

AGENDA

County of Eau Claire
Advisory Committee on Parks & Forest
Wednesday, September 14th 2022 – 10:00 a.m.
Agriculture & Resource Center (2nd Floor meeting room)
227 1st Street West, Altoona WI

Members note: Please call the director (715) 839-4783 if you will not be able to attend the meeting

Join by meeting link:

<https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=mbc2156932b7bef3a1761204032ef720a>

Join by meeting number:

Meeting Number: 2595 381 9641 Password: tRDvF49qMX4

Join by phone:

Dial in: 415-655-0001 Access code: 2595 381 9641

1. Call to order and Confirmation of meeting notice
2. Election of Officers – **Discussion/Action**
 - A. Chair
 - B. Vice-Chair
3. Approval of meeting minutes from August 10, 2022 – **Discussion/Action**
4. Discussion on policy regarding off-road motorized vehicle use in the County Forest
5. Future and pending items: next meeting date
6. Adjourn

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-4710, (FAX) 839-1669 or 839-4735, tty: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

**Eau Claire County
Parks and Forest Citizens Advisory Committee
Wednesday, August 10, 2022**

Agriculture and Resource Center 2nd Floor, with WebEx virtual option, 10:00 AM

Members Present: Michael Lea, Rick Rosen, Kevin Stelljes, Jolene Smith, Tom Feck, Gary Gibson, Pat Lavelle (In person).Geoff Goodland, Bobbi Barone and Laura Hurd (Webex virtual).

Members Absent: Jay Plummer

Staff Present: Josh Pedersen, Jody Gindt, Jacob Tumm, and Kyle Johnson (WI DNR).

Members gave a brief introduction to all and stated their interest in the committee.

Director Pedersen gave a summary of some of the history of the off-road vehicle usage on the forest and the intentions of the Parks and Forest Committee to develop a detailed policy on off-road vehicle usage in the county forest.

Stelljes discussed the policies of the Flambeau Forest and how the Forest Service maps out all trails and identifies ones for motorized use and ones for non-motorized. Siting this forest area as a good example of one to look at for helping formulate a plan here.

Lavelle mentioned that there is a long history of off-road users and there have been several issues over the years. Particularly in the town of Seymour.

Feck referenced an article in the Back Country Journal from the summer of 2022 that discussed the modernizing map land act. This act produced digital maps for the public to use for roads.

Goodland mentioned that the group would need to be consistent with classifications of forest roads and trails and the need for accurate maps that people could get access to.

Lavelle discussed the merits of putting an ad in the Friday paper that would let the public know that the advisory committee is looking into this topic and seek some additional public input.

Stelljes suggested that the advisory committee should look to have a policy recommendation formed by the end of the calendar year.

The committee discussed next steps and will look to meet on a monthly basis moving forward. Next meeting date would be set for September 14 at 10:00 AM.

Rosen suggested that we try looking at the southeastern part of the state for examples due to the higher population basis and increased demand for public lands. Committee members were to do some homework in looking for other examples and bring to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Josh Pedersen

Committee Clerk