AGENDA

Eau Claire County

• Committee on Parks & Forest •

Monday, August 11, 2025, 4:00 p.m.

Agricultural Center 227 1st Street West Altoona, WI 54720
Room AG 103 and 104

Join from the meeting link.
https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=mb2ee3476e25aa45fe87d26ec81fd9c9e

Join by meeting number.
Meeting number (access code): *2533 733 9036*
Meeting password: *FHjpf6jjK72*

For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Kimberly Watnemoe at Kimberly.watnemoe@eauclairecounty.gov at least 60 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. Comments are limited to 3 minutes per person and 30 minutes maximum for the public comment period.

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice
2. Roll Call
3. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes - Discussion/Action
    a. July 14, 2025
4. Public Comment
5. Chippewa Valley Nordic Fundraiser Event at Tower Ridge - Discussion/Action
6. Wisconsin Off-Road Series Request to Use Lowes Creek County Park - Discussion/Action
7. Naming Rights on Lake Eau Claire Pavilion – Discussion/Action
8. David Sharp Advisory Committee Application Approval - Discussion/Action
9. Fall Tour - Discussion/Action
10. Coon Fork Camper Cabin Rental Rate/Rental Policy – Discussion
11. Director's Report
12. Future Committee Meetings and Items for Discussion

Prepared by Kimberly Watnemoe, Parks & Forest

Please note: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-4710 (FAX) 8391669 or (TDD) 8394735 or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources Department, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703.

Next Meeting – September 8, 2025, at 4 pm

13. Adjourn

Prepared by Kimberly Watnemoe, Parks & Forest

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MINUTES

Eau Claire County

• Committee on Parks & Forest •

Monday, July 14, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Agricultural and Resource Center

227 1st Street West., Altoona – Room 103 and 104

Members Present: Joe Knight, Tami Schraufnagel, Cory Sisk (Virtual), Michele Skinner

Others Present: Josh Pedersen – Director, Jody Gindt – Assistant Director, Kimberly Watnemoe – Office Coordinator (Committee Clerk), Erika Gullerud – Finance Analyst (Virtual), Kyle Johnson – DNR County Forest Liaison, Sharon Mcllquham (Interim County Administrator/Corporation Counsel), Anthony Briski – Eau Claire City Cop, Austin Summers – Eau Claire City Cop

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Call to Order Committee on Parks & Forest and confirmation of meeting notice

Chairman Knight called the meeting to order 4:04pm and confirmed public posting of the meeting.

Public Comment

No Public Comment was Received.

Review of May 12, 2025, Committee Meeting Minutes

Supervisor Sisk motions to approve the minutes from May 12, 2025, All in favor.

City of Eau Claire Police Request to Use Exposition Center Without Fee

The City of Eau Claire would like to hold the WLECHA training event at the exposition center grounds October 5th – 7th without being charged a rental fee. Supervisor Sisk motions to approve usage of the Exposition Center for this event without the fee. All in favor. Three to 0. Supervisor Skinner arrived after this vote.

Proposed Exposition Center Campground Change

Park Manager Johnson expressed concerns over camping at the Exposition Center. There has been vandalism, issues of non-payment, theft, etc. Supervisor Schraufnagel motions to close exposition camping beginning August 1st. Camping will be allowed for special events by discretion of Parks and Forest Director or the committee on Parks and Forest Only. All in favor. 4 to 0.

Director's Report

Director Pedersen provided an update on the Lake Altoona Pavilion project which will begin in September. The Coon Fork Camper Cabins have also been moved on site with other items currently being worked on i.e pit toilet, electrical, and well.

Future Parks & Forest Committee Meetings and Items for Discussion

Next Parks & Forest committee meeting date is set for August 11, at 4:00 p.m.

Committee on Parks & Forest Adjournment

The Committee on Parks & Forest adjourned at 5:06pm.
Respectfully Submitted by,

Kimberly Watnemoe
Committee Clerk
Office Coordinator

Eau Claire County Parks and Forest Citizens Advisory Committee Application

Name: David Sharp

Address: 224 E Brown St. Augusta WI 54722

Occupation: Operation - Busch Bros (Busch Beans)

Date: 06/24/2025 Home Phone: 715-284-6116 Work/Other Phone: _____

Please respond to the following questions to assists the Committee on Parks and Forest in evaluating your application. You may attach additional pages or write on the back if needed.

1. Are you a member of any conservation/outdoor related organization? If so, please list the organization(s), your year(s) of membership, and any office(s) held.

   I have been an admin for Wisconsin Backwoods Offroad for 7 years. We are not currently set up with offices. I organize outings and do scouting for rides and outings.

2. List any specific ways you have utilized Eau Claire County's parks and forest areas/facilities. (List specific parks, recreation, or forest areas.)
   Visit the County parks on SD and Big Falls County Park. Have utilized shelters/clubhouse in past for grad parties. Use trails for off road and take kids to play ground at parks. Hiking, beaches, EC County Forest, Backwater area off-roading, fishing, kayaking and hunting. Same for horse creek area. I have used ATV trails in past but no longer.
3. Please comment on how your background, interest, and experiences would benefit the county as a member of the advisory committee, and list any specific training you have had relating to natural resources.
   I grew up with woods in my backyard. I spent many hours everyday in the woods. I have no formal training in Natural Resources other than school and scouts. I use county lands for a variety of activities. I think that I would be a good addition because of all the ways I use the woods. I have a lot of friends whom use the woods for activities as well.
4. Why do you wish to be appointed to the advisory committee?

   I would like to advocate for the average county park/forest user. I think they are extremely valuable resource for residents and non-residents alike. I believe they are the tax payers assets and should be treated as such.

5. If there were one thing you could change pertaining to the county parks and forest, regardless of any limitations (such as budget, manpower, etc.), what would you want to change?

   Although, I understand stand tree cutting is needed for forest management and is a form of revenue for the county, I would like to see the amount being done reduced.

6. What do you feel are some of the biggest issues that need to be addressed by the Eau Claire County Parks and Forest department?

   I think they do a good job keeping and maintaining the parks and forest. I believe the signage at Big Falls was a big help as when my off road clubs do clean up there, the amount of dumping has been reduced greatly. However, the amount of dumping off Horse Creek Road has increased.

7. Additional comments

I am a strong advocate for public forest usage. I believe I have well rounded perspective with all the different types of usage. I also want to make sure that the properties surrounding public lands are also respected.