

Rural & Scenic Roads Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2021 (Virtual WebEx)

Members Present: Peter Pearre, Dave Ziedelis, Barbara Wyatt, Tiffany Ahalt, Ron Burns, Susan Hanson, Sam Castleman, and Howard Looney

Members Absent: Jeff Yocum, Tom Barse, Jim Bonneville, and Darius Mark

Staff Present: Kimberly Golden Brandt, David Olney, Denis Superczynski, and Amanda Whitmore

- Chair Ahalt brought the meeting to order at approximately 7:01 p.m.
- The Committee members reviewed the Minutes of the September 8, 2021 meeting. Mr. Ziedelis MOVED that the Committee APPROVE the September 8, 2021 Minutes as written. Mr. Burns noted a correction to the fifth paragraph regarding meeting dates and adding the word “initially” prior to “twice a month meetings.” Mr. Ziedelis MOVED to amend the motion to include the change to the minutes. Ms. Wyatt SECONDED the MOTION. The amended MOTION passed 6-0-0. Mr. Looney was not yet in attendance.
- David Olney provided an overview of the current Rural Roads Program and will provide the presentation slides to the Committee. Members asked reasons why a road would be petitioned. Mr. Olney noted challenges for emergency response vehicles, school buses, and recycling trucks, as well as dust, runoff from the road after storms – tons of aggregate is carried away into streams and yards, and the difficulty and lower priority of snow removal. Mr. Olney stated that salt is not typically used on gravel roads, but may be for bad ice events. Sometimes the road crews will add a quarry stone layer after the road has been plowed. Members asked about the advantages of tar and chip. Mr. Olney stated that it protects the stone from water runoff and abrasion from tires, and keeps water from infiltrating the base.
- The group SWOT exercise was tabled to the October 13th meeting.
- Committee members identified future topics to be covered during the meetings. These topics include:
 - Tourism/outdoor recreation/ trail development
 - Presentation from other jurisdictions that have rural road programs
 - Presentation from county on the Vision Zero policy and Complete Street policy and how do they apply or not to rural roads
 - How to promote roads and bring awareness to the roads

- Presentation from law enforcement and fire/EMS regarding their use of these roads
 - Branding roads with signage or other ways
 - How to get public buy-in
 - Invite Dan Marriot author of “Saving Historic Roads” to speak
 - Criteria for selecting roads
 - Maintenance practices of rural roads
 - Surface material types
 - Environmental impacts of surface materials, drainage, and maintenance activities, etc.
 - Field visits to specific roads and/or road tours
 - Invite Parks and Recreation director or deputy director to talk about the county parks located on rural roads
 - Identify if network of roads can be created to include secondary roads to help connect the rural and scenic roads
 - Identify where conserved lands are in relation to the rural and scenic roads: DNR lands, agricultural preservation lands, County parkland, and others.
- Ms. Wyatt informed the Committee that she will be stepping down as vice-chair. Ms. Wyatt serves as the chair to the County Roads Board and felt this may be a conflict of interest. Chair Ahalt will be seeking another committee member for the vice-chair position.

 - Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Amanda Whitmore