



VILAS COUNTY ATV/UTV ALLIANCE Meeting Minutes

DATE April 9, 2024
TIME 6:00pm
LOCATION Landover Club House
 Conover, WI

Attendees (“X” – Present, “A”- Absent) - BOARD

X	Ron DeBruyne, Jr	A	Kirby Giampa	X	Lisa Penner
A	Lee Hoffman				

Attendees (“X” – Present, “A”- Absent) – CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

X	Corky Sheppard – Lakeland	X	Gary Lagueux – Landover	A	Mike Potts – Northwoods
A	Darwin Lohse – Lakeland	X	Gary Penner – St. Germain	X	LJ Schmalzer - Winegar
A	Glen Gauthier – LD Flambeau	X	Denny Horan - Sayner	X	Laurie Thompson - Winegar
X	Roger Flaherty - Landover	A	Rich Hajt - Northwoods		

Attendees (“X” – Present, “A”- Absent) – GOVERNMENT/AGENCIES/OTHER

X	Jason Molle – VC Rec Officer	X	Todd Bierman – VC Park/Rec	A	Holly Tomlanovich - VC
X	Sara Pearson – DNR NAHL	A	Randy Harden - WATVA	A	Hank Wozniel - WATVA
X	Ron DeBruyne, Sr. - Emeritus				

Opening	Speaker	Comments
1. Call to Order / Roll Call	Ron	Ron called the meeting to order at 6:01pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pledge of Allegiance was completed Ron mentioned that Dick Decker passed last week and should be recognized by this Alliance.
3. Establish Quorum	Ron	A quorum was established
4. Call for additional Agenda items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance of agenda 	Ron	Ron asked to add the following to the agenda under new business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have the Clubs begin selling State trail passes through the Clubs membership process so as to encourage membership growth Discuss the status of the request by Landover to open roads to ATV/UTV traffic in the winter Dues for 2024 are due today Roger made a motion to accept the agenda as presented including additional agenda items. Gary P seconded the motion. All - aye

5.	Call for any changes or additions to previous minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance of Minutes 	Ron	Roger made a motion to approve the November meeting minutes as presented. LJ seconded the motion. All - aye
6.	Treasurer's Report	Lee	No report

Alliance Reports	Speaker	Comments
VC Recreation Officer	Jason	<p>There have been 12 complaints so far this year for 2024 for the county. There are no real hot spots or patterns for the complaints. A couple of the complaints was regarding ATV's on snowmobile trails with most reported over New Year's Eve.</p> <p>Deputy Wilson is going to help with an ATV safety class in Lac Du Flambeau per Kirby's request.</p>
VC Parks & Recreation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024 Trail Opening Date 	Todd	<p>See attached reports for details</p> <p>A question was asked regarding the potential change in legislation which would allow for ATV/UTV traffic on highways that run through towns. Todd explained that the town would have to create an ordinance to allow ATV/UTV traffic on highways that are more than 35mph. More to come on this if/when the legislature votes on it.</p> <p>Presque Isle currently has no trails and asked what the steps were to create a trail. They would like to create a trail that goes to Michigan. The first step is the need to determine who the landowners are (private, county, state) and talk with those landowners about signing easements. In the meantime, riders can get to Michigan on roads until a trail is developed.</p> <p>Landover asked when the McKinley to Morley Road construction would begin/end but there is no ETA at this time.</p>
DNR NHAL	Sara	<p>The Woodruff North-South route still needs to be constructed with bids going out 4/16. No ETA for completion of construction.</p> <p>Engineers are reviewing the plans submitted for the County Road M and 51 crossing. The \$4K in gates will be paid for by the DNR and required gravel is coming from the DNR for \$30/load.</p> <p>Decking for the Little Saint Germain bridge is being done next week. Some trees are also being planted per request by a landowner.</p>
WATVA	Randy/Hank	WATVA is working on some new winter non-snowmobile funding being available for ATV/UTV's.

		The annual WATVA meeting in Stevens Point is being held the weekend of April 12-14.
Clubs		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boulder Junction ATV Club 		No report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lac Du Flambeau ATV Club 		No report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lakeland ATV Club 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lakeland received \$97K for the new route 5 trail. Raffle tickets are out and includes a Canadian fishing trip. Wheeling for a Cause is coming up in July.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landover ATV Club 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map build is in process including map updates. Trail inspection is being held this Saturday 4/13. Bingo will be held on Wednesday this year starting Memorial Day until Labor Day. Last year's Bingo games were very successful. Gary L warned that Bingo rules are very strict with fines very high for not following the rules. The Club is doing progressive bingo this year. Cash raffle tickets are out at \$100 each with 150 to be sold.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northwoods ATV Club (Manitowish/Winchester) 		No report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Germain ATV Club 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raffle tickets, posters and maps picked up this week. Last night we had the annual review with the Town and BoBoens on winter driving. Turned out to be a non event. Fern Ridge Hill and Cemetery Trail work is being done before season opening. The 50' strip is going to be widened as well. Redecking bridge over Little St. Germain Creek is happening next week. BoBoens are ready for us to start signing and cleaning trails. Trail cleanup is scheduled for 4/18. May 18 the Club is holding a Ruck'n Ride. We are doing a ride in conjunction with the St. Germain Ruck'n event which is a 4.1 mile ruck ending at Cira's Red White and Brew. We will start the ride mid-morning and be back to Cira's by 1pm. The signage book was completed by both the ATV/UTV and snowmobile clubs. We work together to complete signage process each year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sayner Barnstormers ATV Club 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A meeting is being held this event to discuss ATV/UTV traffic in the area. A survey of residents may be required with the question of who will pay for survey. UPDATE: The town decided to hold a May 14 vote on opening roads to ATV/UTV traffic. A grant was received for building the Plum Lake Trail however more engineering is now required

