

**Parks Committee Agenda**

Jefferson County

Date: Thursday, December 1, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Room: Jefferson County Highway Department Committee Room

Committee Members: Joan Callan, Walt Christensen, Anthony Gulig, Jeff Johns, Cassie Richardson

Videoconference OR

Highway Committee Room

1425 Wisconsin Drive

Jefferson, WI 53549

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81764690750?pwd=TG9nUERZcnNRRRVoeHp5eHVZMVV1dz09>

Meeting ID: 817 6469 0750

Dial by your location

Passcode: 369458

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

1. Call to order
2. Roll call (establish a quorum)
3. Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law
4. Approval of the agenda
5. Approval of Parks Committee Minutes for November 3, 2022
6. Communications
7. Public Comment (Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)
8. Discussion and Possible Action on amending Parks Ordinance Section 8.13 Park and Trail Hours
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Electric Bike Use Ordinance on Jefferson County Trails
10. Discussion and possible action on resolution thanking Johnson Creek Bobcat for Volunteer Trail Day
11. Discussion on request to re-name Interurban Trail after Augie Tietz
12. Discussion on Interurban Trail Phase II
13. Discussion on Interurban Trail Phase III
14. Discussion on 2022 Budget
15. Discussion on 2023 Budget
16. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2022 Proposed Meeting Schedule
  - January 5, 2023
  - February 2, 2023
17. Adjourn

A Quorum of any Jefferson County Committee, Board, Commission or other body, including the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors, may be present at this meeting.

Individuals requiring special accommodations for attendance at this meeting should contact the County Administrator 24 hours prior to the meeting at 920-674-7101 so appropriate arrangements can be made.

## Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 3rd, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Highway Committee Room and virtual via Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81764690750?pwd=TG9nUERZcnNRRVRoeHp5eHVZMlV1dz09>

1. **Call to order**

Christensen called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

2. **Roll call (establish a quorum)**

Members Present: Christensen, Gulig, Callan

Members via Zoom: Richardson

Members Absent: Johns

Staff Present: Wiesmann, Westphal, Klement, Wehmeier, Udovich

Others Present via Zoom: Ward, Truman, Smith, Fuller

3. **Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law**

Wehmeier confirmed compliance

4. **Approval of the agenda**

Agenda approved as written

5. **Approval of Parks Committee Minutes for September 1, 2022**

Gulig/Christensen motion to approve the minutes for September 1, 2022. Motion passes 4/0

6. **Communications**

Wiesmann – Retired Sheriff used mobility device in the parks.

Wiesmann – Friends of Rose Lake August meeting notes.

Wiesmann – Note from the dog park, Dog Park Ranger, Laura Challoner had a successful lure coursing event in September.

7. **Public Comment (Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)**

None

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Adoption of the Glacial River Mountain Bike Trails by Troop 147, Jefferson

Wiesmann – troop 147 is interested in adopting mountain bike trails which would include raking, mowing, and trimming. Phil Friend has been a long-time scout leader and offers consistent leadership, Wiesmann stated. He also stated that he would love to get more kids involved in the parks. Committee is to create formal process to adopt project.

No action taken.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Carnes North Agriculture Lease Extension

Wiesmann – agree to initial offers, restored yet this fall in addition to previous buffer work, put in an access trail around the property.

Gulig/Callan motion to approve. Motion passes 4/0.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Parks Ordinance Section 8.13 Park and Trail Hours
  - Wiesmann- checked with Sheriff's Department to see if there's any internal conflicts, automatic gates would protrude access, certain places to allow this.
  - Gulig – Carnes east is the key area, wanting trails open for ski during winter.
  - Wiesmann – enforce Dorothy Carnes Park Nordic area, ex. People with dogs.
  - Klement – would we give other parks an opportunity in the future.
  - Gulig - time to 10 pm.
  - Wiesmann- add additional lighting.
  - Wehmeier- discretion to close trails.
  - Christenson- timer/motion light.
  - Klement- to reach out to Current Electric, see if we can add light fixtures or change the barn.
  - Christenson- action postponed.
  - Wehmeier – Ward to draft some language
  - Christenson to postpone action until December committee meeting pending more info on the topic ex. lighting, time, delay of allowance when grooming occurs, control by director, Callan 2<sup>nd</sup> Action to motion passes to postpone 4/0.
  
11. Discussion on Upper Rock Lake Park Mountain Bike Trails – Volunteer Events and Trail Construction
  - Wiesmann – great volunteer event, volunteer day, hosted food.
  - Klement- working with Morgan and Josh, had their staff come out for a field day. Volunteers went through put in a rough track for mountain bike trial.
  - Christenson- thank you cards.
  - Formal resolution at next meeting.
  - No action taken.
  
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Jefferson County Flood Mitigation Properties Willow Removals
  - Wiesmann – large clumps of willow in Oxbow Bend, neighbors want to remove, neighbors reached out to restoration company, willing to pay for it. Working on it this fall. Needing permits, start as soon as possible.
  - Gulig/Callan motion to approve. Motion passes 4/0.
  
13. Discussion and update on Trieloff Property Acquisition
  - Wiesmann- make committee aware that this is still in process, raised all funds we were seeking to raise. Additional funds came through.
  - No action taken.
  
