



State of Wisconsin  
**NONMOTORIZED RECREATION & TRANSPORTATION TRAILS COUNCIL**

**Meeting Agenda**  
**Wednesday, October 13, 2021**  
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
*Public Participation*

Zoom Meeting Information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88582564632>

One tap mobile: 13126266799,,88582564632#

Phone: 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 885 8256 4632

TIME	PRESENTER	ITEMS & TYPE
11:30 a.m.	Rod Bartlow	Welcome, review attendance, establish quorum
11:35 a.m.	Rod Bartlow	Approval meeting minutes, agenda review/repair
11:40 a.m.	Rod Bartlow	Introductions of new NRTTC members
11:50 a.m.	Jill Mrotek-Glenzinski	DOT report
noon	Drew Hanson	DNR consultation
12:10 p.m.	Geoff Snudden and Rod Bartlow	Update on social media
12:15 p.m.	William Pennoyer	Government Committee Report
12:20 p.m.	Blake Theisen	Funding Committee Report
12:25 p.m.	Blake Theisen	Council discussion of Funding Committee white paper on concept of a sales tax for state trails. Council may or may not take action on a formal recommendation.
12:45 p.m.	Guests	Public comment
12:55 p.m.	Rod Bartlow	Discussion of future meeting dates and topics
1:00 p.m.	Rod Bartlow	Adjourn

# **Nonmotorized Recreation and Transportation Trails Council (NRTTC)**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **October 13, 2021 Quarterly Meeting**

#### **1. Once quorum established, the meeting called to order by the Chair, Rod Bartlow (11:30-11:31 a.m.)**

##### **a. Attendance taken from zoom**

- i. Rod Bartlow (Chair)
- ii. Blake Theisen (Vice-Chair)
- iii. Ben Popp
- iv. William Johnson
- v. William Pennoyer
- vi. Anne Murphy
- vii. Geoff Snudden
- viii. Dave Phillips
- ix. Michael Arrowood
- x. Kirsten Finn
- xi. Steve Clark

**b. Agency staff attending from DNR:** Drew Hanson, Missy VanLanduyt

**c. Agency staff attending from DOT:** Jill Mrotek Glenzinski

**d. Public attendees:** Alex Bub, Chesla (?), Bryan Much

#### **2. Approval of July 14 quarterly meeting minutes (11:32-11:33)**

Bartlow asks if there are any changes to the July 14 draft meeting minutes. Hearing none, Johnson motions to approve the minutes, Popp seconds, none opposed, minutes approved.

#### **3. Introduction of two new NRTTC members (11:34-11:45)**

Bartlow welcomes two new members to NRTTC.

Steve Clark describes his time on the staff of the Ice Age Park & Trail Foundation in the 1990s and long history with bicycling including work as an independent bicycling consultant.

Kirsten Finn describes her work as Executive Director of the Wisconsin Bike Fed, partnership with Rails-To-Trails Conservancy, and efforts with Wisconsin Legislative Trails Caucus.

#### **4. DOT report (11:46-11:55)**

Mrotek Glenzinski updates the Council on the following:

- League of American Bicyclists Bike Friendly State Survey that was completed in August;
- Ongoing work on policies and procedures on incorporating bike and pedestrian improvements as part of roadway improvement projects;
- [Transportation Alternatives Program \(TAP\)](#) and [Congestion Mitigation Air Quality \(CMAQ\) Program](#) updates
  - On the TAP page there's a Previous TAP awards listing.
  - Soliciting applications for the 2022-2026 TAP program; applications due January 28, 2022.

- The 2022-2026 CMAQ applications are being reviewed; anticipate awards to be announced in early 2022. There's also a listing of previous CMAQ awards.
- [2021 Wisconsin Tribal Transportation Conference](#).

### **5. DNR consultation (11:56-noon)**

Hanson highlights sections of the DNR consultation that was emailed to NRTTC members the previous day and asks for questions. No questions.

### **6. Update on social media (12:01-12:05)**

Snudden notes that posts have been made since the July quarterly meeting to the [NRTTC's Facebook account](#). Bartlow and Snudden plan to meet before the January meeting to discuss this topic.

