

Northeastern Regional ATV Joint Powers Board

Meeting Agenda

August 15, 2022 at 2:00 PM,
SLC Virginia Public Works Facility, 7823 Hwy #135, Virginia

I. Call to Order – Chair McDonald

II. Roll Call and Introductions

III. Agenda Approval

IV. Agenda Items

- a) July 18, 2022 - Meeting Minutes Approval
- b) Public Comment
- c) Regular Agenda
 1. Funding Updates
 - i. IRRRB Application
 2. RAC Projects Update
 3. Economic Impact Study Update
 4. Statewide Master Plan Update
 5. NE Regional Master Plan Update
 6. MNDOT LUP Applications
 7. GIA/Blue Ox Discussion
 8. Kawishiwi River Bridge Update
 9. Other Items of Interest
- d) Adjourn

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- **September 19, 2022**

Northeast Regional ATV Joint Powers Board Meeting Minutes
SLC Virginia Public Works Facility
7823 Hwy 135, Virginia, MN
July 18, 2022

Board Members Present: Paul McDonald (Chair, St. Louis County Commissioner), Mike Jugovich (Vice Chair, St. Louis County Commissioner), Wade Pavleck (Koochiching County Commissioner),

Others Present: St. Louis County Public Works Director Jim Foldesi, St. Louis County Attorney Kim Maki, Ron Potter (ATVMN & NRAJPB Advisory Committee Chair), Jeff Anderson (Costin Group, Inc.), Adam Cochran (USFS), Roxanne Tea, Jason DiPiazza (Lake County Highway Engineer, Nathan Heibel (Koochiching County Land Commissioner), Jason Chopp (SEH), Bruce Bestie (Voyageur ATV), Julie Marinucci (St. Louis County), Tod Cracus, Eric Fallstrom (St. Louis County), Joe Majerous (DNR), Carol Pavleck, Mike Larson (SEH), Brian Fritsinger (St. Louis County), Kevin Gray (St Louis County) Karin

- I. **Call To Order/Establishment of Quorum:**
 - *Meeting called to order by Chair McDonald at 2:05 p.m*
- II. **Agenda Approval:**
 - *Commissioner's Pavleck/Jugovich motioned to approve the meeting agenda*
 - *Motion carried unanimously (4-0)*
- III. **Approval of Minutes from June 20, 2022**
 - *Commissioner's Pavleck/Jugovich motioned to approve the meeting minutes*
 - *The motion carried unanimously (4-0)*
- IV. **Public Comments:**
 - *None*
- V. **Regular Agenda:**
 1. Bonding Bill/Funding Updates from Jeff Anderson
 - Jeff Anderson provided an update that it is a low probability that there will be a special legislative session after the August Primaries.
 - Commissioner McDonald presented BL 22-04 for the request to apply for and receive \$1.94 M in 2023 Trail Project Funding from IRRRB.
 - ***Commissioner's Pavleck/Goutermont motioned to approve BL 22-04***
 - ***The motion carried unanimously 4-0***
 2. RAC Projects
 - Commissioner McDonald provided an overview of the RAC project proposals. No official decision yet. Project consist of various trailhead projects and trail maintenance projects.
 3. Economic Impact Study
 - General discussion of Funding and trail traffic counting. Jason provided an overview of available traffic counter equipment and general costs to process the

data by a 3rd party. The topic requires further discussion at the Advisory Committee Meeting, and a follow up meeting with UMN.