14. Discussion on Interurban Trail Phase II
  - Wiesmann – work on phase 2 done for the year, all major construction done, painting and signs are completed. Tremendous traffic on this trail, substantial use, large demand. Warranty repair work in the spring if doesn't seed proper.
  - Wiesmann - seeing a lot of parking along the road, handful of calls, don't have appropriate access. Press release notifying that trail is open.
  - Udovich- will be putting signs to discourage parking.
  - Gulig – ebike discussion, did we ponder some type of restraint/ weissmann – no issues so far for ebikes, wanted committee to be aware of the possible future of ebikes.
  - No action taken.

15. Discussion on Interurban Trail Phase III

Wiesmann – getting into design engineering phase. Upcoming grant opportunities, success on stewardship grant. Ag crossings.

Christenson- weight concerns.

Wehmeier – specific point and time they can cross on map.

Udovich – start on Geotech keep project moving forward as quickly as we can.

No action taken.

16. Discussion on 2022 Budget

Wiesmann – 2022 appears to be on- track as we move through 2022.

17. Discussion on 2023 Budget

Wiesmann- budgets going forward, good place for what we asked for and what was included.

Wehmeier – have not received budget amendment

18. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2022 Proposed Meeting Schedule

- December 1, 2022  
Future Agenda item: ATV/UTV signage for bike trails
- January 5, 2023
- February 2, 2023

19. Adjourn

Gulig/Callan motion to adjourn at 10:15 am. Motion passes 4/0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kelley Westphal*

Administrative Assistant, Jefferson County Parks

SECTION 8.13. PARK AND TRAIL HOURS. All parks, park roads and parking areas shall be closed to the public and vehicular traffic, except police and emergency vehicles, from one [1] half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise and no person shall remain in parks during said hours, unless authorized by the issuance of a permit therefore by the Parks Director. Recreational trails may be used at any time except as limited by order of the Parks Director. No person may hike or walk dogs on designated cross-country ski trails when the trails are snow covered in any park. Any person launching a boat at Rock River County Park or Cappies Landing during normal operating hours may utilize the park boat launches at any time outside of normal operating hours for egress purposes. **During the calendar-winter months of November through April, Korth County Park and Dorothy Carnes County Park East will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily to accommodate use and access to the groomed cross-country ski trails.** The Parks Director may grant permits to groups for park usage outside of normal park hours for events consistent with the mission of the Parks Department, and shall report issuance of any such permit promptly to the Parks Committee. [am. 06/13/06, Ord. 2006-09; 09-13-11, Ord. 2011-13; 02/14/12, Ord. 2011-26; Ord. No. 2016-22, 02-14-17; Ord. No. 2020-12, 10-12-2021]

**From:** [Steve Sharp](#)  
**To:** [Benjamin Wehmeier](#); [Kevin Wiesmann](#); [Mary Truman](#); [Joan Callan](#); [Walt Christensen](#); [Steve Sharp](#)  
**Subject:** Why not for Augie?  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2022 2:51:02 PM

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**This Email has originated from outside Jefferson County's Email Domain. Please verify the Sender before opening any links or attachments. - Jefferson County MIS**

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Hello, all - I've been thinking about this since well before he died and I cannot see why the county should not name the Interurban Trail "The Augie Tietz Memorial Interurban Trail" for all he did to see that path come to fruition.

I also always thought Cappie's Landing should have been named after him, but this might be even more appropriate. - Steve

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1. **Call to order**

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2. **Roll call (establish a quorum)**

Members Present: Christensen, Gulig, Callan

Members via Zoom: Richardson

Members Absent: Johns

Staff Present: Wiesmann, Westphal, Klement, Wehmeier, Udovich

Others Present via Zoom: Ward, Truman, Smith, Fuller

3. **Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law**

Wehmeier confirmed compliance

4. **Approval of the agenda**

Agenda approved as written

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Gulig/Christensen motion to approve the minutes for September 1, 2022. Motion passes 4/0

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Respectfully submitted,

*Kelley Westphal*  
Administrative Assistant, Jefferson County Parks

## FRIENDS OF ROSE LAKE/CARNES PARK – November 15, 2022 Meeting

### NOTES:

- \* **Christmas Bird Count takes place on Saturday, December 17, 2022.** See below for more information.
- \* There will be **no December meeting** since the Christmas Bird Count will take its place.
- \* **Membership renewals for 2023** will be due. See below for more information.
- \* Our **January meeting** will take place at the Fort library on **Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 6 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr.**

Present: Chairperson Tom Belzer, Dan Roahen, Joanne Belstner, Bonnie Hamer, John Kempf, Chris Drake, Bonnie Babcock, Midge Gill, Mary Adams

Our meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.

The Minutes were reviewed. A Motion to accept as written was made by Bonnie H. and seconded by Dan. Motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report was as follows:

October Balance	\$12,819.60
October Deposit	35.00 membership
November Deposit	+ <u>500.00</u> donation Wayne & Vee Stearns
	\$13,354.60
Hoard Museum Membrship	- <u>50.00</u>
Current Balance	\$13,304.60

A Motion to accept the Report was made by Bonnie Babcock and seconded by Midge Gill. Motion passed.

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### OLD BUSINESS:

At this time there is no new information on memorials.

**Winter bird house project** – Tom picked up a bird house template at the EcoSummit and has started making some. They will have the side opening for cleaning out. Chris offered some cedar scraps he has for the project. This could be a project for our group for the winter months. They could be used as Carnes Park replacements or as give aways.

Tom reported that there was no paper in the **guest book at Carnes West**. He will take a spiral notebook out there.

**Preserving Birds** – Kaitlyn is still trying to find any documentation on a permit for the Fort high school bird collection. Suggestions of places to check were given to her. The hunt continues.

It is hoped that some of Kaitlyn's students will get involved in the Christmas Bird Count.

**Trail around Rose Lake** – A question came up about whether the trails in Carnes could go all around the lake. There are still areas that are privately owned. It was wondered if an easement could be obtained at some point. The Parks Dept. and County Board are the main planners. It is definitely a long-term idea; an estimate a while ago was \$150,000.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Membership renewals for 2023** – A reminder to renew your Friends of Rose Lake membership – \$10 individual and \$15 family. Can mail to Treasurer Joanne Belstner at 1026 Monroe St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538. Or bring to a meeting. Thanks.

John wondered if we could get some **wildflowers marked** along paths in the future.

**Christmas Bird Count** plans are underway. The date is **Saturday, December 17, 2022**. Results from this count are passed along to the Audubon Society and then is printed in the July 2023 "Passenger Pigeon" magazine.

We have seven teams going out with specific areas, with Tom B. heading up the teams. Dick and Carol Wanie will again man the phones for call-ins from people counting at feeders at home. Their phone number is 920-563-6274 if you could like to participate in this way.

In the evening anyone is welcome to come to Salamone's restaurant in Fort at 5 p.m. where the teams will share their findings for the final tallies to be reported. Pizza and visiting will follow, with those eating putting money toward the pizza. Tom will secure the date at Salamone's.

A Motion was made to close the Meeting by Mary and seconded by Joanne. Motion passed at 7:20 p.m.

Side Notes:

- \* The deck overview off Hoard Road in Carnes is a big hit. It is so open visually now. Birds will come close if you are still and quiet.
- \* Bonnie B. was at the West deck during the warm weather and tons of people were out. They love the place. Some even came with bird seed. They were from Madison, Illinois and all over.
- \* Bird sightings – tufted titmouse; robins before the snow; red-headed woodpecker and juvenile all summer/gone now; thousands and thousands of blackbirds off Hwy. 106; 15 sandhills cranes still around; red-winged blackbirds; swans near Baraboo; Carolina wrens; juncos in flocks; redstart; blue-winged warbler confirmed.

# 2023 Rose Lake Friends Membership Form

(Membership Year: January 1 – December 31)

\$10 One Year Individual

\$15 One Year Family Please list additional names:

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Rose Lake Friends

Send to: Joanne Belstner

1026 Monroe St

Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Thank you for supporting Dorothy Cames Park and Rose Lake State Nature Area.

[https://www.dailyunion.com/news/jefferson\\_county\\_area/phase-ii-of-interurban-trail-links-watertown-to-ixonia/article\\_918858ca-5eed-11ed-96e1-27120cd6e1d4.html](https://www.dailyunion.com/news/jefferson_county_area/phase-ii-of-interurban-trail-links-watertown-to-ixonia/article_918858ca-5eed-11ed-96e1-27120cd6e1d4.html)

TOP STORY

## Phase II of Interurban Trail links Watertown to Ixonia

By Steve Sharp [steves@dailyunion.com](mailto:steves@dailyunion.com)

Nov 8, 2022



This is a new, Phase II stretch of paved Interurban Trail that has just opened, looking east from Hustisford Road.

Steve Sharp

**JEFFERSON**—Not too long after opening Phase I, the Jefferson County Parks Department and its partners on the project have opened Phase II of the much-anticipated Interurban Trail to bikers, walkers and runners.

The response to this trail being open has exceeded expectations,” Jefferson County Administrator Ben Wehmeier said of the turnout of people to the path and general enthusiasm in the community. “This has provided a great opportunity to connect two of our communities and the greater region as a whole, with a great and safe recreational opportunity. As we prepare for the next phase, we know this opportunity will continue to only be enhanced.”

Watertown Mayor Emily McFarland acknowledged that the community and county are outdoor recreation destinations and the Interurban Trail is an important piece of that.

“We were proud to open the trailhead in Watertown this past year, and seeing and biking Phase II of the project has been an incredible addition to our recreational offerings,” the mayor said. “Sometimes people undervalue what quality recreation opportunities provide.”

McFarland said they boost the local economy, bringing in visitors and getting residents out into the community.

“They are supports for health and healthy communities, both physically and mentally and they are economic development components,” she said. “They aid in building communities people want to live in, and when people live in the city, they work and spend their money in the city.”

According to Mary Truman, advanced program assistant with the county’s parks department, the final signs are in place along the trail, finishing touches were completed, and trail closure signs were taken down last week.

“Phase II of the Interurban Trail offers trail users a safe, off-road opportunity to make the connection between Watertown and Ixonia,” Truman said. “They can do this while exploring the countryside and enjoying all that lies in between.”

With both Phase I and Phase II completed, the Interurban Trail is now seven miles long and ready for bike and pedestrian traffic in both directions.

As of today, the trail extends from a trailhead on Watertown's east side, near Concord Avenue, to Ixonia.

According to the county, the Interurban Trail project has been broken down into three phases for planning and budgeting purposes.

Phase I runs, specifically, from near Humboldt Street in Watertown 2.3 miles east to River Road.

“The Watertown Trailhead provides excellent parking, seasonal restrooms and a bike repair station to tune up your bike,” Truman said. “Phase I of the trail was completed earlier in the year and includes a 10-foot-wide paved trail and is highlighted by a three-span recreation bridge over the Rock River.”

Phase II of the project has been under construction for the last four months. This phase added an additional 4.7 miles of paved trail through rolling, rural terrain.

The Interurban Trail is now a full seven-mile ride from the trailhead to County Highway F, just south of Ixonia. This second phase of the project was funded primarily through grants from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Stewardship Program.

Phase III of the project will extend from County Highway F east, and make a direct connection with the City of Oconomowoc and the Lake Country Trail of Waukesha County.

When things are truly complete, planners have said they hope that bikers will be able to ride safely and scenically from Watertown to the Milwaukee lakefront, where they could connect with the city's Oak Leaf Trail.

“When completed, the Interurban Trail will be a full 11 miles long,” Truman said.  
“Jefferson County is again working with its partners on the fundraising, design and engineering of Phase III of the project. We are currently fundraising for the project.”

Anyone interested in donating can contact the county at 920-674-7540 for more information.

Truman also said trail use has already been great and she reminded new users to access the trail via the designated Watertown trailhead and review the posted rules and trail etiquette signs.

“We also ask all trail users to please respect our trail neighbors and abstain from parking along the road rights-of-way near the trail,” she said, reminding the public to stay tuned for more updates on the progress of the final phase of the Interurban Trail project.

McFarland said she is excited for the next phase to be complete.

“It will open up the community to even more opportunity,” she said.

Enter the number of each species seen or heard on the count day. Enter "CW" for any species seen or heard during the count week but not recorded on the count day. The count week is 3 days before or after the count date. Provide documentation for any species in bold print and for any species not listed. For species preceded by #, document if seen away from Lake Michigan or Lake Superior. If you documented your sighting in eBird you do not need to re-document that sighting, simply note there is an eBird checklist.

Snow Goose	
Cackling Goose	
Canada Goose	
Mute Swan	
Trumpeter Swan	
Tundra Swan	
Wood Duck	
Gadwall	
American Wigeon	
American Black Duck	
Mallard	
Northern Shoveler	
Northern Pintail	
Green-winged Teal	
Canvasback	
Redhead	
Ring-necked Duck	
# Greater Scaup	
Lesser Scaup	
Scaup sp.	
<b>Harlequin Duck</b>	
# Surf Scoter	
# White-winged Scoter	
# Black Scoter	
# Long-tailed Duck	
Bufflehead	
Common Goldeneye	
<b>Barrow's Goldeneye</b>	
Hooded Merganser	
Common Merganser	
Red-breasted Merganser	
Ruddy Duck	
Northern Bobwhite	
<b>Gray Partridge</b>	
Ring-necked Pheasant	
Ruffed Grouse	
Spruce Grouse	
Sharp-tailed Grouse	
Greater Prairie Chicken	
Wild Turkey	
<b>Red-throated Loon</b>	
Common Loon	
Pied-billed Grebe	
Horned Grebe	
Double-crested Cormorant	
Great Blue Heron	
Turkey Vulture	
Bald Eagle	
Northern Harrier	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	
Cooper's Hawk	
Northern Goshawk	
Red-shouldered Hawk	
Red-tailed Hawk	
Rough-legged Hawk	
Golden Eagle	

<b>Virginia Rail</b>	
American Coot	
Sandhill Crane	
Killdeer	
Wilson's Snipe	
Bonaparte's Gull	
Ring-billed Gull	
Herring Gull	
#Thayer's Gull	
#Iceland Gull	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	
Glaucous Gull	
Great Black-backed Gull	
Rock Pigeon	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	
Mourning Dove	
Eastern Screech-Owl	
Great Horned Owl	
Snowy Owl	
<b>Northern Hawk-Owl</b>	
Barred Owl	
<b>Great Gray Owl</b>	
Long-eared Owl	
Short-eared Owl	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	
Belted Kingfisher	
Red-headed Woodpecker	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	
Downy Woodpecker	
Hairy Woodpecker	
Black-backed Woodpecker	
Northern Flicker	
Pileated Woodpecker	
American Kestrel	
Merlin	
<b>Gyr Falcon</b>	
Peregrine Falcon	
Northern Shrike	
Gray Jay	
Blue Jay	
American Crow	
Common Raven	
Horned Lark	
Black-capped Chickadee	
Boreal Chickadee	
Tufted Titmouse	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	
White-breasted Nuthatch	
Brown Creeper	
Carolina Wren	
Winter Wren	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	
<b>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</b>	
Eastern Bluebird	
<b>Townsend's Solitaire</b>	

Hermit Thrush	
American Robin	
<b>Varied Thrush</b>	
Gray Catbird	
<b>Northern Mockingbird</b>	
Brown Thrasher	
European Starling	
<b>American Pipit</b>	
Bohemian Waxwing	
Cedar Waxwing	
Lapland Longspur	
Snow Bunting	
<b>Yellow-rumped Warbler</b>	
Eastern Towhee	
American Tree Sparrow	
<b>Chipping Sparrow</b>	
<b>Field Sparrow</b>	
<b>Savannah Sparrow</b>	
Fox Sparrow	
Song Sparrow	
<b>Lincoln's Sparrow</b>	
Swamp Sparrow	
White-throated Sparrow	
<b>Harris's Sparrow</b>	
White-crowned Sparrow	
Dark-eyed Junco	
Northern Cardinal	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	
Red-winged Blackbird	
Eastern Meadowlark	
<b>Western Meadowlark</b>	
Meadowlark sp.	
<b>Yellow-headed Blackbird</b>	
<b>Rusty Blackbird</b>	
<b>Brewer's Blackbird</b>	
Common Grackle	
Brown-headed Cowbird	
Pine Grosbeak	
Purple Finch	
House Finch	
Red Crossbill	
White-winged Crossbill	
Common Redpoll	
Hoary Redpoll	
Pine Siskin	
American Goldfinch	
Evening Grosbeak	
House Sparrow	
<b>Total Species</b>	

Kevin, a made a few changes below. Do you see any issues with park users accessing the parks during the extended winter hours for purposes other than accessing the cross country ski trails?, i.e. is it OK to watch birds during the extended hours?. What if there is not enough snow for cross country skiing? Will there be a sign at each park saying that no one can enter the parks during the extended hours if there are no trails to ski on?

Do you have any problem with amending the ordinance to say that the parks are open longer during certain months without requiring them to be used for a particular purpose during these extended hours?

Let me know if you would like to discuss.

Thank you.

J. Blair Ward  
Corporation Counsel  
Jefferson County  
311 S. Center Ave., Room 110

#### **SECTION 8.13. PARK AND TRAIL HOURS.**

- (1) *All parks, park roads and parking areas shall be closed to the public and vehicular traffic, except police and emergency vehicles, from one [1] half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise and no person shall remain in parks during said hours, unless authorized by the issuance of a permit therefore by the Parks Director.*
- (2) ~~Recreational trails~~ *Jefferson County Bike Paths may be used at any time except as limited by order of the Parks Director.*
- ~~(3) No person may hike or walk dogs on designated cross-country ski trails when the trails are snow covered in any park. (Add to Section 8.09)~~
- (4) *Any person launching a boat at Rock River County Park or Cappies Landing during normal operating hours may utilize the park boat launches at any time outside of normal operating hours for egress purposes.*
- (5) *During the calendar winter months of December through April, Korth County Park and Dorothy Carnes County Park East will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily to accommodate use and access to the groomed cross country ski trails.*
- (6) *The Parks Director may grant permits to groups for park usage outside of normal park hours for events consistent with the mission of the Parks Department, and shall report issuance of any such permit promptly to the Parks Committee.*

[am. 06/13/06, Ord. 2006-09; 09-13-11, Ord. 2011-13; 02/14/12, Ord. 2011-26; Ord. No. 2016-22, 02-14-17; Ord. No. 2020-12, 10-12-2021]

## Current Version

SECTION 8.13. PARK AND TRAIL HOURS. All parks, park roads and parking areas shall be closed to the public and vehicular traffic, except police and emergency vehicles, from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise and no person shall remain in parks during said hours, unless authorized by the issuance of a permit therefore by the Parks Director. Recreational trails may be used at any time except as limited by order of the Parks Director. No person may hike or walk dogs on designated cross-country ski trails when the trails are snow covered in any park. Any person launching a boat at Rock River County Park or Cappies Landing during normal operating hours may utilize the park boat launches at any time outside of normal operating hours for egress purposes. The Parks Director may grant permits to groups for park usage outside of normal park hours for events consistent with the mission of the Parks Department, and shall report issuance of any such permit promptly to the Parks Committee. [am. 06/13/06, Ord. 2006-09; 09-13-11, Ord. 2011-13; 02/14/12, Ord. 2011-26; Ord. No. 2016-22, 02-14-17; Ord. No. 2020-12, 10-12-2021]

**November 23rd, 2022**  
**E-BIKE POLICY REVIEW**  
**JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE**

**NARRATIVE**

Jefferson County Parks has seen an increase in requests and inquiries for use of e-bicycles, e-scooters, and e-skateboards on its paved bike trails. Jefferson County does not currently have an ordinance or department policy that governs the use of these vehicles on bike trails or other trails. All e-bicycles and other motorized vehicles are prohibited in parks except on trails designated and marked for their defined use unless otherwise noted at the park per the current parks ordinance.

Electric bikes, scooters and other electric vehicles are becoming increasingly popular and more frequent on Jefferson County trails. These vehicles have increasing range and speeds from 5 mph to 30+ mph. These speeds have a potential to create unsafe conditions for multiple user groups traveling on a single path at such varying speeds. Many municipalities that govern "Bicycle Ways" are creating policy to guide the acceptable use of multi-use trails for such purposes and limiting speeds.

Jefferson County's bike trails are built on property owned by multiple owners including Jefferson County, We Energies, and WisDOT lands. Jurisdiction and enforcement of any ordinances and limitations is the responsibility of Jefferson County, as is the liability of inaction per the current License and Operations Agreements. Both We Energies and WisDOT have been consulted and no direct recommendations have been provided regarding the use of e-vehicles on Jefferson County trails.

WDNR has also been consulted and provided feedback on reviewing WDNR policy governing e-bike use on State Trails. One reference was provided for trails funded through RTP not allowing any motorized vehicles, but an exception was drafted in the Federal Code providing local jurisdictions with the authority to grant exceptions for the use of electric bikes. Ultimate control is largely delegated to the local management authority.

- **Jefferson Interurban Trail Shared Management**
  - Waukesha County recently created an ordinance allowing Class 1 e-Bikes, but no other electric vehicles on their trails in response to complaints of excessive speed. See Waukesha County Ordinance for more information.
- **Glacial River Bike Trail Shared Management**
  - Dodge County does not currently restrict any electric vehicles as defined below.
  - Rock County does not currently restrict any electric vehicles as defined below.
  - City of Fort Atkinson allows, by ordinance, allows???? e-bikes, e-scooters on its section of the bike path. See copy of City of Fort Atkinson ordinance on bike paths and electric scooters.
  - City of Jefferson does not currently restrict any electric vehicles on streets or trails.
- **Other Regional Municipalities with Bike Path Management Responsibilities.**
  - Dane County does not currently restrict any electric vehicles as defined below.
  - City of Madison does not currently restrict any electric bikes or scooters on its trails. The City is aware of the complaints due to speed, but allows all three types of e-bikes

and scooters on the trails. The City is actively working on a *share the trail campaign* to try and encourage more “common sense” trail usage.

- Wisconsin State Parks take a trail by trail approach. Some trails do not allow e-bikes and some do.
- Wisconsin DNR: Electric bicycles are allowed on some of the straight (linear) bicycle touring trails, but must **observe a 15-mile-per-hour speed limit**. (Note that any electric bicycle *capable* of more than 30 miles per hour is, under state law, a motorcycle and not a bicycle, and may not be ridden on any state trails that do not specifically allow motorcycles). Electric bicycles are not allowed on any other bicycle trails other than those indicated in the table below. Electric bicycles used without the motor engaged are allowed on all bicycle trails.

## **POLICY RECOMMENDATION**

At this time, the Jefferson County Parks Department recommends updates to the Parks ordinance section 8.09 Non-Motorized Vehicles. This would include changing the name of this section to Trails, Paths, and Bike Paths. This would include a section for definitions for the below types of uses. This is a draft only, and will require review by Corporation Counsel.

### ***Section 8.09 Park Trails and Bike Paths***

#### *(1) Park Trails*

- a. *No person shall operate or drive any motorized or non-motorized vehicle on a Bike Path or within a park except on trails designated and marked for their defined use.*
- b. *An individual who is considered disabled can request through the special permit process, access to trails and paths deemed suitable within the park system, with a low-powered, mechanically propelled vehicle designed specifically for use by a physically disabled person.*
- c. *No person may hike or walk dogs on designated cross-country ski trails when the trails are snow covered and groomed in any park.*
- d. *Dog sledding is prohibited in all county parks, trails, and paths unless otherwise authorized by issuance of a special use permit.*

#### *(2) Bike Paths*

- a. *All Jefferson County Bike Paths are considered multi-use paths and open to pedestrians, bicycles, e-bicycles, inline skates, play vehicles, and electric scooters as defined below unless otherwise posted.*
- b. *Electric vehicle users shall comply with Wisconsin Statutes, sections 346.77 through 346.82 at all times while on Jefferson County Bike Paths.*
- c. *It shall be unlawful for any person operating a bicycle, e-bicycle, e-scooter, or other vehicle on a bike path to pass another person or vehicle traveling in the same direction on the path without providing a warning to the person being passed making it evident that the person being passed is aware of the passing vehicle's approach.*

- d. *Pedestrians shall at all times have the right-of-way upon paved multi-use recreational paths; and if necessary, the person driving such bicycle, e-bicycled or e-scooter shall dismount and exit the traveled portion of the Bike path to the extent necessary to prevent a collision.*
- e. *Bicycle riders shall proceed in the extreme right-hand lane of the drivers at all times, in a single file only.*
- f. *Any such person operating a bicycle, e-bicycle, e-scooter, or other vehicle upon Bike Path must have the bicycle, e-bicycle, e-scooter, or other vehicle under control at all times.*
- g. *All bicycles, e-bicycles, e-scooters, and other vehicles shall be restricted to 15 mph at all times when on Jefferson County Bike Paths that allow their use.*

**(3) Definitions:**

- *Pedestrian: means any person afoot or any person operating a wheelchair, either manually or mechanically propelled, or other low-powered, mechanically propelled vehicle designed specifically for use by a physically disabled person, but does not include any person using an electric bicycle, electric scooter, or an electric personal assistive mobility device.*
- *Play vehicle: Means a coaster, skate board, roller skates, sled, toboggan, unicycle, or tow vehicle upon which a person may ride and does not include in-line skates or electric scooters.*
- *In-line skates: means skates with wheels arranged singly in a tandem line rather than in pairs.*
- *Bicycle: vehicle propelled by feet or hands acting upon pedals or cranks and having wheels any 2 of which are not less than 14 inches in diameter.*
- *Electric bicycle (e-bike): means a bicycle that is equipped with fully operative pedals for propulsion by human power and an electric motor of 750 watts or less and does not exceed 20 mph. This excludes Class III electric bikes.*
- *Electric scooter: means a device weighing less than 100 pounds that has handlebars and an electric motor, is powered solely by the electric motor and human power, and has a maximum speed of not more than 20 miles per hour on a paved level surface when powered solely by the electric motor. "Electric scooter" does not include an electric personal assistive mobility device, motorcycle, motor bicycle, electric bicycle, or moped.*
- *Bike Path: All paved or graveled off-road trails managed by the Jefferson County Parks Department including the Glacial River Bike Trail, Jefferson Interurban Trail, and the Korth Park Connector Trail.*
- *Mountain Bike Trail: An offroad trail designated for use by bicycles.*

Notes by Blair:

Review terms that reference trails: i.e. *paved multi-use recreational paths, park trails, paths, bike paths, recreational trails*, other trails, bicycle ways, single path, multi-use trails. Are any of these referring to the same thing or do they all have different uses?

## REFERENCES

[https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/340.01\(15ph\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/340.01(15ph))

### **Stat 340.01 Vehicles - General Provisions, Words of Phrases Defined**

**(15ph)** "Electric bicycle" means a bicycle that is equipped with fully operative pedals for propulsion by human power and an electric motor of 750 watts or less and that meets the requirements of any of the following classifications:

**(a)** Class 1 electric bicycle is an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

**(b)** Class 2 electric bicycle is an electric bicycle that may be powered solely by the motor and is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

**(c)** Class 3 electric bicycle is an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.

**(15pm)** "Electric personal assistive mobility device" means a self-balancing, 2-nontandem-wheeled device that is designed to transport only one person and that has an electric propulsion system that limits the maximum speed of the device to 15 miles per hour or less.

**(15ps)** "Electric scooter" means a device weighing less than 100 pounds that has handlebars and an electric motor, is powered solely by the electric motor and human power, and has a maximum speed of not more than 20 miles per hour on a paved level surface when powered solely by the electric motor. "Electric scooter" does not include an electric personal assistive mobility device, motorcycle, motor bicycle, electric bicycle, or moped.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/346.803>

### **Wis Stat 346.803 Riding bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device on bicycle way.**

**(1)** Every person operating a bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device upon a bicycle way shall:

**(a)** Exercise due care and give an audible signal when passing a bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device rider or a pedestrian proceeding in the same direction.

**(b)** Obey each traffic signal or sign facing a roadway which runs parallel and adjacent to a bicycle way.

**(2)** Every person operating a bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device upon a bicycle way open to 2-way traffic shall ride on the right side of the bicycle way.

**(3)** Every operator of a bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device entering a bicycle way shall yield the right-of-way to all bicycles and pedestrians in the bicycle way.

(4) Except as provided in ss. [349.236 \(1\) \(bm\)](#) and [349.237](#), a person may operate an electric personal assistive mobility device, or an electric scooter at a speed not to exceed 15 miles per hour, upon any bicycle path.

**History:** [1973 c. 182](#); [2001 a. 90](#); [2019 a. 11](#).

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/346.806>

### **Wis Stat 346.806 Special rules applicable to electric bicycles.**

1. Except as otherwise expressly provided, an electric bicycle and an operator of an electric bicycle shall be afforded all the same rights and privileges, and be subject to the same duties, provided in chs. [340](#) to [351](#) as a bicycle or an operator of a bicycle. An electric bicycle shall be considered a vehicle to the same extent as a bicycle.
2. A person operating an electric bicycle is not subject to the provisions under ch. [341](#), [342](#), [343](#), or [344](#) relating to financial responsibility, operator's licenses, registration, or certificates of title.
3.
  - a. A person may ride, with the power unit in operation, an electric bicycle upon a bikeway, as defined under s. [84.60 \(1\) \(a\)](#), under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources, subject to any restrictions specified in a rule promulgated by the department of natural resources under s. [349.18 \(4\) \(b\)](#), or under the jurisdiction of a municipality or county, subject to any restrictions specified in an ordinance enacted under s. [349.18 \(4\) \(a\)](#).
  - b. A person may ride, with the power unit in operation, an electric bicycle upon a bikeway, as defined under s. [84.60 \(1\) \(a\)](#), under the jurisdiction of the department, subject to any restrictions specified in a rule promulgated by the department.
4. No person under the age of 16 years may operate a class 3 electric bicycle. A person under the age of 16 years may ride as a passenger on a class 3 electric bicycle that is designed to accommodate passengers.

**History:** [2019 a. 34](#).

[23 USC 217: Bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways \(house.gov\)](#)

### **Federal Definition of E-Bike**

US Code Title 23 – Highways, Chapter 2, Other Highways, Section 217 (h)

Electric bicycle.-In general.-The term "electric bicycle" means a bicycle- equipped with fully operable pedals, a saddle or seat for the rider, and an electric motor of less than 750 watts; that can safely share a bicycle transportation facility with other users of such facility; and that is a class 1 electric bicycle, class 2 electric bicycle, or class 3 electric bicycle.

Classes of electric bicycles-

1. Class 1 electric bicycle.-For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), the term "class 1 electric bicycle" means an electric bicycle, other than a class 3 electric bicycle, equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling; and ceases to provide assistance when the speed of the bicycle reaches or exceeds 20 miles per hour.

2. Class 2 electric bicycle.-For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), the term "class 2 electric bicycle" means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle; and

is not capable of providing assistance when the speed of the bicycle reaches or exceeds 20 miles per hour.

3. Class 3 electric bicycle.-For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), the term "class 3 electric bicycle" means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling; and ceases to provide assistance when the speed of the bicycle reaches or exceeds 28 miles per hour.

1 REPEAL AND RECREATE CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 14-164(i) and 14-165 OF  
2 THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES ON  
3 RECREATIONAL TRAILS AND TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF CLASS 1  
4 ELECTRIC BICYCLES ON ALL WAUKESHA COUNTY RECREATIONAL TRAILS AND  
5 DESIGNATED WAUKESHA COUNTY PARK MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS  
6

7 WHEREAS, the operation of motorized vehicles, except for Waukesha County Parks  
8 maintenance vehicles and emergency vehicles, is prohibited on all Waukesha County  
9 Recreational Trails and all Waukesha County Park Trails; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, the popularity and use of electric bicycles (E-Bikes) has increased in recent years;  
12 and  
13

14 WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ph) defines an electric bicycle equipped with fully operative  
15 pedals for propulsion by human power and an electric motor of 750 watts or less and that meets  
16 the requirements of any of the following classifications: (a) Class 1 electric bicycle is an electric  
17 bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that  
18 ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour, (b) Class 2  
19 electric bicycle is an electric bicycle that may be powered solely by the motor and is not capable  
20 of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour, (c) Class 3  
21 electric bicycle is an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when  
22 the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of  
23 28 miles per hour; and  
24

25 WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. §346.806(3)(a) states that a person may ride an electric bicycle upon a  
26 bikeway, as defined under Wis. Stat. §84.60(1)(a), under the jurisdiction of a municipality or  
27 county, subject to any restrictions specified in an ordinance enacted under Wis. Stat. §  
28 349.18(4)(a); and  
29

30 WHEREAS, a bikeway is defined under Wis. Stat. § 84.60(1)(a) as a public path, trail, lane or  
31 other way, including structures, traffic control devices and related support facilities and parking  
32 areas, designated for use by bicycles, electric scooters, electric personal assistive mobility  
33 devices, and other vehicles propelled by human power; and  
34

35 WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 349.18(4)(a) states that the governing body of a municipality or county  
36 may, by ordinance, prohibit the operation, with the power unit in operation, of electric bicycles  
37 on bikeways, as defined under Wis. Stat. § 84.60(1)(a), under its jurisdiction.  
38

39 THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF WAUKESHA ORDAINS  
40 that the text of the Parks and Recreation Ordinance regulating the use of motor vehicles found in  
41 Chapter 14, Article II, Section 14-164(i) is hereby repealed and recreated to read as follows:  
42

43 (i) No person shall operate or park any motor vehicle, including, but not limited to electric  
44 scooters, self-balancing devices such as segway, hover boards, and unicycles, and golf carts,  
45 except as provided in this subchapter, upon any bridle path, hiking trail, beach area, playground,  
46 picnic area, recreational trail or any other area than established roads, parking areas, lake access  
47 and service areas or contrary to posted notice or within any park seasonally closed to vehicular  
48 traffic.

Referred on:	File Number:	Referred to:
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49

50 BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that that the text of the Parks and Recreation Ordinance  
51 regulating the use of bicycles found in Chapter 14, Article II, Section 14-165 of the Waukesha  
52 County Code of Ordinances is hereby repealed and recreated to read as follows:

53

54 (a) The term bicycle(s) shall include class 1 electric bicycles, as defined in Wis. Stat. §  
55 340.01(15ph).

56 (b) The operation of class 1 electric bicycles is allowed, whereas, the operation of class 2 and  
57 class 3 electric bicycles is not allowed.

58 (c) Riders of bicycles shall comply with Wisconsin Statutes, sections 346.77 through 346.82.

59 (d) Bicycles are only allowed on designated trails.

60 (e) Bicycle riders shall proceed in the extreme right hand lane of the drives at all times, in a  
61 single file only.

62 (f) A bicycle shall not be towed by a rope or otherwise, nor shall any rider hold on to any  
63 moving vehicle for purpose of being drawn along.

64 (g) Children riding bicycles that have wheels less than twenty (20) inches in diameter may  
65 use the footwalks.

66 (h) Wherever possible, bicycles shall be parked in places provided for such purpose.

Referred on:	File Number:	Referred to:
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**From:** [Steve Sharp](#)  
**To:** [Benjamin Wehmeier](#); [Kevin Wiesmann](#); [Mary Truman](#); [Joan Callan](#); [Walt Christensen](#); [Steve Sharp](#)  
**Subject:** Why not for Augie?  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2022 2:51:02 PM

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Hello, all - I've been thinking about this since well before he died and I cannot see why the county should not name the Interurban Trail "The Augie Tietz Memorial Interurban Trail" for all he did to see that path come to fruition.  
I also always thought Cappie's Landing should have been named after him, but this might be even more appropriate. - Steve