



Special Lee County UTV Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 6, 2021

Third Floor Boardroom, Old Lee County Courthouse – 12:30 p.m.
112 E Second St, Dixon, Illinois 61021

Meeting called to order at 12:39 p.m. by Chair Jack Skrogstad

Member Roll Call: Chair Jack Skrogstad, Danielle Allen, Keane Hudson, and Tom Wilson attended in person. Kasey Considine attended via Zoom video conferencing.

Members absent: None

County Board Members, Department Heads, or County Employees present: Mike Koppien (County Board Member), Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), and John Simonton (Sheriff)(12:55-1:42).

Visitors present: Cheryl Smith, J.B. Northrup, and Clay Whelan (Lieutenant – Dixon Police Department)(12:39-1:42).

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes were approved with one minor correction.

Public Comment: No Comments

Old Business

Jack Skrogstad emailed the State's Attorney a list of questions that the committee had compiled from the September 9, 2021 meeting. The committee was emailed a list of responses to the questions which included:

1. **Question:** Could the committee modify the Lee County UTV Ordinance draft which currently requires "an overall width of between sixty-five (65") and seventy inches (70")"? **State's Attorney's Response:** Yes
2. **Question:** Should doors be required as a cockpit enclosure? **State's Attorney's Response:** The vehicles should not be required to have cockpit enclosures or doors and gave the Jeep Wrangler as a current example of what is already allowed.
3. **Question:** Has Lee County determined whether such vehicles may safely travel across and use roadways and streets? **State's Attorney's Response:** He was not aware of any study that had been done to determine the safety of travel regarding UTVs. He encouraged the committee to consider Illinois Compiled Statute 625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1 under (d).
4. **Question:** Would there be a requirement for windshields and windshield wipers. **State's Attorney's Response:** He did not feel that there would be a requirement, but the committee certainly could request that this be included in the ordinance.

In reference to question 1. The committee briefly discussed the width of a UTV in respect to posted speed limits. Kasey Considine stated that the Lee County UTV Ordinance could not dictate what was allowed in an incorporated area. The County would have authority over County roads, not on the township or city roads. Tom Wilson explained that in Wisconsin the rider must obtain Trail and OTR (over the road) stickers. Roadways are marked with UTV signs that alert the rider to the speed limit restrictions named in the UTV Ordinance. Riders are alerted by the UTV posting not a change in speed limit signs.

In reference to question 3. Kasey Considine suggested giving the task of looking at the roads and conducting a study to the Solid Waste/Transportation Committee? John Simonton stated had talked to Dave Anderson and reported that Dave was more than willingly to help with the study but was requesting specific criteria from the committee so he knew exactly what they were looking for.

Jack Skrogstad was made aware of Public Act 102-0312 that would be going into effect on January 1, 2022. The act would be changing the definition of a particular vehicle. He asked Charley Boonstra if the committee should wait until after the first of the year to incorporate this change into the ordinance before it was finalized. Charley felt that the new act would present an interesting legal dilemma because it may make the current conditions

presented in the County ordinance a contradiction regarding required equipment. The County is requesting one set of requirements and the State would be requiring a different set of requirements.

The committee also discussed asking the City of Dixon to consider taking on the registration process for the County, because they already had a system in place. There was a lengthy discussing including the type of license/sticker that would be required, the option of visitors permit, convenience of obtaining a visitors permit, combining access to the County and the City of Dixon with one license/sticker, and allowing other entities to issue license/stickers/visitor permits.

John Simonton expressed the need to focus on getting the villages and cities on board with the Lee County Ordinance. This would make the process much simpler and more convenient for everyone. He also suggested allowing a reciprocal agreement with other states if the rider had a valid sticker/license from their home state.

Jack Skrogstad recommended having a finalized, working draft ordinance that addressed age, windshields requirements, and vehicle measurements, before approaching the villages and townships. He expressed that he would like to see all the terms, except for the Solid Waste/Transportation speed limit recommendation, ironed out during the next meeting.

New Business

No new business

Motion to adjourn by Kean Hudson:

Second by Danielle Allen: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Becky Brenner, County Board Secretary

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.