



Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 27th, 2023

Wisconsin State Patrol Wausau Post, 227301 Shrike Ave, Wausau and via Zoom

Council Members Present: Rob McConnell (Chair), Bobby Donahue, Ed Slaminski, Daniel Thole, Dave Traczyk, Jim Wisneski

DNR Staff: Jillian Steffes, Pat Anderson (Zoom) Kurt Byfield (Zoom), Annie Loechler (Zoom), Jeff Pennucci

Public: Rebekah Luedtke (WCFA), other members of the public

1. Call to order – 10:00 AM by Rob

2. Agenda Repair

- None.

3. Approve Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of the Dec 2022, Feb 2023 and Mar 2023 meetings by Bobby, 2nd by Jim. **Motion carries.**

4. Elections

- Jim nominates Rob McConnell as Chair of the ORV Council. 2nd call for chair, 3rd call for chair.

Motion by Dave (2nd by Ed) to close nominations for Chair of the ORV Council and cast unanimous ballot for Rob McConnell as Chair. MOTION PASSED

- Jim nominates Mike Biese as Vice Chair of the ORV Council. 2nd call for vice chair, 3rd call for vice chair.

Motion by Dave (2nd by Jim) to close nominations for Vice Chair of the ORV Council and cast unanimous ballot for Mike Biese as Vice Chair. MOTION PASSED

5. Public Comments

- None

6. Chair Report – Rob McConnell

- WATVA is working on an economic impact study. Copies are online, can be done online with just a QR code. Being physically handed out at club meetings and on the trail.

7. DNR Report

- HANDOUTS
 - Spreadsheet of FY23 Grant Requests
- New regional grants project manager out of the Spooner office has been hired – Pat Anderson
- A new LTE has been hired – Annie Loechler, will be helping with SNARS support
- We will be hosting a County Coordinators Workshop to help train newer county coordinators and provide networking opportunities. Stay tuned.

8. Information and Action: Trail/grant issues

a. Action required on grant, storm damage and/or amendment requests

**Motion to recommend funding Oneida Co's cost increase request by Jim, 2nd by Bobby.
Motion carries.**

b. Review ATV/UTV grant applications for completeness; request additional information if needed.

- Questions on individual projects recorded in separate document (spreadsheet of projects)
- Some confusion over when and at what percentage we'd fund paving road approaches. Previous year's motion had stated "recommend funding paving approaches up to 14' wide x 20' long at 50% unless special circumstances apply", with an example of said circumstances being that DOT would require this in order to develop the trail, or elevation/grade changes make it necessary for safety. Council will need to contemplate if this applies only to projects where the primary goal is to pave existing crossings, or apply this cost share to ALL crossing components including when it is a smaller portion of a larger development project.
- Discussion on if 'dust control' projects should continue to be funded only under maintenance, or allow for dust control grant applications.
- Reminder that July 1, 2021 ORV Council Meeting established a policy that support facility applications over \$50,000 be funded at no more than 80%.

9. Council Member Matters

- Rob – Legislative action update
 - Open intoxicant legislation will likely not move forward.
 - State budget (not yet signed) includes 3 new ATV/UTV Wardens, \$500,000 increase to County Law Enforcement Aids, and increase from \$200/mile to \$400/mile for summer UTV maintenance.

10. Housekeeping Matters

- A joint Snowmobile and ORV Council meeting would be helpful to collaborate and attempt to come up with a formula for splitting joint-use projects.
- Next meeting agenda will include items for funding paved approaches, and dust control.

11. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn. Motion carries.