

RESOLUTION NO. 25-19

Resolution Authorizing the Continuation of the Stower Seven Lakes Trail and the Cattail Trail
(Polk County Segment) Master Planning Process

TO THE HONORABLE SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF THE COUNTY OF
POLK:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

WHEREAS, in coordination with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (hereinafter
"WDNR"), Polk County manages and operates the Stower Seven Lakes Trail; and

WHEREAS, Polk County and the WDNR entered into a Memorandum of Understanding that, in
part, requires Polk County to conduct a planning process that substantially conforms to the
requirements of NR 44.04; and

WHEREAS, Polk County passed Resolution 28-18, a Resolution Providing for Comprehensive
Planning Process for Stower Seven Lakes State Trail Plan and Cattail Trail (Polk County
Segment) Plan, that delegated authority to the Environmental Services Committee to engage in
and conduct a comprehensive trail plan development process for the Trails; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 28-18 further authorized the Environmental Services Committee to form
an advisory subcommittee, including various community members to assist with the planning
process; and

WHEREAS, the advisory committee and the Environmental Services Committee conducted a
planning process resulting in a formal recommendation from the Committee to the full County
Board in October of 2018; and

WHEREAS, Polk County Board of Supervisors, in Resolution 75-18, forwarded a Proposed
Master Plans for the Stower Seven Lakes Trail and the Cattail Trail (Polk County Segment) to
the WDNR; and

WHEREAS, WDNR brought up potential deficiencies with the Proposed Master Plan for the
Stower Seven Lakes Trail in a letter dated, November 20, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Polk County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution 13-19, a Resolution
Rescinding Resolution No. 75-18, procedurally, placing the planning process for both Plans back
to the Environmental Services Committee for further planning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, the Polk County Board of Supervisors directs
staff to assist the Environmental Services Committee by issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP)
seeking expert consulting services in the area of trail master planning.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, the RFP should provide for
36 assistance in ensuring that the Master Plan for the Stower Seven Lakes Trail, as recommended by
37 the Environmental Services Committee, meets all of the requirements of the MOU with the
38 WDNR and NR 44.04.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, the RFP can require consideration of
40 what can be salvaged from the current DRAFT Master Plan for the Stower Seven Lakes Trail
41 and incorporating the uses as recommended by the Environmental Services Committee.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, the planning process and the Plans
43 for the Cattail Trail (Polk County Segment) and the Stower Seven Lakes Trail will be acted upon
44 separately and distinctly.

Offered on the 18 day of June, 2019.

BY:

Brad Olson, Supervisor, District #1

Doug Route, Supervisor, District #2

Dean Johansen, Chair,
Supervisor, District #3,

Chris Nelson, Supervisor, District #4

Tracy LaBlanc, Supervisor, District #5

Brian Masters 6/16/19

Brian Masters, Supervisor, District #6

Michael Prichard, Supervisor, District #7

James Edgell, Supervisor, District #8

Kim O'Connell, Supervisor, District #9

Larry Jepsen, Supervisor, District #10

Jay Luke, 1st Vice Chair,
Supervisor, District #11

Michael Larsen, Supervisor, District #12

Russell Arcand, Supervisor, District #13

John Bonneprise, 2nd Vice Chair,
Supervisor, District #14

Joe DeMulling, Supervisor, District #15

County Administrator's Note:

The actions noted in the resolution and further explained in the executive summary would allow the County to submit a plan consistent with DNR requirements.

Recommended.

Nick Osborne

Nick Osborne
County Administrator

Fiscal Impact Note:

The expected expense of a trail consultant could be absorbed in the 2019 budget. Addition snowmobile maintenance could be covered by snowmobile grants.

Maggie Wickre
Maggie Wickre, Finance Director

Legal Impact Note: The resolution clarifies procedurally what next steps should be taken by County Staff to complete the requirements of the MOU with the WDNR and NR 44.04 for both of the Trail Plans.

Approved as to form and execution

Malia T. Malone
Malia T. Malone, Corporation Counsel

Excerpt of Minutes

45 At its regular business meeting on the 18 day of June 2019, the Polk County Board of
46 Supervisors acted upon Resolution No. 25 -19: Resolution Authorizing the Continuation of the
47 Stower Seven Lakes Trail Master Planning Process

- Adopted by majority voice vote
- Adopted by simple majority of the board of supervisors by a vote of _____ in favor and _____ against.
- Adopted by unanimous voice vote.
- Adopted as amended. See Below.
- Other: _____

Insert amendment to resolution according to minutes:

SIGNED BY:

ATTEST:

Dean Johansen
Dean Johansen, County Board Chairperson

Sharon Jorgenson
Sharon Jorgenson, County Clerk

Executive Summary

In 2018, consistent with Chapter 44 of Wisconsin Administrative Code and Polk County's memorandum of understanding with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Polk County sought to amend its plans for the Stower Seven Lakes Trail and the Cattail Trail. The Environmental Services Committee (ESC), and a citizen advisory subcommittee, evaluated management and use alternatives, issued a public survey, held public meetings to solicit comments, and ultimately recommended passage for a plan that allowed for the uses of silent sports, equestrians (secondary use), and snowmobiles during snow covered periods. The County Board amended the plan to add All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) as an allowable use and recommended the development of a parallel silent sports only trail separate from the original trail. In November 2018, the DNR sent the County a letter noting deficiencies in the submitted plan. As a result, County Board later voted to rescind the final resolution. Thus, the County Board action still in place is the original plan and resolution adopted by ESC.

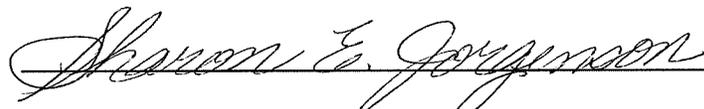
The attached resolution includes plans to solicit a consultant with the ultimate goal of determining what parts of the original plan, consistent with the uses identified by the ESC, can be salvaged and certifying that the plan complies with all applicable laws and regulations to ensure acceptance by the DNR. Also, the resolution notes the separation of the Stower Seven Lakes Trail and Cattail Trail plans. This is an administrative action to ensure action on one plan does not affect the other.

CERTIFIED COPY OF POLK COUNTY RESOLUTION

STATE OF WISCONSIN

COUNTY OF POLK

I, Sharon E. Jorgenson, Polk County Clerk do hereby certify that the attached hereto and incorporated herein is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 25-19: Resolution Authorizing the Continuation of the Stower Seven Lakes Trail and the Cattail Trail (Polk County Segment) Master Planning Process adopted by the Polk County Board of Supervisors at its regular business meeting held on June 18, 2019.

 6/18/19

Sharon E. Jorgenson, Polk County Clerk

Date