### **7. Government Committee Report (12:06-12:14)**

Pennoyer notes that at its July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Committee reviewed DNR's boiler plate cooperative trail MOA. He asks if any other NRTTC members would like to review it. Theisen offers to review it.

Pennoyer next summarizes the Committee's discussions of the Wisconsin Legislative Trails Caucus, a session he attended recently at the Mid-American Trails and Greenways Conference (MATAG), and need for the Caucus to have additional members from both political parties. Bartlow encourages individual NRTTC members to contact their own state legislators on their own behalf to ask them to join the Legislative Trails Caucus. Johnson asks to have Representative Goyke at a future NRTTC meeting. Finn notes that Goyke and Kurtz are not focused on only non-motorized trails.

### **8. Discussion of Funding Committee draft paper on a state trails sales tax (12:15-12:44)**

Theisen opens discussion of the draft white paper that was emailed to NRTTC on 9/17/21 and 10/7/21 and shares the one-page document on-screen for all Zoom attendees to see.

Popp notes that the Funding Committee's model for the draft white paper concept was the Minnesota Legacy Fund and that enactment of the Minnesota Legacy Fund was a collaborative effort.

Mrotek Glenzinski recommends restructuring the paper including adding an identification of need near the top.

Finn recommends including numbers on the staggering need for such funding for trails in WI.

VanLanduyt notes facts and figures that would strengthen the document that could be provided by Bureau of Parks and Recreation Management.

Popp notes a conversation he had with Mary Monroe Brown at the Office of Outdoor Recreation and data her office could provide for the document.

Arrowood points out the Legislature's past reluctance to provide such funding for any outdoor recreation including hunting and fishing.

Mrotek Glenzinski asks if there is a way to include numbers on trail usage and notes that Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission has a trail use counting program. She also asks that if there are numbers showing that if trails are not maintained, are there more crashes?

Popp and Snudden each offer to help improve the white paper with data they can provide.

Theisen offers to work with VanLanduyt and Hanson to incorporate data from DNR.

Theisen raises question of identifying key legislative committees and Bartlow agrees to work on this.

Clark describes how Boulder, Colorado's creation of such a funding mechanism in the 1980s has proved to be a boon for the public's use and enjoyment of trails.

Finn discusses the need to demonstrate the economic impact of trails and Representative Kurtz' comment on the economic importance of the Elroy-Sparta State Trail to his local area.

VanLanduyt notes the thousands of miles of trails in WI and the economic impact of those trails on every nearby community.

Mrotek Glenzinski further discusses the economic impact of bicycling and need to show range of lack of maintenance. For instance, how many miles of trail could be maintained or added with property funding? She notes a need for a case study, for instance, of the economic impact of a trail bridge.

VanLanduyt summarizes three types of need:

1. Operations
2. Maintenance
3. Development of new trails

She closes with, "Trails are the doorway to outdoor recreation," and notes the need to capitalize on the huge increase in trail use since the beginning of the pandemic and the need to show the connection to rural prosperity.

Bartlow asks all those who offered to help improve the draft white paper, do so for reconsideration at NRTTC's January meeting.

Bartlow recognizes Bryan Much, Chair of the State Trails Council, to speak. Much asks NRTTC for something on this subject to present at the State Trails Council's October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting and notes that Popp is a member of both councils.

Theisen motions that the draft white paper be presented at the State Trails Council's October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting for review and input. Second by Johnson. None opposed. Motion passes.

## **9. Public Comment (12:45-12:49)**

Alex Bub, Wisconsin National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council State Partner, voices concerns that a sales tax for state trails would be a government over-reach.

## **10. Next Meetings (12:50-12:54)**

Bartlow leads the Council through the calendar to select the following quarterly meeting dates for 2022:

- January 12, 2022 via Zoom
- April 13, 2022
- July 13, 2022
- October 12, 2022

Bartlow notes that the January meeting will include a continued discussion of trail funding and a revised white paper on a potential state trails sales tax. He asks Council members to email additional topics to Hanson and Bartlow.

Theisen asks Bartlow if he is willing to continue serving as Chair of NRTTC through 2022. Bartlow responds in the affirmative but notes that elections are held at the January meeting.

## **11. Adjourn (12:55)**

Motion by Theisen to adjourn, second by Clark, none opposed, meeting adjourned.