz, Paul Eichelkrutz, Gary Eddy-administrative warden
GUESTS Brigit Brown- trails program, Kari Lee-Zimmerman

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR
DISCUSSION none
ACTION n/a

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT
DISCUSSION The mission of the Motorized Recreational Vehicles Advisory Ad Hoc Committee of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress is to provide citizen input on the use and management of motorized recreational vehicles on public and private lands, on behalf of all those who utilize these resources. The committee will review current and proposed policies for motorized recreational vehicles on public and private lands and provide recommendations that take into account the wide range of public and private property user’s interests. Further the committee will explore opportunities to engage and collaborate with existing motorized vehicle organizations and will promote the safe and responsible use of motorized recreational vehicles.
ACTION Keep the same, no change. Dave — motion. Steph — Second. Motion carried

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS
DISCUSSION None
ACTION n/a

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS
A. SUMMER/FALL STORM DAMAGE STATUS UPDATE BRIGIT BROWN
DISCUSSION 4 major Northern to be closed through the winter due to storm damage. Access roads are a problem – washed out bridges and such make it hard to get to trails. Reroutes were made. Working with local government for road reroutes. Locals have helped with a lot of the work. Damages reported to FEMA for funding – National forests are trying to work with DNR grant funding to fix and pay for fixes. About $35k. Suak bridge over Wisconsin River in negotiating use of old railroad bridge – major connector for Northern and Southern. Testing integrity of the bridge. No requirement of insurance as of yet but can be insured – Insurance don’t cover the acts of nature.
### B. MULTIPLE USE ON STATE TRAILS
**BRIGIT BROWN**

**DISCUSSION**
Trails they run directly and some managed locally – local or private lands. Multiple uses can be up to land owner. Public does have a say in what is allowed when they are state trails. No influence on a trail having a certain set of uses. Vehicles allowed depends on trail size and on what it was originally made for. Creating dual paths or expanding may or may not be possible depending on the land it on and budget. Expanding for cars/trucks is all about funding that we don’t have right now. Road Inventory Project – once inventoried, decide on what can be opened up or expanded to use properties. Still a work in progress. Have to look close at each road and figure out what is exactly a road and what can be developed or not. Master Plans has a webpage.

### C. SCORP UPDATE
**BRIGIT BROWN**

**DISCUSSION**
Stakeholder group meeting touched on numbers for motorized rec. Huge difference in regions due to snow and trails limits. Use on private land is big when there are no public trails. (Attach copy of email numbers to notes) – will be working up a draft for SCORP. 2 phases. Finding main focus. Taking surveys of all sorts to see what is going to work best with the public – collecting information. Traditional way – survey in mail. New – self selection for surveys. People to people works the best. Maybe getting college kids involved for surveyors?

### D. OHM REGISTRATION PROGRAM
**BRIGIT BROWN**

**DISCUSSION**
OHM- can’t give exactly number of how many registered yet. Can go online to register – on road and off road & Dirtbikes (not street legal). 2 year cycle. Piggy Backing with ATV&UTV – need OHM certification. Private registration is lose then public registration. Did get a full council from governor. National forests should be contacted since they can have different laws then the state. National don’t allow on road vehicles.

**ACTION**
Another Meeting Needed – Gary absent

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

**DEADLINE**
11/7/10

### E. CROSSING STATE/COUNTY ROADS FOR ACCESS TO BUSINESSES
**BRIGIT BROWN**

**DISCUSSION**
Wayne: KUBOTA MAKES A UTV WHICH IS EQUIPPED WITH AN AIR CONDITIONED CAB. APPARENTLY IT DOES NOT QUITE MAKE THE WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS BY A FEW POUNDS. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE TO HAVE ALL MACHINES BY ALL MANUFACTURES ALLOWED ON THE ROADS AND TRAILS?
Gary: The Kubota diesel UTVs exceed the maximum weight allowed by several hundred pounds, dependent upon model. Many of the overweight machines are commercial grade, work machines designed for uses such as farming or construction. The DNR cannot register any machines as UTVs if they fail to meet all the legal specifications established by law, including weight. Any non-registered machines are not allowed to operate in areas specifically opened for use by registered ATVs/UTVs, such as ATV trails and ATV road routes. During development of the permanent UTV program, weight was an issue of concern with the trail managers, including the WI County Forests Assoc. (more weight equaling more trail damage). The would need to be changed increasing the maximum UTV weight.