4. Economic Impact Study
 - Presentation by Brigid and John from UMN with general discussion on preferred scope of work. General discussion, no action taken.
5. Statewide Master Plan Update
 - Ron provided an update that the project is on schedule with an upcoming meeting with trail administrators on July 29th.
6. NE Regional Masterplan Update
 - Eric Fallstrom provided an update that the project is in contracting and SEH should be under contact soon to begin the Master Plan.
7. MNDOT LUP Application Discussion
 - Eric Fallstrom provided an update that MNDOT confirmed they received the application and that is being routed with MNDOT for the appropriate reviews.
8. GIA/Blue Ox Discussion
 - Joe provided an update that the Voyageur has offered to sponsor the work and Koochiching County is under consideration as the fiscal agent although no official determination has been made yet. Ron indicated that Brad Dekkers will be working on the application.
9. Kawishiwi River Bridge Discussion
 - Jason DiPiazza provided an update that they are looking for further detail on bridge ownership with more information to be provided next month.
10. Fire Tower Ownership Discussion
 - Bruce provided an update that he has been in contact with Julie M. regarding County ownership of fire towers. Julie will follow up with Bruce with more information.
11. Other
 - Commissioner Goutermont provided an update regarding MNDOT and the potential for ATV crossing tunnels in Two Harbors
 - Julie Marinucci discussed the topic of providing/sharing trail closure information. This could be potentially shown through trail GPS software such as Polaris Ride Command or similar.

VI. **Adjournment:**

- Commissioner's Pavleck/Jugovich motioned to adjourn at 2:47 pm. Motion carried unanimously 4-0)
- Next meeting will be held on August 15, 2022, at 2:00 pm at the Virginia Public Works Vermilion Room.

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Jason Chopp.

Commissioner Paul McDonald, Chair

NE Regional ATV Joint Powers Board

Jason Chopp

From: Ron Potter <rgpotter109@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 08, 2022 4:27 PM
To: Jason Chopp
Subject: Fwd: New GIA Proposal Application

FYI, Blue Ox GIA application, Joint Powers Board agenda item.

Ron

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nathan T. Heibel <Nathan.Heibel@co.koochiching.mn.us>
Date: Thu, Aug 4, 2022 at 12:12 PM
Subject: RE: New GIA Proposal Application
To: Dekkers, Brad (DNR) <brad.dekkers@state.mn.us>, Scott Birnie (scott.birnie@cn.ca) <scott.birnie@cn.ca>, Kurt Kennedy (Kurty111@frontiernet.net) <Kurty111@frontiernet.net>, Danae Schafer <Danae.Schafer@co.koochiching.mn.us>
Cc: Majerus, Joseph (DNR) <joseph.majerus@state.mn.us>, Unger, Joe (DNR) <joe.unger@state.mn.us>, Ron Potter (rgpotter109@gmail.com) <rgpotter109@gmail.com>, Suihkonen, Christopher (DNR) <christopher.suihkonen@state.mn.us>

I can work with our County Auditor/Treasurer's office to get consideration of club sponsorship on a County Board meeting in the near future.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Nathan Heibel-Land Commissioner

Koochiching County Land & Forestry

715 4th Street

International Falls, MN 56649

nathan.heibel@co.koochiching.mn.us

Office- (218) 283-1126

Fax-(218) 283-1129

From: Dekkers, Brad (DNR) <brad.dekkers@state.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 10:25 AM
To: Scott Birnie (scott.birnie@cn.ca) <scott.birnie@cn.ca>; Nathan T. Heibel <Nathan.Heibel@co.koochiching.mn.us>; Kurt Kennedy (Kurty111@frontiernet.net) <Kurty111@frontiernet.net>; Danae Schafer <Danae.Schafer@co.koochiching.mn.us>
Cc: Majerus, Joseph (DNR) <joseph.majerus@state.mn.us>; Unger, Joe (DNR) <joe.unger@state.mn.us>; Ron Potter (rgpotter109@gmail.com) <rgpotter109@gmail.com>; Suihkonen, Christopher (DNR) <christopher.suihkonen@state.mn.us>
Subject: RE: New GIA Proposal Application

External message alert: This message originated from outside the Koochiching County email system. **Use caution** when clicking hyperlinks, downloading pictures or opening attachments. **Never** provide your user name and/or password via email or the internet unless directed to do so by your supervisor.

Guys,

I meant to send you this form as well last week. Ended up sending two of the Form 2 instead. Sorry about that.