		<p>due to an issue with erosion. The trail will go behind the ambulance barn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that a trail going to Hwy K has wetlands so it would be very expensive to build.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winegar ATV Club (Presque Isle) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pork n Ride has been taken over by the Winegar ATV Club this year. Posters are available and LJ asked all Alliance members to post them in our areas. Raffles, music, food and an ice cream social will be part of the day's event. Cash prizes will be award for the 3 most patriotic ATV/UTVs. June 15th is the date. The Club will be holding rides every month this summer.

Unfinished Business		Speaker	Comments
1.	Updated Bylaws - approval	Ron	<p>This was the first vote to approve the changes discussed during the November meeting. There will be a second meeting today to complete the approval vote process.</p> <p>Corky made a motion to suspend the reading of the bylaws and approve the changes from the November 2023 meeting. Denny seconded the motion. All - aye</p>

New Business		Speaker	Comments
1.	McLeod Road status for ATV/UTV traffic	Ron	McLeod Road is closed at this time. Gary Jr. is working with County to get it back open.
2.	Missing TIN# on trails	Ron	Ron talked to Holly about missing TINs. Forestry, Land and Mapping and Emergency Management all have a part in maintaining TINs. Why does everything have to go through Todd first? Todd explained that there are issues with maintaining the TINs and having them be out of order. Todd said all trail changes come through him and that is why Holly told Ron to start with Todd. Todd said he may be able to discuss this issue with Adam and possibly streamline the process. It was noted that missing TINS are a safety issue as someone hurt on a trail with no TIN cannot always be located promptly for assistance.
3.	Role of Clubs, Alliance and Parks & Rec for trail/route development	Holly	Holly and Todd will put something in writing and get it out to all the Clubs.
4.	Alliance website development	Lisa	<p>Lisa talked with Scott Bertz regarding developing an Alliance website. The charge for development will be \$500 plus \$134 annually for the .org domain and hosting on a secure webserver. Thoughts for the website include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intro page with Mission Statement and purpose List of officers and bylaws List of Clubs with links to individual websites and maps (if available)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting minutes • Events <p>Lisa would be responsible for maintaining the website once created.</p> <p>Ron Sr. said to make sure the Alliance owns the website if something happens to Scott. UPDATE: confirmed. Lisa receiving information on who hosts the website in case something happens to Scott Bertz.</p> <p>Corky made a motion to move forward with the development of an Alliance website. LJ second the motion. All - aye</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Have the Clubs begin selling State trail passes through the Clubs membership process so as to encourage membership growth</p>	<p>WATVA has to go to the state to setup a Vilas County trail pass. The suggestion is that if you want a pass, you have to join a Club. There are problems with setting this system up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The monies collected for the trail pass would go to a state pool where there is money that can't be accessed by clubs except through the grant process. • The Clubs would have to manage the trail pass process. <p>The upside is that selling trail passes could possibly increase membership.</p> <p>The decision was made not to pursue this issue until Corky talks with WATVA about this possibility.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Discuss the status of the request by Landover to open roads to ATV/UTV traffic in the winter</p>	<p>Everyone reviewed the letter from the snowmobile alliance saying they do not want ATV/UTV's on snowmobile trails. Lisa suggested that the county change the ordinance to say all trails are open but clubs and towns make the final decision on what they will open in their areas.</p> <p>Per Todd, this can't be done because the county has final say on what happens with county property. Clubs and towns cannot make this change. Todd suggested that each club go back to their snowmobile club and town to discuss what county property they would like opened for winter riding and submit these requests to Todd who will walk it through the system. Each club's request would be reflected separately in the ordinance.</p> <p>Jason said that he thinks the ATV Clubs should concentrate on opening trails to businesses and not opening everything up.</p>

			<p>Ron said this should be dealt with between clubs and the county not involved. It's also an economic issue because folks do not want to ride on roads, they want to use trails.</p> <p>Corky was wondering why the trails can't stay open until the first snowmobile club goes out to pan. Oneida is open until 12/2. Oneida can also decide to open trails before April 1 if the weather permits it.</p> <p>Roger made a motion to table this discussion and let the clubs work locally to make any changes and present them to FRL for review. Gary P seconded the motion, All - aye</p>
7.	2024 Dues		<p>All Alliance dues are due this month. The fee is \$200 per club. Send all checks to Lee Hoffman at:</p> <p>10538 Hoffman Circle Boulder Junction, WI 54545</p>
8.	Event Calendar and Contact List	Lisa	<p>Lisa asked everyone to look at the Contact List and Event Calendar handed out and make sure she has everything correct and complete.</p>

Closing	Speaker	Comments
1.	Final Comments, Questions	No additional comments or questions were made.
2.	Next Alliance Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 9, 2024 @ 7:54pm • Landover Club House 	
3.	Call for Adjournment	<p>Corky made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Denny seconded the motion All – aye</p> <p>Ron adjourned the meeting at 7:54pm.</p>