Wayne: STATE AND COUNTY HIGHWAYS. ONE SITUATION IN PARTICULAR INVOLVES A TOWN ROAD WHICH TEES INTO STATE HWY 13. ATV’S AND UTV’S ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CROSS OR
TRAVEL APPROXIMATELY 100 YARDS TO GET TO MOE’S, A BAR AND EATING PLACE ON THE
OPPOSITE SIDE OF HWY 13. I AM SURE THERE ARE OTHER SITUATIONS SIMILAR TO THIS
ONE. SNOWMOBILES ARE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL THE RIGHT OF WAYS. WHAT CAN BE DONE
FOR ATV’S AND UTV’S?

Gary: ATVs and UTVs are not permitted to travel on a state highway or on the unimproved right of way
(ditch) area, in most cases, without WisDOT approval. It is not desirable to mix recreational vehicle
traffic with 55 mph (or greater) motor vehicle traffic on state highways. Whereas, there are a small
number of WisDOT permitted ATV/UTV trails in the ditch area along state highways. These are (in my
experience) exclusive to DNR funded off-road ATV/UTV trails that need to connect to another DNR
funded off-road ATV/UTV trail. If the ATVs/UTVs could go straight across State Highway 13 to an off-
road trail (beyond the WisDOT right of way) which could then lead to the bar, I believe that might be
approved. As the regulating agencies, WisDOT and/or the county/highway dept. would have final say
in all of these matters. Snowmobiles are generally permitted to operate in the right of ways along state
and county highways most likely due to the fact that they don’t damage the ground. When spring
comes, usually all sign of snowmobile use is gone. That cannot be said for ATVs/UTVs which can
show damaging signs in areas where they operate. Many utilities are buried along state highway right
of ways and underground damage to them may also be a concern. In this situation, the first step
would be that the town contact WisDOT about the permitting process.

Email from Wayne to us:
Gary responded. Trying to not rip up ditches is big. Reinforce ditches to utilize crossing state/public
roads. Local roads are open to cross always. State you need a permit. Speed differentials are a safety
concern.

ACTION
Another Meeting Needed – Gary Eddy absent

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE
11/7/16

F. DISCUSSION ON UTV DEFINITION, WEIGHTS, SIZES

BRIGIT BROWN

DISSCUSSION Safety concerns for roads and trails. Need to make sure people are safe. UTV need to have seatbelts
and roll cages and ATV’s don’t? Don’t want: over legislation. No utility box means it’s not a UTV?
Thinking of giving a new name.

ACTION
Another Meeting Needed – Gary Eddy absent

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE
11/7/16

G. RULE SIMPLIFICATION IDEAS

DISSCUSSION winter usage: snow removal, ATV are allowed to do a lot but UTVs are not specified? Like to clarify
the UTV being used: Renaming unboxed UTVs? – UTVs were added to state statute per Brigit

ACTION
None – clarification was made by Brigit

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE
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III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION Dave- state trails allowing fat tired bikes? State only has so much involvement- owners make the call
not the state. Don’t assume press release.

Ron- opening up to people other than Ad Hoc

James- Alderado marsh- no vehicle uses, hunting, camping etc. and for only DNR & fire dept. Laws are
due to be rewritten next year. Only on designated trail for winter. Don’t want to disturb the marsh with
traffic.

Steph- schedule next meeting

ACTION
n/a
IV. ADJOURNMENT

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<th>MEETING ADJOURNED</th>
<th>Ron – motion. James – second @ 8:11pm motion carried</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUBMITTED BY</td>
<td>Stephanie Blazich</td>
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