

**KENTUCKY RECREATIONAL TRAILS AUTHORITY  
MINUTES**

**March 5, 2009, 11:00 a.m.**

**Salato Education Center  
One Sportsman Drive  
Frankfort, Kentucky**

**Members Present:** Virginia L. Grulke, Chair; Judge Executive Carolyn C. Belcher; Ronald D. Cardwell; L. M. Caudill; J. Patrick Collins; Alvin J. Cox; Dennis E. Crowley; E. Lee Davis; W. Preston McLain; Kim Nelson; Sandy Runyon; Marcheta Sparrow, Secretary, Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet; Mark S. Cramer, Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (designee); Bill Burger; Energy and Environmental Cabinet (designee); and Kristen Branscum, Department of Agriculture (designee); and Keith Damron, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (designee)

**Members Absent:** David L. Campbell; Jerry P. Hancock; Charles Oran Little; D. Brian Patton III; Jenny Sewell; and Malcolm C. Winsper; and J. Michael Brown, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet

**Guest and Staff Present:** Libby Alexander, Saturn Consulting, Louisville; Kim Collier, Harlan Tourism Commission, Harlan; Tracy Bailey, Cumberland Tourism Commission, Cumberland; Michael King, Harlan County Outdoor Recreational Board, Harlan; Department for Local Government: Travis Scott; Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet: Matt Osborne, Director of Adventure Tourism; David Lovelace, Deputy Secretary; Barbara Atwood, Executive Director of Office of Administration and Kevin Nuss, Executive Director, Kentucky Sports Authority; William R. Dexter, Esq., Executive Director, Office of Legal Affairs; Gil Lawson, Executive Director, Office of Communications; Mary Jean Atchison, Executive Secretary

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Grulke welcomed everyone and after calling roll she declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Grulke asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the December 11, 2008 meeting. Mr. Burger made the motion to approve the December 11, 2008 Minutes and Mr. McLain seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Trail Database:** Mr. Osborne introduced Travis Scott, Department for Local Government (DLG), has been specially assigned to coordinate efforts with DLG in Adventure Tourism and compile a database of trails. He has single handedly identified over 700 trails in the state, compiled them into one database which is the ultimate goal. A survey was mailed to all Judge Executives, Mayors, tourist/visitors bureaus and area development districts to help identify trails in their areas. This will help identify the resources, the logical connector trails and the room for development of trails and the economic side as well.

**2009 Legislative Session:** House Bill (HB) 53 relates to the titling of All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs). It gives the owner of the ATV protection of ownership of the ATV with a title. It also gives the lending institutes the right to hold liens on the vehicle. It will also prevent the vehicles from operating on the roadways with the exceptions provided in KRS 189.515. Kentucky is one of the nations leading states in ATV accidents and fatalities.

This bill was passed over and will unlikely go to the Senate floor and will have to be taken up again next year's session.

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HB 88 – establish the offense of vehicular assault of a bicyclist or pedestrian. Although it did not directly pertain to Adventure Tourism it did relate to tour biking, one of the most popular activities.

**Federal Stimulus Package:** Mr. Osborne submitted proposal to the Governor's Office for the Federal Stimulus Package for designated funds. One of the stipulations is that the land for the project, including waterways and state parks, must be currently owned by the applicant. (The proposal is attached to the Minutes.)

The Federal Stimulus money is a discretionary fund; the Governor put together a working panel (members of the Governor's Cabinet, staff and the General Assembly) who will "judge" all applicants. Applications are open statewide so there will be very stiff competition for this money.

**2009 Spring Marketing Campaign:** We want to show that Adventure Tourism is a viable activity. (The **Adventure Travel** Media Plan and a print out of the proof shot of the new web site, available at the end of March, are attached to the Minutes.) Sec. Sparrow and Mr. Osborne encouraged the members to send in any information about their clubs/organizations so that it can be posted on the web site and press release plan.

## CHAIR'S REPORT

**Short/Long Term Goal:** Ms. Grulke presented the members with a short (1-2 years) term and long (2 -5 years) term goal discussion as how to identify additional expansion areas to increase trails in Kentucky. (See attached KRTA Mission: Increase trails in Kentucky.) Short term would be the smaller projects of the local/regional areas more the grassroots efforts the KRTA monitors and supports. Long term would be the large projects which the KRTA would initiate with other agencies/large companies.

As a strategy she suggested all small projects identified active have an Authority member as its liaison. The liaison would then find out what barrier(s) is/are holding the project up: money, manpower, landowner liability, interfacing with a national agency regarding property, etc.? She asked if the Authority could be the vehicle to remove the barrier through its expertise. The members agreed to this project.

She asked the members to turn in a list of projects; if the member would be willing to be the liaison; and issues and status of the project they know of in their area in order to keep track of this information.

Mr. Cardwell suggested a "tool kit" would be a good starting point; with the key information in a packet for the Authority members to present to the people/companies/communities they will be talking. Ms. Grulke called for a motion. Mr. Cardwell made a motion for a "tool kit" be put together for the Authority members to present to the people/companies/communities when they talk to them about setting up a new trail. Mr. McClain seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The "tool kit" will be a working product. Ms. Grulke appointed: Mr. Davis, Ms. Sewell and Mr. Cardwell to work with Mr. Osborne on what would go in the "tool kit" and present the draft to the next meeting. Mr. Cox added what makes a good trail (all inclusive: economically, culturally, etc.) needs to be included as one of the documents.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Otter Creek Park:** Mr. Collins reported that the Park is closed however the trails are open. The Request for Proposal (RFP) for private operation of the park will be released in March or April 2009 by Louisville Metro Parks.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

***Authority Policies and Procedures:*** Tabled until the next meeting

***Trail Construction Regulations:*** Mr. Osborne stated that it would be good to start utilizing the Authority to develop good standards for good trail. Mr. Crowley stated there is a National Trail Builders Conference. Sec. Sparrow stated she would like Kentucky to have a certified trail system. It was decided to further explore this issue.

***Kentucky Trails: A day of celebration, July 11, 2009:*** Mr. Osborne stated this is the one year anniversary of Senate Bill 196, redesigning the Kentucky Recreational Trails Authority. Mrs. Beshear requested the Kentucky Recreational Trails Authority sponsor a celebration by having a “trail celebration” at different recreational areas. This would be an opportunity for several organizations of the state to learn about the KRTA as well as making an economic impact on several areas. The Department of Parks is willing to work with the Authority on a “package deal” for the weekend. Further discussion and planning will take place at the next meeting.

**NEXT MEETING DATE and AGENDA**

The next meeting will be held April 30, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at the Salato Education Wildlife Center.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned without a motion to open the meeting for the Presentation of Ms. Libby Alexander.

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Ginny Grulke, Chair

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Mary Jean Atchison, Executive Secretary