

**KENTUCKY RECREATIONAL TRAILS AUTHORITY
MINUTES**

April 30, 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; Alvin J. Cox; Dennis E. Crowley; E. Lee Davis; Jerry P. Hancock; Charles Oran Little; W. Preston McLain; 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 Lynn Soporowski, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (designee)

Members Absent: David L. Campbell; J. Patrick Collins; Kim Nelson; D. Brian Patton III; Jenny Sewell; Malcolm C. Winsper; J. Michael Brown, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet or designee; and Kristen Branscum, Department of Agriculture (designee)

Guest and Staff: Kentucky Resources Council, Becky Raff; Rundell Ernstberger Assoc., Tricia Smallwood; Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet: Matt Osborne, Director, Adventure Tourism; David Lovelace, Deputy Secretary; Chantel Depp, Project Manager; and Department for Local Government, Travis Scott

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 Kentucky Recreational Trails Authority (KRTA) March 5, 2009 meeting. Mr. Burger made the motion to approve the March 5, 2009 Minutes and Mr. Hancock seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Staff: Mr. Osborne introduced Chantel Depp as a new staff person. She will be coordinating communications with the Kentucky Sports Authority, ~~as well as working specifically with Adventure Tourism and in marketing and communications.~~

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2009 Spring Marketing Campaign – Adventure Tourism

The membership viewed the new marketing video which has been showing in the Lexington; Louisville areas; on cable in Huntington, WVA; and Bristol, TN and available on the Internet through YouTube. There has been a great response to the video and has been beneficial.

Trail Database

The trail database is completed. Over 3,000 miles of trails have been identified. This is a great starting point and one which can be added on. We have a good partnership with the Kentucky Department of Parks, the Kentucky Division of Forestry, the Daniel Boone National Park, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and other federal entities for continuing development.

Land Use Agreements

We have been working with Knott County on access to land for their current All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and equestrian trails systems. Pike, Perry, Owsley and Leslie Counties are looking at acquisition of property through contract.

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2009 RTP Grants

The 2009 Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grants will be announced May 13, 2009, 1:00 EDT, Salato Center, Frankfort. \$1.3 million will be distributed with the money to be divided as: 40% to non-motorized trails, 40% to motorized trails and 20% to either. This year, 2009, because of few applications, all motorized applicants will receive funding per federal regulations.

East Kentucky Leadership Conference

Mr. Osborne was a presenter and attended the East Kentucky Leadership Conference talking about trails for the future. Every session was well attended and well received.

County Projects

- *Pike County:* Pike County Fiscal Court voted to hire an engineering firm to develop a county-wide trail plan for ATVs and for water access. The plan should be available for public review in October 2009.
- *Knott County:* For the past six months, meetings have taken place with landowners (five and 20 acres) to enter into Land Use Agreements. The goal is to have access to the larger properties (10,000 – 15,000 acres.)
- *Letcher County:* discussion has taken place with the County Judge-Executive on developing a horse trail as well as helping developing a bike ride on the Little Shepherd Trail.
- *Perry, Owsley and Leslie Counties:* a meeting has taken place on a multi-county ATV trail using Forest property.
- *Calloway County:* a Rail-to-Trails project; Murray's Economic Development Board owns an easement of six miles of abandoned rail bed that they want to get rid of the liability which the KRTA can assist. A meeting will take place to discuss the possibilities for the rail bed.
- *Carter County:* has a Rail-to-Trails project they would like to develop and an equestrian trail they are developing.

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CHAIR'S REPORT

Review and Update Trail Project List:

Ms. Gulke reviewed the Trail Project List with the members and asked them to help keep it updated.

This will be used to help keep the membership appraised of what is going on and who or what organization may need help. With this list and the Trail Development Book being developed the KRTA will be able to help provide information for those on the list. List attached.

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OLD BUSINESS

Kentucky Trails: A day of celebration, July 11, 2009

The one year anniversary of Senate Bill 196, redesigning the Kentucky Recreational Trails Authority, celebration will take place at four separate locations: Greenbo Lake State Resort Park for horse back riding; Natural Bridges State Resort Park for hiking; Green River Lake State Resort Park for biking and Turkey Bay Park for ATVs.

Trail Development Book

Mr. Osborne reviewed the structure of the book: See attachment – print out of PowerPoint presentation.

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OLD BUSINESS (continued)
Authority Policies and Procedures
Tabled

Trail Construction Regulations and Certified Systems
Tabled

NEW BUSINESS

Land Use Agreements: Knott County ATV and Equestrian Trails

Knott County has an ATV trail and an equestrian trail both of which extends into property owned by Knott County. The goal of the Recreational Land Use Agreement is for the larger landowners (coal, timber, gas, etc.) to open up their properties for public use in exchange for liability protection. There are over 40 separate landowners involved and 56 miles of trails. In order to proceed the KRTA has to direct the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet staff to continue.

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Mr. Caudill made a motion to have the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet staff proceed with acquiring Land Use Agreements from the necessary landowners in Knott County in order to make this project possible. Ms. Runyon seconded the motion. Motion carried by a voice vote.

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State and Local Law Enforcement Officials: Discussion took place regarding contact between a State Trooper and a visitor, where the Trooper was disrespectful to the visitor while enforcing the law. Regardless of the state law or local law/regulations law officials should treat all people with whom they come in contact with courtesy and respect; and welcome them to the area. Tourism is essential to the economy and courtesy and respect is essential tourism. The discussion also brought up that this is a part of communication and education.

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In response to an apparent confusion by law enforcement over the authority given to a community with respect to established laws, ordinances and regulations Mr. Burger made the following motion: To have the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet staff work with law enforcement agencies to ensure all parties are knowledgeable regarding any regulations that affects trail users; seconded by Mr. Caudill. Motion carried by voice vote.

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Work with law enforcement agencies to develop and educational program so that

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DISCUSS NEXT MEETING'S DATE AND AGENDA

The next meeting will take place July 30, 2009, 11:00 a.m., EDT, at the Salato Education Center, Frankfort.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Grulke asked for a motion to adjourn with no further business to conduct.

Mr. Burger made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Caudill. Motioned carried by a voice vote.

Virginia L. Grulke, Chair

Mary Jean Atchison, Executive Secretary
Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet