

Vilas County Forestry, Recreation, & Land Committee Minutes

20 May 2014

Members Present: Steven Doyen, Chair
Rocky Caffarella, Vice Chair
Ken Anderson
Art Kunde
Willy Otterpohl

Others Present: Lawrence Stevens, CF, Forest Administrator
John Gagnon, Assistant Administrator
Dale Mayo, Parks & Recreation Administrator
Constance Valkenaar, Administrative Secretary
Jill Nemec, DNR Forestry Liaison
Martha Milanowski, Corporation Counsel
Holly Tomlanovich, AWSC, Sno-Eagles
Ann & Jeff Currie, Mike Robillard, Gary Meister,
Rollie Alger, Great Headwater Trails (GHT)
Steven Rhode, Town of Conover
Ronald De Bruyne, County Board Chair
Wally Beversdorf, Colin Snook, Lorin Johnson, Town
of Phelps
Rollin Siegfried
Bob Payseur, Conover Sno-Buddies

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Doyen, who advised that this was a public meeting and that notification of the meeting with the agenda was sent to the Committee members, the County Board Chairman, the Vilas County Clerk, the Vilas County Corporation Counsel, the Vilas County News-Review and other appropriate media. The notice and agenda were also properly posted on the Courthouse and Forestry Department bulletin boards. This notification was verified by the Forestry Department Administrative Secretary.

- 1) Motion by Kunde, seconded by Anderson to approve the agenda in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2) Land Use Agreement Phelps: The Committee and guests were provided with copies of the current (30 year) Bike Trail Land Use Agreement between the Town of Conover and the Committee, dated 6 June 2013. They were also provided with copies of the draft of a proposed "Bike Trail Land Use Permit & Land Use Agreement – GHT2" to be discussed at this meeting. Input was received from, and discussion was had with the representatives present from Great Headwaters Trails and the Town of Phelps. Discussion of insurance and jurisdictional issues. Caffarella questioned the need for the proposed draft agreement and suggested that the Department's standard Bike Trail Land Use Permit (like the 30 year one Conover signed in 2013) be used for all the towns. Beversdorf talked about the provision in #2 Sec. G, #iv, which states that the Town of Phelps assumes all responsibility for removal/relocation/discontinuation of the Phelps portion of the trail, in the event of future construction on GHT2 including but not limited to highway re-route. A similar provision is included in the present

Conover 30 year agreement, under #16 & #17. The County must preserve its ability to conduct its land management activities unhindered by any trail agreement.

Corporation Counsel advised that this can be adequately addressed by amending the language in Conover agreement #17 to include reference to the Vilas County Forest 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Anderson suggested that reference be included to the Vilas County Outdoor Recreation Plan. The Committee consensus is that all the bike trail agreements between the County and the Towns should strive for consistency. Item #19 of the Conover agreement, Wisconsin's Best Management Practices (BMP's) for Water Quality was also briefly discussed, with Assistant Administrator John Gagnon and DNR County Forest Liaison Jill Nemec pointing out that this should be updated to include language to also address the invasive species issue. Motion by Caffarella, seconded by Anderson, to use the standard Bike Trail Use Agreement for the agreement with the Town of Phelps. Discussion. Anderson moved to amend, seconded by Caffarella, the motion to add the following underlined language to the last sentence of Item #17 of the standard agreement: "consistent with the Vilas County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the Vilas County Outdoor Recreation Plan." Further, to insert the following underlined language into Item #19 as follows: "...for Water Quality and Invasive Species in all aspects..." Motion to amend carried unanimously. Motion amended. Vote called for on use of Standard Bike Trail Use Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

- 3) Trail Land Use Agreements Correspondence: The Committee advised that all correspondence related to trail land use agreements shall be directed to both the Forest Administrator and the Parks & Recreation Administrator.
- 4) Motion to adjourn by Otterpohl, seconded by Anderson. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:40 p.m.

Minutes reflect the recorder's (Valkenaar) notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.