

Northwoods Regional ATV Trail System Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Long Lake Conservation Center, Palisade, MN

Members Present: Len Hardy, Mark Jacobs, Dave Marshall, Robin Baker, Brian Napstad, Harlan Kingsley, Frank Turnock, Maynard Ahonen, Bob Marcum

Guests Present; Joe Majerus, Katie Fernholz, Bob Moore, Larry Moses, Bill Keefe, Gilbert Eigsbey, Jack Hulmen, Conservation Officer Brent Speldrich, Mike Hillme

6:00 PM – Call to Order by Chair Brian Napstad.

Approval of Meeting Agenda, motion by L. Hardy, 2nd by D. Marshall. Addition of discussion of Township Participation (B. Marcum)

Approval of 1/4/11 Meeting Minutes, motion by F. Turnock 2nd by L. Hardy.

Review of Old Business

- Distribution of latest Progress Report by mail to area businesses and townships. Need to make sure full name of the “Northwoods Regional ATV Trail” is used in identifying the project. Also distributed progress report via email and posted at project website:
<http://www.dovetailinc.org/files/u1/TrailProgressReport0311sm.pdf>

Phase II Update

- Maps: Aitkin County is planning a limited printing (1,500 copies) of trail system maps this year and to be updated next year as additional trails are completed.
- Grants: 2010 Federal Grant approval should be completed pending the archaeological review process. 2011 Federal Grant application has been submitted and funding decisions should be announced in June. A grant application has been submitted to Yamaha OHV Access Initiative, and there is the potential for this funding to support specific trail construction costs such as the Willow River bridge if the application is successful. The application included letters of support from Ray’s Motor Sports in Grand Rapids and Brother’s in Brainerd. Need to secure \$500,000 in eligible match in order for the bonding funds to be released. The Legacy grant for the project was used to complete winter trail construction work and for trail construction materials. Aitkin County will provide a break down of grant monies, match and a budget summary at the next meeting.
- Trail Construction: Clearing has been done on new routes. The alignment at the junction with Rabey Line is being negotiated where an easement is needed to cross Quadna property. Working with contractor and engineers on quotes for the Willow River bridge estimated to be completed in 2012. Materials have been stockpiled for trail construction.
- Trail Construction Materials: 46,000 bd ft of lumber are needed for trail construction. Two bids were received with the low bid of \$24,302.03 received from Lake States. This bid also included a

more environmentally friendly treatment for ground contact. Motion to accept low bid from Lake States Lumber (Motion by L. Hardy, Second by R. Baker, Approved).

Township Participation

- Bob Marcum noted his appreciation for the hard work of the project committee and the economic opportunities that have been brought to the township. The township is interested in having a sign at Lawler with a welcoming message to visitors from all the people of Salo Township. The project has done a good job working with the townships, and it is important for the communities to have a stake in the project. Would like to work with local townships to identify needs and potential to work together on easement needs, infrastructure and welcoming visitors.

Schedule Next Meeting

- 6 pm on Tuesday, August 2nd 2011 at Long Lake Conservation Center

Public Comments

- M. Jacobs noted that the project was nominated for a 2011 Environmental Initiative Award. However, the project was not selected as one of the 15 finalist projects. The list of finalists and applicants is available at the Minnesota Environmental Initiative's website (<http://www.incommons.org/en-us/environmentalinitiativeawards/>)
- L. Moses provided an update on trail projects in Crow Wing County, including the comment period for a trail proposal in the southern part of the county.
- L. Hardy noted the UPM Blandin grand opening on July 7th at the Smith Creek Parking Lot.

Adjourn

- A motion to adjourn was made by L. Hardy, 2nd by H. Kingsley, all aye, time 7:52pm