Brad

From: Dekkers, Brad (DNR)
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 11:33 AM
To: Scott Birnie (scott.birnie@cn.ca) <scott.birnie@cn.ca>; 'Nathan T. Heibel' <Nathan.Heibel@co.koochiching.mn.us>; Kurt Kennedy (Kurty111@frontiernet.net) <Kurty111@frontiernet.net>; Danae Schafer (danae.schafer@co.koochiching.mn.us) <danae.schafer@co.koochiching.mn.us>
Cc: Majerus, Joseph (DNR) <joseph.majerus@state.mn.us>; Unger, Joe (DNR) <joe.unger@state.mn.us>; Ron Potter (rgpotter109@gmail.com) <rgpotter109@gmail.com>; Suihkonen, Christopher (DNR) <christopher.suihkonen@state.mn.us>
Subject: FW: New GIA Proposal Application

Scott, Nathan, Danae, and Kurt,

Attached are the forms Kooch County and the ATV club need to submit to get things moving for putting the Blue Ox, I Falls to Big Falls segment, into Grant-in-Aid ATV. I filled in the information that I could. Please review what I wrote, let me know if there are questions, adjust as you see fit, fill out the rest of the forms, and send back to me and Joe.

This trail is unique from any other GIA atv project in our Area because it already exists and because it is a state trail (not the same as the Taconite or Arrowhead, but still a state trail) that we have quite a bit of experience and knowledge with. We're hoping having the maintenance portion under Grant-in-Aid will help get the trail back to a place where it just needs a reasonable amount of annual maintenance. Tower's staff will still remain involved in parts of the maintenance, but funding through Grant-in-Aid will be more consistent, and having a local club and sponsor to focus on atv maintenance will be a big bonus.

This first administrative step is to get everything good for grant-in-aid. Next step will be to meet in-person, probably on-site, to talk about your grant request, needed maintenance, ways DNR Trails staff can help with equipment/material/etc, and any details unique to the Blue Ox and that corridor, etc. We may have MnDOT meet us on-site as well because they still have an active role in managing the trail corridor (it is MnDOT-owned, and DNR has a limited-use permit for the corridor).

I think that's all I've got for now. Give me a ring I you want.

Thanks.

Brad

BRAD DEKKERS | ASSISTANT AREA SUPERVISOR

PARKS AND TRAILS

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Phone #: 218.300.7843 Brad.Dekkers@state.mn.us



From: Dekkers, Brad (DNR)

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:31 PM

To: Scott Birnie (scott.birnie@cn.ca) <scott.birnie@cn.ca>
Cc: Ron Potter (rgpotter109@gmail.com) <rgpotter109@gmail.com>; Majerus, Joseph (DNR) <joseph.majerus@state.mn.us>
Subject: New GIA Proposal Application

Hey Scott,

Attached are the GIA Forms 1 and 2 you need to fill out to get things started with maintaining the Blue Ox ATV portion (I Falls to Big Falls) for Grant-in-Aid.

My understanding is that you guys are under the Voyageur Country ATV club. That being said, for this portion of the Blue Ox, you will have a different sponsor, and the trail will have a different public point of contact than the trail(s) in the crane lake area.

Start filling these forms out as best you can, knowing that certain portions still need to be filled out, i.e. trail sponsor, cost estimates on work needed, etc.

We have done a lot of work on this segment of trail, as has the snowmobile club. As you put together costs and needs for work you'd like to start on first, I would be happy to sit down with you and go over what has been done up to this point on the trail, what has worked versus what hasn't, priorities as I and our crew see them, challenges, etc.

Let me know when your next club meeting is, and I will plan on making it up there for it.

Good to talk to you, looking forward to working with you.

Have a good weekend!

Brad

BRAD DEKKERS | ASSISTANT AREA SUPERVISOR

PARKS AND TRAILS

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Phone #: 218.300.7843 Brad.Dekkers@state.mn.us

