



COUNTY OF BECKER

Recreational Advisory Committee

• telephone: 218-847-0099

Website: www.co.becker.mn.us

RAC Meeting NOTES

May 4, 2026

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Becker County Highway Dept

1771 North Tower Rd, Detroit Lakes, MN

Committee Members Present: Keith Zachariason, Commissioner Jepson, Commissioner Hansen, Howard Kluender, Jim Granger, Del Bergseth, Karen Mulari

Absent:, Glenn Gifford, John Okeson

Staff Present: Mitch Lundeen, Steve Skoog

Guest: Amy Stearns (Project 412)

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome & Introductions –
2. Open Forum – **None**
3. March 9, 2026 –Meeting Notes Review and Approval – **Approved Hansen, Granger.**
4. Becker County Trail Alliance- Amy Stearns- Project 412

Amy asked about doing some plantings and creating a sidewalk or safe route from Co Rd 54 to Randolph Rd to Ortenstone gardens. Amy will check with County Engineer regarding this.

Amy also discussed artistic bike racks that are being ordered and placed around the community. Project 412 is providing some match funds to an existing grant from Essentia Health provided to Becker County.

Trail Counters are not quite ready for releasing. Becker County approved \$5,000 for trail alliance signage, posts, materials.

5. Essentia Health Funds-
Becker County received \$5,000 in 2025 that was used to purchase bike racks and trailside benches around different communities. Becker County was made aware of an additional \$5,000 available for 2026. These funds need to be used for active living purposes.
6. Heartland Trail –

Heartland Trail Committee is seeking an amendment to the 2011 DNR heartland trail masterplan to cover the Cormorant lakes area and possible other trail routing corridors westward. Jim Olson, Mitch Lundeen, Jay Carlson recently test drove potential routes to narrow down the routes to send to DNR for a possible amendment. The proposed amended route will first be routed

through the Becker County Board of Commissioners for discussion and approval before sending to DNR.

7. Wannigan Park-

Large tree planting underway 4/28 and 5/6. Seeking bonding funds to install sewer, water, and road infrastructure going to the park from Hwy 87.

8. City of DL – Park Board-

No update.

9. Bucks Mill-

Well ahead of construction schedule, encourage committee members to go visit this site. July 16th 10-4 celebration event, the event will likely take place at Bucks Mill and/or the Becker County Museum.

10. Little Sugarbush Cabin-

Cabin has been sold for \$15,050 and is scheduled to be removed before Mid-October 2026.

Committee discussed having various amenities onsite in the future such as; frisbee golf course, ball park, swimming beach, small shelter, picnic tables, etc. White Earth DNR has a fishing dock they're willing to offer to the site.

It was decided that the committee should take a road trip out to the site next meeting. Mitch will arrange travel for those who wish to want to carpool to site. If time is still available after this site committee members will travel to Dunton Locks Park and Bucks Mill. Invitation should be sent to White Earth DNR as well.

11. Per Diems – handed out.

12. Other-

Dunton Locks Old VFW shelter renovations are completed.

Osage Beach – Lions club has done some fixing up on the benches and swimming platform to make it more safe.

Eagle Lake Access- No major updates.

Pickeral Lake (Snellman) - Remote Camping Opportunity being developed this summer.

Chilton Park – Committee discussed if and what has been done on this site.

13. Adjournment –2:21 PM

NEXT RAC MEETING IS June 8th, 2026, Bus Tour

Mitch will send calendar invite and meeting information.